



OEA/Ser.L/XIV.6.1
MEM/INF.2004 Add.29

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

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

SURINAME

EVALUATION OF PROGRESS IN DRUG CONTROL
2003-2004



INTRODUCTION

Suriname has a total area of 163,270 km² and 1,707 km of border (Brazil 597 km, French Guiana 510 km, and Guyana 600 km), with 386 km of coastline. The country has a population of 436,000 (2003), with the following main ethnic groups: Hindustani, Creole, Javanese, and Maroon, with a literacy rate of 94%. Suriname is a constitutional republic divided into 10 different districts. The country has a GDP per capita of US\$1,315 (1995 est.) and an inflation rate of 17.00%. Suriname exports a total of US\$495 million annually, 86% of its GDP (2002), relying on the principal exports of bauxite derived products, crude oil, lumber, shrimp, fish, rice, and bananas.

I. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING/ NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY

A. National Anti-Drug Plan and National Commission

Since the expiration of the Drug Master Plan in 2002, Suriname has not yet adopted a new Plan.¹ An updating of the document is in process which will include the new areas of development observed in the area of drug control in Suriname.

Suriname informs that it has a specific budget for the financing of its National Anti-Drug Plan, provided for as part of the financial allocations to its Ministry of Health. This budget is administered by the National Anti-Drug Council (NAR) as well as by the various implementation agencies responsible for actions under demand reduction, supply reduction, alternative development and control measures. There is no indication of separate financial allocations to any of these areas in the country's response.

The NAR is responsible for the implementation of Suriname's Anti-Drug Plan. The NAR coordinates the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, and institutional framework. The country informs that as per September 1, 2004 the NAR has been re-installed for the period of three years.

The NAR's annual budget is integrated with that of other government agencies. The budget is derived exclusively from government allocations. Proposed budgets of US\$25,000, US\$21,000 and US\$10,617 for each of the respective years 2002, 2003 and 2004 were approved in full.

CICAD notes with concern that Suriname's Master Plan expired in 2002 and the successor Plan has not yet adopted. Likewise, although the country reports that it has a specific budget for the Plan, it does not provide information on its total and distribution by thematic area. CICAD is also concerned that there is a consistent decrease in the budgetary allocations to the NAR.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. APPROVE A NEW NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN.

¹ On April 26, 2005 the country reported that a Strategic Drugs Master Plan for 2000 – 2005 is functioning as a policy guide in the area of drugs control, but this Plan was not approved by Government.



B. International Conventions

Suriname has ratified the following international conventions:

- The Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (1992)
- The Inter-American Convention Against Corruption (1996)
- The United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol
- The United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971)
- The United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988)

The Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, and Explosives and Other Related Materials (1997) has been signed and ratification is pending.

Suriname has not ratified the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols. The country informs that the draft legislation has been submitted to the Parliament and is awaiting approval.

The country reports that after ratification of the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988), several bills have been enacted in 2002 in order to comply with the latter. In 2004, one Presidential decree was approved regarding the indicators for the identification of unusual transactions, for financial and non-financial institutions in accordance with international conventions.

However, no national formal mechanism is in place to assess the effective application of mandates established in relevant anti-drug international conventions. Suriname has signed bilateral agreements with the following countries in the area of combating drug trafficking: Brazil, Guyana, Netherlands, USA and Venezuela.

Taking note of the ratification of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, CICAD is concerned that the country has still not ratified the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunitions, Explosives, and other Related Materials (CIFTA) Convention or the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols, despite the fact that they have been recommendations reiterated from the First and Second Evaluation Rounds.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

2. RATIFY THE INTER AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVES (CIFTA), A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
3. RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME AND ITS THREE PROTOCOLS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001-2002.
 - A) PROTOCOL AGAINST THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS BY LAND, SEA AND AIR
 - B) PROTOCOL TO PREVENT, SUPPRESS AND PUNISH TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN



- c) **PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION**

C. National Information System

The National Coordination Center of Suriname (NCCS) has been designated as the responsible authority for the establishment and implementation of a national centralized office for drug-related statistics regarding supply reduction.

Suriname participates in CICAD's Inter-American Uniform Drug Use Data System (SIDUC) to collect, analyze and report statistics on drug consumption. In this regard, in 2003, a survey of secondary school students was conducted. In 2004, separate surveys were conducted, namely a survey of emergency room patients; a survey of juvenile offenders, and a Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) survey.

CICAD's Uniform Statistical System on Control of the Supply Area (CICDAT) is used to collect and report statistics on supply side content. Although Suriname has organized collections of drug-related documents, there is no formal mechanism to evaluate the effectiveness of the country's data capacity.

Suriname reports drug-related statistics on a regular basis to the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Annual Report Questionnaire. Publicly available non-classified publications and material related to Suriname's drug problem are disseminated through web pages, official records, schools/universities and research institutes, national journals, the media, targeted e-mails/list serves and through publications and reports by the National Drug Authority and other government and non-government agencies. The country does not have a help line or an information desk to provide information on drug prevention, treatment or rehabilitation programmes to the public. The country has a budget of US\$1,500 to disseminate information related to the drug problem.

CICAD notes that the country does not have a formal mechanism to evaluate the effectiveness of the country to collect drug-related information. Neither does Suriname have a help line or centralized office to disseminate information to the general population. CICAD observes with concern that the budget allocated to dissemination of information by Suriname is insufficient.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

4. **IMPLEMENT A FORMAL MECHANISM TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE COUNTRY TO RECOLLECT DRUG-RELATED INFORMATION.**
5. **SET UP A DRUG 'HELP LINE' OR A CENTRALIZED OFFICE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.**



II. DEMAND REDUCTION

A. Prevention

Suriname reports that there is no national system of drug abuse prevention programs targeting key populations. Instead, there are individual sporadic activities by institutions, targeting specific groups. In 2003, an agreement was signed between the country and the European Union in order to carry out a specific demand reduction program. The project began its implementation phase in April 2004. One Technical Expert will work for 18 months with the National Anti-Drug Council to set up the National Demand Reduction Program.²

Diplomas, university degrees or professional education courses were not offered in Suriname during the years 2002-2004. Instead, programs adopting a participatory approach to training have been made available to teachers, youth and social workers under the aegis of the Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI). This program commenced in July 2002. Suriname reports that in addition to the IACI (2002) program, the Institution awarded Drug Prevention Educator Certificates to Educators through distance learning. These activities are part of a Caribbean-wide Drug Abuse Prevention Program and Child Oriented policies funded by CIDI/OAS.

The country does not have licensing nor accreditation systems for professionals in the area of drug abuse prevention.

CICAD notes with concern that the country still does not have drug abuse prevention programs nor has the country developed professional specialized training programs on drug abuse prevention. CICAD understands that these actions depend on the approval of the Drug Demand Reduction Plan as recommended to the country in the Second Evaluation Round. Likewise, the implementation of professional specialized training programs and the evaluation of prevention programs were included in recommendations from the Second and First Evaluation Rounds respectively.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

6. DEVELOP DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING PROGRAMS FOR POPULATIONS AT RISK.
7. PROVIDE SPECIALIZED TRAINING IN DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001-2002.

B. Treatment

The country keeps a national registry of treatment services and programmes. Although there is a national system of treatment services and programs, Suriname has not established guidelines or regulations on standards of care for drug abuse treatment. Neither does a mechanism exist to advise adherence to standards of care for drug treatment and to evaluate the quantity of services provided.

With regard to drug treatment modalities, the country reports that there is one public outpatient program, one private outpatient program and four private residential inpatient program. The drug treatment services that have been identified are one public treatment and rehabilitation facility, four private detoxification facilities, four private treatment and rehabilitation facilities and two private social reintegration and after care facilities. Each category of facilities has national coverage.

² On April 26, 2005 the country reported that the Drugs Demand Reduction Office (DDR) was established in 2004 to carry out all drug demand reduction programs in Suriname.



In terms of its drug treatment capacity, Suriname reports that 97 patients sought and received treatment in 2002, and 76 in 2003. Five treatment programs were in operation in 2002 and 2003. The country informs that there are no studies for the evaluation of the impact or effectiveness of early intervention, drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation and aftercare.

CICAD notes with concern that the country has not yet established minimum standards of care for drug abuse treatment, even though this was a recommendation from the First Evaluation Round 1999-2000. Neither does the country have mechanisms to evaluate treatment programs as recommended in the First Evaluation Round 1999-2000.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 8. ESTABLISH MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE FOR DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
- 9. ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT MECHANISMS TO EVALUATE TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.

C. Statistics on Consumption

Suriname has offered the results of a partial survey conducted in 2002 on high school students reflecting the prevalence of drug abuse within that part of the population.

Prevalence in High School Students, 2002

| Type of drug | Lifetime (percentage) | | | Last 12 months (percentage) | | | Last 30 days (percentage) | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------|-------|-----------------------------|------|-------|---------------------------|------|-------|
| | M | F | Total | M | F | Total | M | F | Total |
| Alcohol | 79.2 | 72.5 | 75.3 | 49.7 | 40.4 | 44.3 | 32 | 20.8 | 25.6 |
| Tobacco | 51.5 | 29.9 | 39.0 | 22.9 | 10.0 | 15.4 | 15.3 | 5.3 | 9.5 |
| Solvents & Inhalants | 6.2 | 2.9 | 4.3 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.7 |
| Cannabis Type | | | | | | | | | |
| Marijuana | 10.9 | 2.9 | 6.3 | 6.3 | 1.5 | 3.5 | 2.5 | 0.5 | 1.4 |
| Opiates | | | | | | | | | |
| Morphine* | 0.9 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Opium | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Heroin | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Cocaine Type | | | | | | | | | |
| Basuco, or coca paste | 0.9 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.04 |
| Cocaine Hydrochloride | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Crack | 1.0 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.04 |
| Tranquilizers | 8.7 | 8.8 | 8.8 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 3.4 |
| Stimulants | 2.4 | 0.9 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.3 | 0.6 |
| MDMA (Ecstasy) | 1.0 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Methamphetamines | 1.6 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 |

Source: SIDUC/CICAD

* Non-prescribed/non-therapeutic use only

Suriname reports that the survey conducted in 2002 on high school students was repeated in November 2004, however the results have yet to be analyzed.

Suriname also provides information on the average age of the first use of alcohol and drugs in the following table obtained through a Secondary School Student's survey from 2002:



**Average Age of the First Use of Drugs
Secondary School Students Survey, 2002**

| Type of drug | M | F | Average |
|--|----|----|---------|
| Alcohol | 12 | 15 | 13.5 |
| Tobacco | 12 | 14 | 13 |
| Solvents & Inhalants | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| Cannabis Type | | | |
| Hashish | 14 | 17 | 15.5 |
| Marijuana | 15 | 17 | 16 |
| Opioids | | | |
| Heroin | 13 | 17 | 15 |
| Morphine* | 14 | 15 | 14.5 |
| Opium | 14 | 17 | 15.5 |
| Cocaine Type | | | |
| Basuco, or coca paste | 14 | 18 | 16 |
| Cocaine Hydrochloride | 14 | 18 | 16 |
| Crack | 14 | 17 | 15.5 |
| Tranquilizers / Sedatives/ Depressants | 13 | 13 | 13 |
| Stimulants | | | |
| Amphetamines | 12 | 13 | 12.5 |
| MDMA (Ecstasy) | 14 | 16 | 15 |
| Methamphetamines | 14 | 17 | 15.5 |

*Non-prescribed/non-therapeutic use only

Suriname reports that according to the same survey, the average age as a whole and by gender is higher for opiates, cocaine and stimulants. The country reports that 60% of the youth in the country aged 10-19 years then perceived drug use as being harmful to their health and well being. Suriname reports that this figure is now 75%.

The country does not have information regarding drug-related deaths or drug use and related accidents and crime. However, Suriname informs that an Emergency Room Survey was concluded in April 2004 and that the report was finalized in August 2004. The country reports the following results:

Emergency Room Survey, 2004

| MOST IMPORTANT REASONS FOR VISITING EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT | PERCENTAGE |
|--|-------------------|
| Other causes | 54.3% |
| Traffic accidents | 14.8% |
| Violence | 12.4% |
| Ordinary/ household accidents | 11.2% |
| MAIN CONSUMED SUBSTANCES BY PATIENTS WHO HAD CONSUMED A PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCE | |
| Alcohol | 70.6% |
| Marihuana | 5% |
| Cocaine | 5% |
| GENDER OF PATIENTS THAT CONSUMED A PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCE | |
| Males | 85% |
| TOTAL 1,785 PATIENTS SURVEYED: | |
| 108 patients had consumed alcohol | 6% |
| In 79 of the 108 cases of alcohol consumption (73%) the doctor saw a relationship between the emergency and the use of alcohol | |
| Of the 26 traffic accidents with alcohol involved, the doctor saw 24 related (92%) | |
| Of the 35 traffic accidents with violence involved, the doctor saw 27 related (77%) | |
| Majority of the patients who had consumed alcohol were conscious when they arrived at the Emergency Department | 92.6% |
| Reason for coming to the Emergency Department - Violence | 32% |
| Reason for coming to the Emergency Department -Traffic Accidents | 24% |
| Reason for coming to the Emergency Department - Other Causes | 29% |



New drugs as well as new patterns of drug administration have repeatedly occurred in Suriname during the years 2002-2004. Ecstasy emerged as a new drug in Suriname during the evaluation period.

However, in 2004 the country has carried out a qualitative study "The Use of Ecstasy (MDMA) and its Combination with Alcohol Beverages and the so-called Energy Drinks" under the auspices of the joint pilot project between the French Government, OFDT/OSM/CIFAD and OID/CICAD/OAS.

CICAD recognizes efforts made by Suriname in conducting data collecting surveys regarding the impact of drug abuse among specific population. However, CICAD is concerned that the country has not progressed in the execution of studies on prevalence or the age of first use of drugs among the general population, despite this being recommended in the Second Evaluation Round, 2001 - 2002. Neither does the country have studies on morbidity, crimes and accidents and mortality related to drug abuse.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

10. CARRY OUT STUDIES TO ESTIMATE THE MAGNITUDE OF DRUG CONSUMPTION AMONG THE GENERAL POPULATION, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999 – 2000.
11. DEVELOP STUDIES ON MORBIDITY RELATED TO DRUG ABUSE.
12. DEVELOP STUDIES ON MORTALITY RELATED TO DRUG ABUSE.
13. CARRY OUT STUDIES TO COLLECT DATA ON CRIMES AND ACCIDENTS RELATED TO DRUG ABUSE.

III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

A. Drug Production and Alternative Development

Due to the lack of information presented by the country for this area an evaluation of this section cannot be undertaken.

The country reports that no coca and poppy cultivation was detected in Suriname. Suriname reports a potential production of 10 hectares of raw material cannabis in the hinterland of the country for the year 2002, 2003 and 2004, with a potential production capacity of 200,000 kg per year. There is no indoor cannabis cultivation. The country only provides information on drug cultivation eradication in 2000, no information was provided for the years under evaluation.

CICAD notes with concern the lack of information in this chapter, taking into account that in the Second Evaluation Round, the MEM recommended that Suriname improve its mechanisms to eradicate illicit cultivation and prevent its increase.

RECOMMENDATION:

14. EXPEDITE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CENTRAL MECHANISM FOR DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS ON ILLICIT DRUG CULTIVATION AND PRODUCTION.



B. Supply Reduction and Control of Pharmaceutical Products and Controlled Chemical Substances

For the period under evaluation, MDMA (Ecstasy) was the most frequently seized synthetic drug: 15.25 kg were seized in 2002 and 80 kg seized in 2003.

The country reports that one large illicit laboratory for MDMA was found in 2003 and destroyed. During this operation the police confiscated 80 kg of MDMA, while the laboratory had a production capacity of 500 tablets per day.

Pharmaceutical Products

The Pharmaceutical Inspector of the Ministry of Health is vested with the principle responsibility for controlling the exportation, importation, production and distribution of pharmaceutical products and for preventing their diversion. Import/export control, license control, monitoring distribution, inspection, investigation, regulatory control, administrative sanctions, registry of licensees and transport control comprise the full scope of responsibilities of this unit.

All pharmaceutical products listed in the relevant international conventions are controlled by Suriname.

In terms of health care sector jurisdiction, the Pharmaceutical Inspector of the Ministry of Health is also responsible for license control, monitoring distribution, monitoring of prescription, inspection, investigation, regulatory control, administrative control and registration of licenses. There is no qualitative evaluation mechanism in this area.

Suriname has a mechanism in place to monitor and regulate the use and distribution of pharmaceutical products by authorized health professionals. Included in this mechanism are prescription requirements, special licenses or permits to prescribe certain drugs, distribution through pharmacies and other authorized outlets, monitoring distribution of purchases, monitoring of prescription, inspection/investigation, administrative sanctions and registry of licenses. A formal mechanism to evaluate the effectiveness of this system does not exist. Suriname plans to set up a monitoring system, through testing by the Pharmaceutical Inspection, of pharmaceutical products when imported. The country states that on 21 December 2004 the Minister of Health installed a commission to review the pharmaceutical legislation.

The country informs that human resources, transportation and office constraints impede the efforts of national authorities in fulfilling their responsibilities. No measures have been reportedly taken to address these impediments.

The national laws and regulations of Suriname provide for penal and administrative sanctions against the diversion of pharmaceutical products, and establish the following sanctions for the confiscation of pharmaceutical products: monetary sanctions ranging from SRD 10 – 200 (US\$3.70 – US\$74). On no occasion during the period under review (2003-2004) were sanctions applied.

The country reports that there were no seizures of pharmaceutical products in 2003 – 2004.

CICAD notes that the country does not have a formal mechanism to evaluate the effectiveness of the entity responsible for the control of pharmaceutical products nor a mechanism which evaluates the effectiveness of the control system of the use and distribution of pharmaceutical products by health care professionals.



RECOMMENDATIONS:

15. IMPLEMENT A QUALITATIVE SYSTEM TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ENTITY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTROL OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.
16. IMPLEMENT A MECHANISM TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS THE CONTROL SYSTEM FOR THE USE AND DISTRIBUTION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS BY HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS.
17. UPDATE LEGISLATION CONCERNING PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

Controlled Chemical Substances

Suriname informs that the Customs Department has the principal responsibility for controlling the exportation, importation, production and distribution of controlled chemical substances listed in the relevant United Nations Conventions and preventing their diversion. Suriname reports that all pertinent chemicals listed are regulated by that country. Import/export control, license control, monitoring distribution, inspection, investigation, regulatory control, administrative sanctions, registry of licenses, transport control and pre-export notifications all fall within the scope of responsibilities of the Customs Department. No formal qualitative mechanism is in place to evaluate the effectiveness of any of these areas of regulatory activity.

Although Suriname does not have specific laws to control chemical precursors, the country reports that there is some control of the movement of these substances as it participates in the pre-export notification program of the UN drugs control program. Suriname police carry out assessments on imports and background checks before issuing clearance to Customs, while the import of substances is carried out on the basis of a license which is subject to administrative control and sanctions. However, the country recognizes that the control process is not entirely effective because of the lack of a specific law and sufficient manpower to control the diversion of substances. The country also highlights a lack of knowledge of specific elements and no focal point for the monitoring and control of the movement and use of chemicals and precursors.

National laws and regulations do not contemplate penal, administrative or civil sanctions against the diversion of controlled chemical substances.

No pre-export notifications for controlled chemical substances were issued by Suriname during the past three years (2002-2004) to countries importing or transshipping these chemicals. Within this same period, one pre-export notification was received and responded to within 15 days of its receipt by Suriname.

With regard to seizures of controlled chemical substances, the following information was reported by Suriname in 2003: Ammoniac 60 liters, IPA 160 liters, Acetone 2,900 liters, chemical mixtures 3,620 liters. The country incinerates any seized controlled chemical substances as the method of disposal.

CICAD notes with concern that the country does not yet have specific legislation for the control of chemical substances which was a recommendation made in the First Evaluation Round 1999-2000. Likewise the country lacks a qualitative mechanism to evaluate the efficacy of the entity responsible for controlling the export, import, production and distribution of controlled chemical substances, a recommendation made in the Second Evaluation Round 2001-2002. Finally, Suriname does not have a regulatory framework for the application of sanctions against the diversion of controlled chemical substances in accordance with the international conventions.



RECOMMENDATIONS:

18. ENACT SPECIFIC LEGISLATION ON CONTROL OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
19. IMPLEMENT A MECHANISM TO EVALUATE THE EFFICACY OF THE RESPONSIBLE ENTITY FOR CONTROLLING THE EXPORT, IMPORT, PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001 - 2002.
20. IMPLEMENT A REGULATORY FRAMEWORK TO FACILITATE THE APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS FOR THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS.

IV. CONTROL MEASURES

A. Illicit Drug Trafficking

In their efforts to eliminate illicit drug trafficking, the law enforcement agencies in Suriname seized 340.123 kg of cocaine in 2002, 814.250 kg in 2003 and 750.404 kg in 2004. Regarding marihuana, the country reports that 205.151 kg were seized in 2002, 119.345 kg in 2003 and 197.340 kg in 2004. The country also reports 111 gr of heroin have been seized in 2004. The method of disposal of seized illicit drugs is incineration.

Suriname reports the following figures for persons arrested for illicit drug trafficking for 2002 (295); 2003 (463) and 2004 until February (68); of these numbers, 201 were tried in 2002, 367 in 2003 and 65 in 2004. Twelve convictions have been reported for 2002. Due to existing constraints in data reports analysis, no information was forthcoming on convictions for the years 2003 and 2004. Data on the number of persons arrested, tried and convicted for illicit drug possession was provided as follows: In terms of arrests made there were 366 in 2002; 641 in 2003 and 95 up to February of 2004. In terms of persons tried, there were 177 in 2002; 591 in 2003 and 32 up to February 2004. The number of persons convicted for illicit drug possession was 299 in 2002; 479 in 2003 and 523 up to February 2004.

Suriname reports that the promotion of operational information exchange and collaboration among national authorities responsible for controlling illicit drug trafficking is made by an interagency committee, joint forces/operations, joint training, interagency information systems, and interagency communication systems. Furthermore, there are mechanisms of joint operations used to evaluate collaborative effectiveness. The country reports that within the various agencies, there is no specific unit for collecting and sharing information and that this absence of sustainable structure has proven to be the main impediment encountered by its authorities in seeking to achieve effective information exchange and collaboration. Suriname affirms, nonetheless, that such a collaborative mechanism would provide an effective way of collecting information and coordinating activities. At the international level, intelligence and operational reports on seizures, quantities seized and arrests made are exchanged.

For the years 2002-2004, Suriname made 29 judicial cooperation requests regarding illicit drug trafficking to the following countries, Belgium, France, Guyana, Netherlands, Portugal, and United States. Nine of its requests were granted. Among the 33 judicial cooperation requests received from 6 countries during the period under evaluation, Suriname has granted 26.



In respect of judicial cooperation requests regarding illicit drug trafficking, in accordance with international agreements, the country indicated that it received 8 requests in 2002, 10 in 2003 and 13 in 2004, of which 8 replies were granted in 2002, 9 in 2003 and 9 in 2004.

Suriname informs that it has an extradition law which prohibits the extradition of Surinamese nationals to other countries. Suriname also has extradition treaties with the Netherlands and the United States. The agencies responsible for receipt of extradition requests are the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Public Prosecutor's Office.

All extradition requests for illicit drug trafficking made by the Netherlands in 2002 (13) and 2003 (6) were approved and executed by the Surinamese Government. No extradition requests for illicit drug trafficking were made by Suriname to other states in accordance with international agreements. In circumstances where such requests are made to other countries, issues of nationality present major impediments for extradition.

CICAD notes there is no specific entity for collecting and sharing information and that the absence of such a structure is the main impediment encountered by the authorities of Suriname in seeking to achieve effective information exchange and collaboration.

RECOMMENDATION:

21. DEVELOP A SPECIFIC UNIT IN ORDER TO COLLECT AND SHARE INFORMATION ON ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AMONG THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

B. Firearms and Ammunition

Regarding national entities responsible for controlling activities in relation to firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, Suriname informed that the National Army and Department of Firearms of the Police Force are jointly responsible for record keeping while the Justice Department of the Attorney General is responsible for issuance of import and in transit licenses and authorizations; the Judicial Department is responsible for information exchange; the Attorney General is responsible for cancellation of licenses and authorizations; and the Police Force for providing training and technical assistance.

The mechanisms used to promote information exchange and cooperation among these entities are: interagency committee, joint forces and operations, and joint training. Suriname does not have a formal mechanism to evaluate the effectiveness of national entities responsible for the control of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.

The country reports that the Firearms Act of 1930, as amended in 1990 and in 2001, penalizes the illegal importation, exportation and in-transit of firearms, parts of firearms and ammunition. Furthermore the illegal possession of firearms is prohibited, which the country reports had led to confiscation by police of a notable quantity of firearms during the last years. However there is low priority for the prosecution of these offenders by the office of Attorney-General due to capacity problems. Persons who are committed a violent crime are punished more heavily when these crimes are committed with a firearm or gun. In all cases where illegal fire arms are used or detected, or legal firearms are used to commit a crime, these firearms are confiscated.

Suriname informs that 38 persons in 2002 and 115 in 2003 were arrested for possession and trafficking of firearms, ammunition and other related materials, while 2 persons in 2002 and 16 in 2003 were tried for the same crime. There is no information available on persons convicted.



Data have been provided on the number of illicit items confiscated in relation to arrests made as follows: 94 firearms were confiscated in 2002, and 109 in 2003, 31,668 rounds of ammunition and 11 grenades were confiscated in 2003. National laws require that firearms be marked at the time of manufacture, for their importation and when officially used after confiscation or forfeiture. The country reports that in 2002, 9 firearms were confiscated and in 2003, 6 firearms were confiscated in relation to arrests for illicit drug trafficking. In terms of confiscated ammunition, it is reported that the full quota of 31,668 rounds were destined for drug trafficking organizations. Confiscated items are prevented from returning to the illicit trade either by destruction, or donation to government agencies.

There is a national database that maintains a record (by date, description and serial number) of firearms, ammunition and explosives, imported, exported and in transit. This record covers an undetermined period of time and is not in computerized form. On the issue of information exchange and collaboration, the judicial department and the office of the Attorney General share information of a quantitative type on arrests, type of weapons, origin and other relevant materials.

Inter-agency committees, joint forces operations, joint training and inter-agency information systems are the mechanisms used to promote and facilitate information exchange and collaboration. The agencies identified as the actors behind this collaborative effort are: the Judicial Department, the Narcotics Squad, and the Special Investigation Unit of the Ministry of Justice and the Police.

Regarding the number of requests for information concerning shipments of firearms, Suriname informs that it made no requests in 2002, or 2003 and made one request to the Netherlands and one to the US both in 2004. Suriname received one reply in 2004 providing the information requested.

Regarding requests to obtain information in relation to shipments (firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials) pursuant to relevant international agreements, one request from the Netherlands for information on explosives was received and responded to in 2003.

CICAD notes that Suriname does not have a formal mechanism to evaluate the effectiveness of national entities responsible for controlling the movement of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials. Similarly, CICAD notes with concern that the country does not have systemized registers on the number of persons convicted for illicit possession and trafficking of firearms, ammunition and explosives, as recommended in the First Evaluation Round, 1999-2000. CICAD believes that the project on "Establishing a system to compile information regarding persons charged or convicted for illicit drugs trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking", financed by the CICAD, is a positive step in completing the recommendation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

22. IMPLEMENT A FORMAL MECHANISM TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE NATIONAL ENTITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTROLLING THE MOVEMENT OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS.
23. CREATE A REGISTER OF PERSONS CONVICTED FOR ILICIT POSSESSION AND TRAFFICKING OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.



C. Money Laundering

Suriname adopted, in September 2002, legislation named "Law on penalizing Money Laundering" which criminalizes money laundering as an autonomous crime. In Suriname all criminal offenses can be considered predicate offenses to money laundering.

Suriname reports that it does have legislation for wiretapping and this investigation method is used in criminal investigations. Regarding the use of undercover investigations, electronic surveillance, use of informants, controlled deliveries and sentence reduction for cooperating witnesses, these methods are used on the basis of instruction by the Attorney General. The country informs that there are plans to include these investigative tools in the Criminal Procedure Law. The draft legislation to extend the power of wiretapping has been sent by the Attorney General to the Cabinet of Ministers for approval. Additionally, there is a law on the protection of the identity of witnesses which was approved in 2002.

The country reports that it has administrative controls applicable to financial institutions. The country also informs that the "Report Unusual Transactions" Act, includes these kinds of controls for: banks, currency exchanges, stock exchange, insurance, casinos, real estate, lawyers, notaries, accountants, cross border movements of currency and credit unions dealers in motor vehicles.

In Suriname the financial institutions are obliged to report suspicious transactions to the competent authorities even though there are certain control measures which are not binding for example: existence of enforcement officials, existence of independent audits, and know-your-employee policies.

Suriname reports the number of unusual and suspicious transactions reports and their outcome as follows:

| Year | Number of unusual transaction reports sent to FIU | Number of suspicious transaction reports sent by the FIU to the A G | Number of suspicious transaction send to the Police [BOT] | Number suspicious transaction investigated by the police [BOT] |
|------|---|---|---|--|
| 2002 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2003 | 276 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| 2004 | 1,054 | 455 | 27 (in 3 cases) | 6 (in 1 case) |

The country reports that no sanctions were applied to financial institutions for failure to report suspicious transactions or to comply with other money laundering control measures. In Suriname, bank documents and/or financial records can be provided in money laundering cases. The country reports that there is no entity for the management and disposition of assets seized and forfeited for illicit drug trafficking and money laundering offences.

Suriname reports that it has a Financial Intelligence Unit (MOT) which receives requests, analyzes and reports to the competent authorities' information on transactions that may constitute money laundering. The FIU of Suriname has been operational since the second half of 2003.

Suriname reports that, although the FIU has its own budget (not yet approved), it is not an autonomous unit, rather, it falls under the authority of the Office of the Attorney General. The FIU is not a member of the Egmont Group. Suriname has signed an Memorandum of Understanding



(MOU) with the Dutch FIU allowing for the exchange of information with its counterparts in the Netherlands. However, the FIU is authorized to share information with a counterpart in other countries without the need of signing a MOU, but a Treaty is required.

Suriname informs that money laundering, in all cases, is an extraditable offense in the country, with exception of the extradition of Surinamese nationals. The Attorney General is the central authority responsible for making requests for extradition to other countries. During the years 2002-2004, the country made no extradition requests and received two extradition requests for money laundering cases were received from the Netherlands (2002), and one in 2003.

Suriname has not made nor received requests for the freezing of assets in money laundering cases during the evaluation period.

The country reports that during the period under evaluation, prosecutors and 2 judges received specialized training for the enforcement of laws criminalizing money laundering. These training programs were provided by the USA, The CALP and the Dutch Government.

CICAD recognizes the progress that the country has achieved to improve its existing controls in money laundering. However, CICAD observes that the country should expand the list of individuals subject to administrative control for money laundering, establish a register of persons arrested, tried and convicted for money laundering, and establish an entity for the administration and disposal of seized and forfeited assets in cases of illicit drug trafficking and money laundering.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

24. EXPAND THE LIST OF INDIVIDUALS SUBJECT TO ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL FOR MONEY LAUNDERING.
25. ESTABLISH A REGISTER OF PERSONS ARRESTED, TRIED AND CONVICTED FOR MONEY LAUNDERING.
26. ESTABLISH AN ENTITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND DISPOSAL OF SEIZED AND FORFEITED ASSETS IN CASES OF ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND MONEY LAUNDERING.

D. Corruption

With regard to the establishment of legal provisions to punish acts of corruption, Suriname reports that a draft legislation on corruption is still pending approval by the Parliament. It has amended its Money Laundering Act 2001 to make provision for the illicit enrichment of a government official consistent with Article IX 1a of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption already ratified by Suriname. Other acts of corruption, criminalized in the Convention already legislated under Suriname's national laws are the solicitation or acceptance of a bribe by a government official and embezzlement by a government official.

Suriname reports on the number of public officials arrested, tried and convicted between 2002-2004 for offences related to drug trafficking. In 2002, 6 officials were convicted, 29 in 2003, and 5 in 2004.



E. Organized Crime

The crimes of money laundering, corruption, obstruction of justice, trafficking in persons, illicit traffic of migrants, participation in an organized criminal group, illicit manufacture and trafficking of firearms, their parts, components and ammunition, are covered by national laws. The cooperation measures covered by these laws are: extradition, mutual legal assistance, seizure and confiscation, interdiction operations, and victim protection and assistance. It is also reported that undercover operations, telephone tapping and controlled deliveries are included in special investigative techniques.

Suriname has identified the Office of the Attorney General as the principal institution responsible for enforcing laws in that country against transnational organized crime. Recently training was provided to this office in the area of criminal investigation, and money laundering control by foreign law enforcement agencies.



V. CONCLUSIONS

During the period under evaluation, Suriname has faced serious difficulties in its policy against drugs. CICAD underlines the non-existence of a Drug Master Plan since 2000 and a consistent decrease in the budget allocations to the National Anti-Drug Council (NAR).

In spite of those problems, the country undertook some positive actions in order to comply with the MEM recommendations such as: the reinstatement for a three-year period of the National Drug Council in the last quarter of 2004, the ratification of the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption (1996) and the commencement of the activities in the framework of the European Union project and the implementation of drug abuse surveys .

In the area of drug demand reduction, CICAD notes a weakness, reiterated from the second evaluation round on the non-existence of a plan, the absence of specialized training programs, no minimum standards of care for drug abuse treatment and absence of a mechanism for assessing the efficacy of the treatment program.

CICAD recognizes efforts made by Suriname in conducting data collecting surveys regarding the impact of drug abuse among specific population. However, the country should extend such measures in the execution of studies on prevalence or the age of first use of drugs among the general population as recommended by CICAD at the second evaluation round.

CICAD notes with concern that the country still lacks specific legislation for the control of chemical substances, as recommended in the First Evaluation Round, 1999 - 2000. Likewise, the country lacks a qualitative mechanism to evaluate the efficacy of the entity responsible for the export, import, production and distribution of controlled chemical substances, a recommendation made in the Second Evaluation Round, 2001-2002. Finally, Suriname does not have a regulatory framework for the application of sanctions against the diversion of controlled chemical substances in accordance with international conventions.

CICAD notes that the country does not have systemized registers on the number of persons convicted for illicit possession and trafficking of firearms, ammunition and explosives, as recommended since the First Evaluation Round 1999-2000. Although, the project on "Establishing a system to compile information regarding persons charged or convicted for illicit drugs trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking", is a positive step in completing this recommendation.

It is evident that the country has improved its existing controls in money laundering. However, CICAD observes that the country should expand the list of individuals subject to administrative control for money laundering, establish a register of persons arrested, tried and convicted for money laundering, and establish an entity for the administration and disposal of seized and forfeited assets in cases of illicit drug trafficking and money laundering.

CICAD appreciates the participation of Suriname in the MEM process but recommends that the country improves its methodology to report information to the MEM in order to provide clear and coherent data as requested by the indicators.



VI. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are assigned to Suriname 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:

INSTITUTION BUILDING

1. APPROVE A NEW NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN.
2. RATIFY THE INTER AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVES (CIFTA), A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
3. RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME AND ITS THREE PROTOCOLS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001-2002.
 - A) PROTOCOL AGAINST THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS BY LAND, SEA AND AIR
 - B) PROTOCOL TO PREVENT, SUPPRESS AND PUNISH TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN
 - C) PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION
4. IMPLEMENT A FORMAL MECHANISM TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE COUNTRY TO RECOLLECT DRUG-RELATED INFORMATION.
5. SET UP A DRUG 'HELP LINE' OR A CENTRALIZED OFFICE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

DEMAND REDUCTION

6. DEVELOP DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING PROGRAMS FOR POPULATIONS AT RISK.
7. PROVIDE SPECIALIZED TRAINING IN DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001-2002.
8. ESTABLISH MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE FOR DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
9. ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT MECHANISMS TO EVALUATE TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
10. CARRY OUT STUDIES TO ESTIMATE THE MAGNITUDE OF DRUG CONSUMPTION AMONG THE GENERAL POPULATION, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999 – 2000.
11. DEVELOP STUDIES ON MORBIDITY RELATED TO DRUG ABUSE.
12. DEVELOP STUDIES ON MORTALITY RELATED TO DRUG ABUSE.
13. CARRY OUT STUDIES TO COLLECT DATA ON CRIMES AND ACCIDENTS RELATED TO DRUG ABUSE.



SUPPLY REDUCTION

14. EXPEDITE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CENTRAL MECHANISM FOR DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS ON ILLICIT DRUG CULTIVATION AND PRODUCTION.
15. IMPLEMENT A QUALITATIVE SYSTEM TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ENTITY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTROL OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.
16. IMPLEMENT A MECHANISM TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS THE CONTROL SYSTEM FOR THE USE AND DISTRIBUTION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS BY HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS.
17. UPDATE LEGISLATION CONCERNING PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.
18. ENACT SPECIFIC LEGISLATION ON CONTROL OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
19. IMPLEMENT A MECHANISM TO EVALUATE THE EFFICACY OF THE RESPONSIBLE ENTITY FOR CONTROLLING THE EXPORT, IMPORT, PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001 - 2002.
20. IMPLEMENT A REGULATORY FRAMEWORK TO FACILITATE THE APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS FOR THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS.

CONTROL MEASURES

21. DEVELOP A SPECIFIC UNIT IN ORDER TO COLLECT AND SHARE INFORMATION ON ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AMONG THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.
22. IMPLEMENT A FORMAL MECHANISM TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE NATIONAL ENTITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTROLLING THE MOVEMENT OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS.
23. CREATE A REGISTER OF PERSONS CONVICTED FOR ILLICIT POSSESSION AND TRAFFICKING OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
24. EXPAND THE LIST OF INDIVIDUALS SUBJECT TO ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL FOR MONEY LAUNDERING.
25. ESTABLISH A REGISTER OF PERSONS ARRESTED, TRIED AND CONVICTED FOR MONEY LAUNDERING.
26. ESTABLISH AN ENTITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND DISPOSAL OF SEIZED AND FORFEITED ASSETS IN CASES OF ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND MONEY LAUNDERING.