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

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

URUGUAY

EVALUATION OF PROGRESS IN DRUG CONTROL 2003-2004



INTRODUCTION

Uruguay has a total area is 176,220 km², and 1,564 km of borders (579 km with Argentina; 985 km with Brazil). It also has 660 km of coastline. In 2003, its population was 3,408,000, with the following main ethnic groups: whites, mestizos, and blacks. Its literacy rate is 98%. Uruguay is a Constitutional Republic, divided into 19 Departments. Per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was estimated in 1995 at US\$4,876; the inflation rate is 13.90% (2002). Annual exports total US\$2.164 billion, approximately 13% of GDP (2003). Its main exports are meat, rice, leather products, wool, fish, and dairy products.

I. INSTITUTIONAL BUILDING/NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY

A. National Anti-Drug Plan and National Commission

Uruguay has a National Anti-Drug Strategy that will be in effect until March 2005; it was approved by the Head of State and the National Drugs Board (JND), and includes Demand Reduction, Supply Reduction, Control Measures, Institutional Framework, and Program Evaluation.

The new Uruguayan government, which took office on March 1, 2005, will be responsible for determining the new timeframe for drug-related national policies.

The national strategy has an institutional framework that includes the central government as well as departmental governments throughout the country. Uruguay has developed decentralized policies in 15 of the 19 municipalities of the country that benefit 1,238,500 of its 3,408,000 inhabitants, the total population of Uruguay.

The central government assigns the budget for Uruguay's National Anti-Drug Strategy, and it is augmented by civil society contributions, international cooperation, self-financing from law enforcement, and ministry or central agency budgets.

The budget has decreased slightly from US\$8,940,752 in 2002, to US\$8,475,713 in 2003, and US\$8,391,238 in 2004.

Of the total amount corresponding to 2004, US\$722,234 is assigned to Demand Reduction, US\$466,953 to Supply Reduction, and US\$7,202,051 to Control Measures.

The implementation of the National Anti-Drug Strategy is coordinated by the National Drugs Board (JND) in the areas mentioned above, with the cooperation and assistance of the Assistant Secretary of the Presidency of the Republic, who is also the Chair of the JND; the Vice Minister of the Interior; the Vice Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Economy and Finance; National Defense; Education and Culture; Labor and Social Security; Public Health; and Sports and Youth; and the Secretary General of the National Secretariat of Drugs (SND). Together they constitute the central management of the national authority. The SND is the administrative-technical unit which supports the activities carried out by the JND.

The coordination of all JND anti-drug activities is financed annually by means of an integrated budget provided by allotments from the central government; self-financing through law enforcement; civil society contributions, and international cooperation funds.



The coordination of all the anti-drug activities that the JND carries out is financed annually by an integrated budget, and its sources include: central government assignations, auto-finance as a result of law enforcement, contributions from civil society and international cooperation funds. The country reports that in 2004, the total budget received was US\$49,833, less than in previous years, as the total budget for 2001 was the national currency equivalent of US\$100,000. This budget by law remains in force for five years and is allocated in Uruguayan pesos. Fluctuations in the value of the U.S. currency could mean a reduction in potential spending and investment in that currency, but does not affect the budgetary allocations in national currency. This budget does not include contributions from international cooperation, those made by civil society, or self-funding. The country considers that the budget is inadequate for the development of anti-drug policies.

In accordance with the country's comments, CICAD notes that the budget allocated to the national anti-drug authority is too limited for broader action to be taken in this area.

RECOMMENDATION:

 ALLOCATE THE RESOURCES NECESSARY FOR THE NATIONAL DRUGS BOARD TO EFFECTIVELY CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES.

B. International Conventions

Uruguay has ratified the following international conventions:

- The Inter-American Convention against Corruption (1996)
- The Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and other Related Materials (1997)
- 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 (1998)
- The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000) and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children

Uruguay has a framework for all anti-drug activities consisting of the international conventions it has signed and ratified. The Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters has been before the Legislature for two years and has not yet been ratified, although this delay has been the subject of a reiterated CICAD recommendation from the First Evaluation Round, 1999-2000.

There is a national follow-up mechanism to monitor the effective application of the mandates established in the above-mentioned international conventions. It comprises, in accordance with their jurisdiction, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, the Anticorruption Board; the Ministry of the Interior; the Ministry of National Defense, and the JND.

In the framework of the above-mentioned international conventions, bilateral cooperation agreements have been signed with Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Great Britain, Panama, Peru, and the United States.



CICAD views with concern that the country has not yet ratified the 1992 Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, although this recommendation has been reiterated since the First Evaluation Round, 1999-2000. CICAD views with satisfaction the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2. RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
- 3. RATIFY THE FOLLOWING PROTOCOLS TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001-2002:
 - A) PROTOCOL AGAINST THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS BY LAND, SEA AND AIR
 - B) PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION

C. National Information System

Uruguay has a National Observatory on Drugs that participates in CICAD's Inter-American Uniform Drug Use Data System (SIDUC) to compile, analyze, and report on drug abuse statistics. During the 2003-2004 period, it carried out surveys among high school students, national household surveys, and a Study of the Economic, Social and Human Costs of Drug Abuse.

The country also participates in CICAD's Uniform Statistical System on Control of the Supply Area (CICDAT) to compile and submit statistics on supply control. The country reports that statistical information is not presently available for persons convicted for an offense by age group, occupation, and/or nationality. Uruguay provides annual drug-related statistics to the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

The country considers that the National Observatory is a step forward in the attempt to establish a formal system for compiling, organizing, analyzing, and utilizing drug-related statistics and documentation. However, what is lacking is a formal mechanism for evaluating the efficiency of that system.

Uruguay uses several methods for informing the authorities and the public about drug-related problems, including web pages, libraries, national publications, the sending of e-mails and faxes to target groups, schools and universities, and research institutes.

It also has a 24-hour help line under the Ministry of the Interior and an advice line that operates during office hours in the National Secretariat on Drugs, to answer questions and make referrals to specific health services.

The government has also published guides and information manuals that provide information to educators, young people, and adults in general; these publications have been widely distributed throughout the country with ample acceptance and demand. Talks, seminars, and other activities have been arranged in high schools, social and sports clubs, and neighborhood organizations to provide information on drug abuse, and to promote good health and prevention in general. All these activities were carried out without a specific budget for disseminating information on the drug problem.



CICAD recognizes the work of the National Observatory on Drugs, although it considers it necessary for a formal mechanism to be in place to evaluate the efficiency of the system for compiling, organizing, and analyzing drug-related data and documentation.

RECOMMENDATION:

4. IMPLEMENT A FORMAL MECHANISM FOR EVALUATING THE EFFICIENCY OF THE SYSTEM FOR COMPILING, ORGANIZING, AND ANALYZING DRUG-RELATED DATA AND DOCUMENTATION.

II. DEMAND REDUCTION

A. Prevention

The country has a national system of drug abuse prevention programs directed at key sectors of the population, such as students and university students, including primary and secondary school students, as well as primary school teachers and university professors. Uruguay does not have working children other than street children, for whom numerous prevention activities are carried out in conjunction with state institutions such as JND/SND, National Youth Institute (INJU), the Ministry of Sport and Youth, the National Institute for Minors (INAME), the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Public Health, mayor's offices, departmental anti-drug committees/boards outside Montevideo, and nongovernmental organizations. Programs for adults are applied to a small extent in the work place, but only in the private sector. No prevention programs targeting women are in place. There are prevention programs for injectable drug users to prevent infectious and contagious diseases.

With regard to programs for prison inmates, the country reports that, through interagency coordination with the Ministry of the Interior, National Criminology Institute, Awareness and Informational Workshops are being held for 34 prison police staff members in the Correctional and Women's Detention Institution. A pilot experiment with 20 female inmates using the workshop methodology was also conducted in that institution. Its objective was to introduce the prison population to the drug issue (two seminar/workshops) in order to provide support for National Criminology Institute (INACRI) psychologists by training a therapeutic group to work to raise awareness of the risks of problematic drug use. An awareness and training course is being conducted for 47 students following the basic education and further education courses at the Inspector Second Class Rodolfo Leoncino Prison School.

The country has the necessary capacity for providing training in the prevention and treatment of drug abuse with brief updating or training courses, courses for university, Masters, and Doctoral students. This training is given at the Universidad de la República Oriental del Uruguay, at the Universidad Católica and Dámaso Antonio Larrañaga, and at the Escuela de Sanidad Dr. José Scosería. The country feels that the courses taught at those education centers do not satisfy the national demand for professional training in the areas of prevention and treatment. The following courses have been offered in the country: Virtual Training Program for Health Promotion and Prevention of the Problematic Use of Drugs (2,000 participants); Training Program for Secondary Education Center Teachers (4,000 participants); Training Course in the Problem of Drug Consumption (700 participants); and Conferences on the Phenomenon of Addictions and the Abuse of Drugs (1,400 participants).

The country has made significant advances in this field, considering that professional training in prevention and rehabilitation began in the year 2000.



Uruguay does not have a system for accrediting or licensing professionals in demand reduction.

During 2002 and 2003, Uruguay has evaluated programs for preventing drug abuse. Specifically, it performed a general evaluation of the application of a program called "The Adventure of Life," which has four themes: self-esteem, life skills, drugs, and healthy habits. This program has been progressively extended throughout the country with highly satisfactory results.

The country reports that the nongovernmental organization "El Abrojo", carried out the evaluation using the methodology "Instruments for Evaluation," to assess personal and social adaptation. El Abrojo's own standardized psychometric test was used to evaluate values, activities, and behaviors related to the aforementioned licit drug use. The results show that implementation of the program leads to improvements in protection factors and minimization of risk factors among the boys and girls who participate in it.

In Uruguay, only during the past three years has research been carried out among NGOs on the impact of prevention programs. Specifically, programs for third grade children at four public schools in Montevideo were evaluated, and the results of that investigation were published in 2002. The impact of programs for the prevention of drug abuse in public and private institutions and universities has yet to be evaluated.

The country evaluated the Universidad Complutense de Madrid's "Challenge of Freedom" program. In 2004, this program was adapted for Uruguay and reached 336,000 public secondary school students. The project, "Responsible Centers of Education," is being implemented by the National Drug Board, the Secondary Education Council, and the Professional Technical Education Council.

CICAD acknowledges the effort made by the country in implementing prevention programs, although it notes the lack of this type of program for women, as well as workplace programs in the public sector. CICAD also views with concern the lack of a national system for accreditation or licensing of demand reduction professionals.

RECOMMENDATION:

5. Develop prevention programs targeting women, as well as workplace prevention programs in the public sector.

B. Treatment

Uruguay has minimum standards of care or regulations for care in drug abuse treatment which are presently being considered by the Executive Branch for possible adoption.

The government has a national registry of treatment centers and programs, which operate according to Ministry of Health regulations for approving professional institutions that treat drug users.

The country has a national system of drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation programs, and social reintegration based on public and private outpatient and in-patient programs for adults and children of both sexes. It should be noted that public and private agencies do not provide early detection, patient training, or referral services.

In Uruguay, 1,414 patients received treatment during 2002, while in 2003, 6,315 and in 2004, 7,168 persons received treatment. The country did not report the number of persons seeking but not receiving treatment.



Figures were provided on the number of treatment programs in the country in 2002 and 2003. In both cases, six in-patient programs, 15 outpatient programs and two day programs were reported.

The country reports that studies have been carried out to evaluate the efficiency of several early intervention programs, drug abuse treatment, rehabilitation, and follow-up or social reintegration methods. This evaluation of treatment effectiveness and efficiency is the responsibility of several of the country's public and private institutions and they use various methods and strategies to measure success.

CICAD views with concern that the country has not yet approved or implemented minimum standards of care in drug abuse treatment which, in the First Evaluation Round, 1999-2000, Uruguay had reported were included in the Manual on Requirements for Authorization of Professional Institutions involved in treatment of problematic drug users. This manual has apparently been under study since 2001.

Moreover, the country does not have early detection, patient training, or case referral services. Lastly, although the country reports that treatment programs are evaluated in all institutions, it would be advisable for the national anti-drug authority to effect centralized evaluation. Likewise CICAD is concerned that the country does not have a system to evaluate the quality of services provided.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 6. APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE IN DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
- 7. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO EVALUATE THE QUALITY OF TREATMENT SERVICES PROVIDED.
- 8. INCLUDE SYSTEMS FOR EARLY DETECTION AND CASE REFERRAL AMONG TREATMENT METHODS.
- 9. Develop studies to enable the country's existing treatment programs to be evaluated in a comprehensive manner.



C. Statistics on Consumption

Uruguay has estimated the prevalence of drug abuse among the country's general population, and has provided a statistical table with figures showing the prevalence by type of drug, gender, specific period, etc. which indicates the consumption of alcohol, tobacco, tranquilizers, sedatives, and depressants.

Prevalence Among Specific Populations 2003 High School Students – 13 to 17 Years of Age – Nationally

Type of Drug	Lifetime (percentage)		Last 12 months (percentage)			Last 30 days (percentage)			
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Alcohol	84.4	79.5	81.7	74.1	67.3	70.4	59.9	53.0	56.1
Tobacco	54.3	57.5	56.1	36.9	44.1	40.9	25.2	34.3	30.3
Solvents & Inhalants	3.1	2.4	2.7	1.6	1.2	1.4	0.4	0.5	0.4
Cannabis Type									
Hashish	1.5	0.6	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2
Marijuana	14.1	10.2	11,.	9.8	7.2	8.	4.8	3.8	4.3
Hallucinogens	1.9	1.5	1.7	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.2
Opioids									
Heroin	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2
Morphine	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	0	<0.1
Opium	0.9	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.2	0	0.1	<0.1
Cocaine Type									
Basuco, or coca paste	1.6	0.9	1.2	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.2
Cocaine Hydrochloride	3.7	2.7	3.1	2.3	1.3	1.7	1.1	0.5	0.8
Crack	1.3	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2
Tranquilizers / Sedatives/	9.3	14.7	12.3	4.8	8.8	7.0	1.9	4.2	3.2
Depressants									
Stimulants	6.9	7.0	6.9	3.7	4.6	4.2	1.7	2.6	2.2
MDMA (Ecstasy)	1.1	0.7	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0.2	0.1
Other drugs	4.6	3.5	4.0	2.6	2.5	2.5	1.5	1.8	1.7
All illicit drugs	15.6	10.5	12.8	11.8	8.7	10.1	6.0	5.0	5.5

The third national survey of prevalence was carried out in November and December 2001, and showed that 81.2% of the population over 12 years of age had tried alcohol at some point in their lives, making it the most common drug consumed in the country. According to that same survey, tobacco was second, and marijuana was the most common illegal drug consumed in the country. The prevalence remained the same except for the increase in cocaine hydrochloride.

According to the information provided, the average age of the first use by males of alcohol or any other drug for the country was 12.31 years for alcohol and 13.48 years for tobacco in 2003. The situation is similar for females. Other averages are provided for hallucinogens, opioids, cocaine, tranquilizers, stimulants, among others, showing that the country has abundant information in this area.



	Ger	neral po _l 2001		Specific population High School Students 2003			
Type of Drug	M	F	Average	M	F	Average	
Alcohol	16.11	17.82	16.87	12.31	13.18	12.77	
Tobacco	15.42	17.68	16.34	13.08	13.48	13.31	
Solvents & Inhalants	14.00	n.c	14.00	13.96	13.96	13.96	
Cannabis Type							
Hashish				15.26	13.0	14.7	
Marijuana	19.59	20.92	20.03	14.89	14.93	14.91	
Hallucinogens	17.	18.36	17.86	15.05	14.75	14.91	
Opioids	25.60	27.16	26.47				
Heroin				13.25	15.00	13.89	
Morphine				13.90	14.00	13.94	
Opium				13.81	14.5	13.95	
Cocaine Type							
Basuco, or coca paste				15.59	14.31	15.11	
Cocaine Hydrochloride	20.21	23.90	21.14	15.11	14.85	14.99	
Crack				14.85	14.2	14.72	
Tranquilizers / Sedatives/ Depressants	27.14	28.25	27.78	12.96	13.90	13.60	
Stimulants	20.84	23.59	22.87	13.31	14.18	13.79	
MDMA (Ecstasy)	n.c	21.50	21.50	15.78	13.84	15.00	
Other drugs				12.66	13.47	13.04	
All illicit drugs	20.72	23.38	21.45	14.50	14.23	14.42	

The national prevalence survey in 2001 shows little variation relative to the information provided in 2004.

In 2003, the country estimated that 90% of high school youth 13 to 17 years of age perceive that drug consumption is harmful to health, indicating that this figure has not changed in recent years.

The estimated morbidity involving intravenous drug abuse according to information collected in 2003 shows only cases of HIV, but not Hepatitis B and C. The information was obtained from a single source, the National AIDS Program of the Ministry of Public Health.

Uruguay reports that new drugs have been detected, including ketamine in 2002, and coca paste in 2003.

The new methods detected for drug taking are orally and intravenously for ketamine, and smoking for coca paste.

The country has no information for estimating the number of deaths related to drug abuse in general, and this is due to the lack of data on drug-related deaths. The Technical Forensic Institute and hospital emergency rooms generally give the cause of death as the pathology that was produced by the substance, but do not mention the presence of the substance.

The country has 2003 data on crimes and accidents involving drug abuse, as well as an estimate of the drugs and alcohol consumed by a recently arrested person prior to his arrest. The percentage of arrests that involve drug and alcohol abuse by gender is 21% for males and 6% for females.

There are no records of alcohol and drug abuse-related traffic accidents, but there are for work-related accidents. In 2002, 2003, and 2004 the percentage of alcohol related accidents in the workplace were 13.08%, 13.09%, and 11.98% respectively.



The country reports that the "Common Register of Detainees" recently approved by the Ministry of the Interior will be of great assistance in providing current information on arrests and prosecutions involving alcohol and other drugs. Uruguay has not thus far provided the data obtained from nor information regarding the Common Register of Detainees.

CICAD acknowledges the efforts made by the country to systematically obtain drug use statistics and notes that it only remains for data to be obtained on drug use-related mortality and drug use-related traffic accidents.

RECOMMENDATION:

10. Create registries to obtain systematic data on drug use-related mortality and drug use-related traffic accidents.

III. SUPPLY REDUCTION

A. Drug Production and Alternative Development

Uruguay states that illegal crops have not been detected within its territory in the period under evaluation.

The figures on cannabis plant seizures in 2002, 2003, and 2004 show that the country does not have a significant level of production. Indoor crops have not been detected.

Plant	Number of Plants Seized					
	2002	2003	2004			
Cannabis	255 plants	30 plants	70 plants			

Two small illegal organic drug laboratories were found in Uruguay in 2004. It should be noted that, for the first time in Uruguay, two clandestine laboratories were discovered where cocaine paste was processed.

B. Supply Reduction and Control of Pharmaceutical Products and Chemicals Substances

In the case of synthetic drugs, ecstasy was detected in 2002, originating in Europe. The most common trafficking routes are Spain and Argentina to Uruguay. Ecstasy production has not been detected in Uruguay.

Pharmaceutical Products

In Uruguay, the Department of Medications of the Health Products Division of the Ministry of Public Health is the agency responsible for controlling the exportation, importation, production, and distribution of the pharmaceutical products listed in the United Nations Conventions. The country has other controlled pharmaceutical products apart from those listed in the international conventions. This agency is also in charge of controlling production and distribution, inspecting, investigating, applying administrative sanctions, registering license holders, and controlling transportation. The country has qualitative mechanisms to evaluate the effectiveness of this entity.



The responsibilities that have been assigned to this department of the Ministry of Public Health are enormous and do not match the resources that have been provided.

Uruguay has a mechanism to control and regulate the distribution of pharmaceutical products by health professionals that are authorized to do so, as well as a mechanism to evaluate its effectiveness.

The criteria most commonly used for this evaluation are: the number of complaints received related to use, issuance of prescriptions, or unauthorized distribution of pharmaceutical products; the percentage of health professionals that comply with the regulations (up to 99%), the number of inspections and investigations, and the number of sanctions. Although the country provides general information on the application of the above criteria, it does not have information on the application of these criteria by year.

The country has laws and regulations which allow for the application of penal, civil and administrative sanctions against the diversion of pharmaceutical products, but does not indicate the number of times these sanctions were applied during the past three years.

Only information on minimum and maximum penal sanctions is given; information on civil and administrative sanctions is lacking.

The country reports that no pharmaceutical products were seized during 2002-2003, or to date in 2004.

CICAD observes that, although the country has laws that allow for penal, civil, and administrative sanctions to be applied for the diversion of pharmaceutical products, it lacks the statistical information on the number of times these sanctions were applied.

RECOMMENDATION:

11. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF PENAL, CIVIL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS IMPOSED TO PREVENT THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

Controlled Chemical Substances

The country reports that the national agencies responsible for controlling the exportation, importation, production and distribution of all controlled chemicals listed in the United Nations Conventions, and preventing their diversion are: the General Department for Repressing Drug Trafficking of the Ministry of the Interior, the Investigation and Drug Trafficking Division of the Naval Prefecture of the Ministry of National Defense, the Department of Medications of the Health Products Division of the Ministry of Public Health, and the Department of Customs of the Ministry of Economy and Finance. These entities are responsible for the control of exportation and importation, license control, monitoring of distribution, inspections, investigations, regulatory control, application of administrative sanctions, register of license holders, transport control and pre-export notifications of controlled chemical substances.

Inspections of compliance with current regulations are carried out periodically as well as national and international information exchange and annual reports to evaluate the effectiveness of these agencies.

The country reports that the lack of resources hinders the more effective fulfillment of its responsibility.



The country reports that laws and/or regulations exist to allow the application of penal, civil, and administrative sanctions in cases against the diversion of controlled chemical substances in compliance with international conventions. However, due to the lack of data no information has been provided on the number of times sanctions were applied during the past three years.

Minimum and maximum sanctions are stipulated in terms of imprisonment and fines in local currency for penal, as well as civil and administrative sanctions, indicating the legal framework that exists for controlling the diversion of controlled chemicals.

The country reports that it exports controlled chemical substances to Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay; however, no information is provided on the number of pre-export notifications issued in 2002 or 2003. In the case of Argentina, it states that notifications were given but the number was not recorded.

The country also does not provide information on the number of pre-export notifications sent by Uruguay that were rejected by importing or transshipping countries.

The country reports that no problems were encountered when sending pre-export notifications to an importing or transshipping country. On the other hand, Uruguay indicates that permanent communication is maintained with the police authorities in Argentina and Brazil.

The country reports that no problems, such as the lack of response, delayed response, requests for additional information, rejections, or denials, were encountered.

Regarding the number of pre-export notifications received by the country and the number of timely responses, complete information is provided for 2003 and part of 2004, and information is included on the number of pre-export notifications received by Uruguay from exporting countries that were rejected in the past three years. No information was given for the years 2002 and 2003, but to date in 2004, 3 have been rejected. Uruguay indicates that no problems have been encountered in responding to the pre-export notifications received from exporting countries.

Uruguay reports that it has seized no controlled chemicals during the above-mentioned period.

CICAD notes that although the country has legal provisions governing the imposition of penal, civil, and administrative sanctions to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances, it lacks statistics on the number of times these have been imposed.

Furthermore, the country does not have information regarding the number of prior notifications issued and received.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 12. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF PENAL, CIVIL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS IMPOSED TO PREVENT THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.
- 13. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF PRIOR NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED AND RECEIVED.



IV. CONTROL MEASURES

A. Illicit Drug Trafficking

New trends and different manifestations of the drug problem have emerged in Uruguay, such as new routes and new illicit drugs, stemming from a higher level of illicit activity. This, in turn, has led to greater supply, lower prices and poorer quality. Uruguay reports that it has responded by increasing its drug control measures and incorporating new technology, while increasing information exchange with other international agencies.

The country reports that heroin was seized in 2002 and 2003, 7,200 grams in 2002, and 12,133 grams in 2003. It also reports 99 seizures of cocaine hydrochloride in 2002 involving 43,013 grams, and 88 in 2003 involving 49,915.94 grams, whereas from January to November 2004, 83 seizures have been made.

Regarding cannabis leaf, 179 seizures involving 899,703 grams were made in 2002, while in 2003, there were 183 seizures involving 620,544.37 grams. Finally, 189 seizures involving 1,149,975.39 grams were made in 2004.

Substance	Unit of Measure	2002			2003	2004		
		Quantity	Number of Seizures	Quantity	Number of Seizures	Quantity	Number of Seizures	
Leaf cannabis (grass))	Grams	899,703.6	179	620,544.37	186	1,256,433.73	210	
Coca leaves	Grams	646	5	215	2	1,893	6	
Coca base paste	Grams					29,543.55	69	
Cocaine Hydrochloride	Grams	43,013.02	99	49,915.94	88	36,721.35	97	
Crack	Grams			3	1			
Hashish	Grams	2,386.8	2			111.2	3	
Heroin	Grams	7,200	1	12,133	1			
Cannabis plants	Units	255	13	30	2	70	11	
LSD	Units	11	3	0.5	1	100	1	
Other Hallucinogens	Grams	200	3				-	
MDMA (Ecstasy)	Units	31	4	18	1	20,512	5	
Renzodiazenines	Unite	4	1					

Quantity of Seized Drugs, 2002 - 2004

It is notable that quantities of cocaine hydrochloride and cannabis leaf seized are increasing; twice the figures recorded in 2001.

The country reports 1,870 persons arrested in 2002 for illicit drug trafficking; 1,759 persons arrested in 2003, and 259 to date in 2004, which is a considerable increase compared to the 662 persons arrested in 2000. However in 2001, 1,922 were arrested. Regarding the number of persons tried, the country reports 351 persons tried for illicit drug trafficking in 2002, 285 in 2003 and 48 during this year. Considering that 162 persons were mentioned in 2000, and 348 were reported in 2001, this process is clearly variable.

In contrast to the years 2000 and 2001, during which 278 and 348 persons, respectively, were convicted, the country has provided no information for 2002, 2003, and 2004. In 2002, 1,870 persons were arrested for illicit drug possession, 1,759 in 2003 and 259 in 2004. Of these, 351 were tried in 2002, 285 in 2003, and 48 to date in 2004. At present, Uruguay does not monitor convictions in connection with that offense. The country reports that such monitoring is being implemented.

^{*} Figures to November 30, 2004



In Uruguay, no sanctions are imposed on individuals possessing a reasonable quantity exclusively for personal use. Personal use is not defined as an offense. No figures are provided in response to arrests, trials, or convictions for illicit possession of drugs for personal consumption. This is because due to Decree Law 14294, as amended, extended and updated by Law 17016, Uruguay permits a 'reasonable' amount for personal consumption, and the judge stipulates that amount in his judgment. The police carry out the arrests and substances in the suspects' possession are seized. Disposition of these substances is then at the discretion of the judge to whom the case has been assigned, who has responsibility for application of the law.

The country has mechanisms for the timely exchange of operative information and collaboration among the authorities responsible for controlling illicit drug trafficking, and the efficiency of these mechanisms is evaluated periodically.

Uruguay requested the judicial cooperation of Argentina regarding illicit drug trafficking on 10 occasions in 2002 and on 12 occasions in 2003. Five responses were received granting the requests in 2002 and 6 in 2003. The number of judicial cooperation requests regarding illicit drug trafficking received by the country from Argentina in 2002 were 20 (granting 10 in 2002); 4 from Brazil and 2 from Mexico (granting 2 in 2002). There were 23 requests in 2003 (granting 11) and there have been 5 from Argentina in 2004.

Regarding extradition in cases of illicit drug trafficking, Uruguay reports that it sent 2 requests to Argentina in 2002 and 3 in 2003. The country has extradition treaties with Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, France, Paraguay, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom and USA. However, the country does not report replies acceding to extradition requests. Neither does Uruguay provide information on extradition requests received for 2002, 2003, or 2004.

A notable increase in the exchange of information for controlling illicit drug trafficking with the bordering countries of Argentina and Brazil can be seen compared to the figures for 2000 and 2001, which demonstrates greater cooperation in this important matter with the neighboring authorities.

CICAD notes that the country does not have systematic records of convictions - for illicit drug trafficking or for illicit possession, nor information on requests for extradition issued or received.

RECOMMENDATION:

14. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEMATIC RECORDKEEPING SYSTEM TO ENABLE INFORMATION TO BE OBTAINED ON CONVICTIONS FOR ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND ILLICIT DRUG POSSESSION.

B. Firearms and Ammunition

The entity responsible for controlling firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials is the Materiel and Armament Service of the National Armed Forces, which has a series of responsibilities such as record-keeping, granting licenses and import permits, transshipment, granting and canceling licenses, permits, etc. The country reports that although it does not have a specific formal mechanism to evaluate the effectiveness of this entity, ongoing oversight of its institutional administration is effected.

Uruguay has laws in effect that criminalize the illicit possession, trafficking or manufacture of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, including Article 365 of the Penal Code, Decree Law 10415, Article 15, and Law 16320 Article 81.



The country reports that information is not systematized on persons arrested, tried, and convicted for illicit possession, or trafficking in firearms and ammunition.

The country has laws in effect that establish administrative controls on the importation, exportation and transshipment of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, including Decree Law 10415, which refers to confiscation and prohibits their sale, and Decree 353/975A5, on exportation. The current laws that refer to importation licenses are Decree Law 10415, Decrees 2605/943, 550/969, 91/993, 353/975 and Law 17300.

Uruguay does not export or re-export arms or ammunition as a transshipment country. However, such activities are controlled by Law 17300.

The country does not report any seizures of firearms, ammunition, explosives, or other related materials during the evaluation period.

The country requests the marking of firearms only for importation cases but not when being manufactured or official use after their seizure or confiscation. The country reports that it does not have systematized information on the number of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials seized in illicit drug trafficking offenses. Uruguay has a national registration system for the importation of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials. This register is computerized and there is no limit to how many years the data is kept.

The Materiel and Armament Service of the National Armed Forces is the national entity responsible for exchanging information and cooperating with institutions from other countries regarding the control of firearms, ammunition, and explosives.

Uruguay requested information from Argentina about shipments of firearms, ammunition and explosives on 3 occasions in 2002 and on 4 occasions in 2003, and the request was accepted each time, Likewise, for ammunition during that period. In 2003, Uruguay received two requests from the United States for information on shipments of firearms, and both were responded too.

CICAD notes that the country does not have a mechanism to evaluate the effectiveness of the entity responsible for the control of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials. CICAD views with concern that the country does not have information on arrests, trials, and convictions in connection with illicit possession, and trafficking of firearms nor information on the number of firearms seized as part of illicit drug trafficking-related proceedings.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 15. DEVELOP A SYSTEM TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON ARRESTS, TRIALS, AND CONVICTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH ILLICIT POSSESSION AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION.
- 16. Compile records on the number of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials seized as part of illicit drug trafficking-related proceedings.

C. Money Laundering

The laws that criminalize money laundering and specify the sanctions are Decree Law 14,294 of October 1974, amended by Article 5 of Law 17016 of 1998, Law 17060, and Law 17.343 of May 2001.



The predicate offenses of money laundering include illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in firearms, trafficking in human beings, trafficking in organs, prostitution, kidnapping, extortion and corruption. In Uruguay, money laundering charges can be brought against anyone who is convicted of the predicate offense. The country reports other predicate offenses, namely: smuggling; trafficking in explosives, ammunition, or materials used for their production; illicit trafficking in medicines; procuring; illicit trafficking in nuclear substances; and illicit trafficking in works of art, animals, or toxic materials.

In Uruguay, money laundering is considered an autonomous crime, therefore, it is not necessary for a person to be convicted of a predicate offense in order to be prosecuted for the crime of money laundering.

There are administrative controls in the country for preventing money laundering in some activities, such as banks, "off shore" banks, currency exchanges, stock exchanges, insurance, casinos, money transport and money transfer companies, real estate agencies, natural persons or legal entities involved in buying and selling antiques, works of art, and precious metals, and natural persons or legal entities which, in the name of and on behalf of third parties, carry out financial transactions or customarily manage commercial companies not forming part of a consortium or economic group.

Attorneys, notaries, and accountants are included among those subject to obligations, under prevention provisions, to report, as they perform financial transactions on behalf of third parties or customarily manage commercial corporations.

The country informs that no person has been arrested, tried or convicted for money laundering during the period evaluated.

Uruguay has laws that require financial institutions and other obligated parties to report suspicious or unusual transactions to the competent authorities. There are also the following control measures: Reporting large transactions, client registry, verification of client identity, transaction registry, preservation of records, existence of an enforcement official, existence of independent audits, know-your-client policies, know-your-employee policies and prohibition of anonymous accounts.

There were 6 and 13 suspicious transactions, respectively, in 2002 and 2003, which resulted in the corresponding investigation, giving rise to one criminal proceeding in 2002, and one in 2003. No convictions were reported, nor the value of any assets seized, given that there were no convictions. The country has not provided any data for 2004.

The country does not have a system which tracks suspicious transactions and their outcome, nor a system to evaluate the efficacy of the system of reporting suspicious transactions. The country reports that sanctions have not been imposed, on parties subject to the obligation to report suspicious transactions, for failure to report such transactions. Sanctions were imposed for failure to comply with the laws controlling money laundering, one in 2002 for the amount of US\$4,481, and 2 in 2003 for the amount of US\$6,497. The country has not provided data for 2004.

Under current legislation, it is possible to obtain financial documents and records in money laundering cases. They can be requested from banks for financial intelligence purposes and for charging suspicious persons. No information is provided on the number of cases of money laundering in which financial documents and records were obtained.

In Uruguay, the JND is the entity responsible for administering and disposing of seized and confiscated goods for crimes involving illicit drug trafficking and money laundering. It has no manuals on managing seized goods temporarily.



The country has an autonomous Financial Information and Analysis Unit (FIAU), but it functions within the Central Bank of Uruguay. The FIAU consists of three officials, and its duties are to analyze and communicate conclusions, and to investigate, regulate, penalize, receive, and communicate banking information.

According to the country's report, the FIAU can request any kind of information from financial institutions that are supervised by the Central Bank of Uruguay, and can share that information with other state institutions and similar foreign institutions.

In 2003 there were 254 suspicious operations reports, 13 to the FIAU, 3 that are currently being studied by the FIAU, and 1 sent from the FIAU to the Justice Department. The figures for 2004 have not yet been compiled.

The FIAU is not a member of the Egmont Group; however, Uruguayan legislation allows non-confidential information to be shared with other foreign FIUs without the need to sign a Memorandum of Understanding.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Department of International Legal Matters, and the Advisor of the Central Authority of International Juridical Cooperation of the Ministry of Education and Culture are the central authorities responsible for submitting extradition requests to other countries. However, the country reports that no such cases were processed during the period requested, nor have any been received involving money laundering.

Four preventive embargo requests were made to Argentina in 2003 and 5 in 2004, and all were answered granting the request. Uruguay also received 5 embargo requests from Argentina in 2002 and 2003 respectively, while Brazil made one request in 2002 and 2 in 2003. One of the above-mentioned requests was denied to Argentina due to the lack of a legal foundation, and another was denied to Brazil because of formal errors in the request.

During 2002, Uruguay requested bank documents and financial records from Argentina 28 times in 2002, 5 in 2003 and one in 2004, and was denied only once in 2003 due to the lack of a legal foundation. In 2002, Uruguay also received from Argentina 26 requests to deliver financial documents and records for use in money laundering cases, and 19 in 2003. To date in 2004, only one has been received. Twenty of the requests received in 2002 were granted and five in 2003. Requests were also received from other countries, including Brazil, Mexico, and United States, but they were much fewer in number. Ten of the total requests received were denied in 2002 for lack of a legal foundation, and 11 in 2003.

Uruguay reports that it provided special training for handling cases involving money-laundering offenses to 14 judges and 16 prosecutors in 2002 and 17 judges and 20 prosecutors in 2003. All continue to work in the same function. Training has been offered since 2001. In 2003, 11 administrative officials were trained and, 8 in 2004.

CICAD acknowledges that the country has expanded the range of parties subject to administrative anti-money laundering controls. However, it views with concern that the country does not yet have a system for monitoring reports of suspicious operations or a method to evaluate the effectiveness of such a system.

RECOMMENDATION:

17. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM FOR MONITORING REPORTS OF SUSPICIOUS OPERATIONS AND A METHOD TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SUCH A SYSTEM.



D. Corruption

The country has laws which criminalize corruption in its Penal Code that are incorporated by Law No. 17060, which relates to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.

During the period under evaluation, the country modified the laws that criminalize the offense involving the request or acceptance of a bribe by a public official, the offering or granting of a bribe to a public official, and others.

The country reports that it arrested a public official for corruption relating to illicit drug trafficking in 2002 and another in 2003. It also reports having tried an official in 2002 and another in 2003. No public officials have been convicted of corruption-related offenses in connection with illicit drug trafficking during the evaluation period.

Uruguay reports that it arrested 13 public officials for crimes relating to illicit drug trafficking in 2002; three of these were tried in 2002. No public officials have been convicted of illicit drug trafficking-related offenses during the evaluation period.

The country has recently strengthened its legal framework, which will permit a better control of crimes of corruption that relate to illicit drug trafficking.

E. Organized Crime

To counter the threat of transnational organized crime, Uruguay has prevention and control measures, including Law 16,707, Law 9,936, Law 10,415 and 14,157, as well as Decree Law 14,294 and Decree 652. The Legislature is studying a draft law for strengthening the system for preventing and controlling money laundering and the financing of terrorism.

These legal provisions criminalize offenses such as participation in an organized criminal group, money laundering, corruption, obstruction of justice, trafficking in persons, illicit trafficking in migrants and the manufacture of, and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components, and ammunition.

In order to facilitate justice activities Uruguayan laws include cooperation measures, including extradition, reciprocal and joint judicial assistance, confiscation and seizure, interdiction operations, and victim protection and assistance.

The country also reports that national laws allow police authorities to use techniques such as undercover operations, telephone line tapping, and controlled delivery.

Controlled delivery was incorporated in Uruguayan legislation, the Law to Strengthen the System for Preventing and Controlling Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism, recently approved by the legislature and enacted by the President, in connection with the offenses of money laundering, terrorism, the financing of terrorism and drug trafficking. The other special techniques mentioned may be applied in connection with all offenses.

The institutions responsible for enforcing the law against transnational organized crime and its link to illicit drug trafficking and related offenses are the General Department of Illicit Drug Trafficking of the Ministry of the Interior, which is in charge of drug supply reduction, investigations and arrests; the National Naval Prefecture of the Ministry of Defense, which has a function similar to the above, and the Financial Information and Analysis Unit of the Central Bank of Uruguay, whose function is financial intelligence.



The country reports that the center for training in the prevention of money laundering provides training programs that basically relate to money laundering and repressing illegal drug trafficking.

Uruguay has demonstrated advances in its fight against organized crime by passing important laws that make it easier for the authorities to control money laundering, terrorism and its financing, and also drug trafficking.



V. CONCLUSIONS

CICAD recognizes that through its National Drugs Board (JND), Uruguay has been making significant efforts in its fight against drugs in the country which, if additional budgetary resources were available, could be stepped up, with ensuing better results.

However, the country has still not ratified the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, nor the Protocols against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air, and against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, despite reiterated recommendations from the First Evaluation Round, 1999-2000.

CICAD recognizes the work done by the country to implement prevention, although CICAD notes the absence of this type of program for women and in the public sector workplace. The country has made important efforts to obtain systematic statistics on drug use. CICAD notes that it only remains for the country to obtain information on persons arrested, tried, and convicted for illicit drug trafficking and illicit drug possession.

CICAD views with concern that the country has not yet adopted and implemented minimum standards of care in drug abuse treatment which, in the First Evaluation Round, Uruguay had reported were included in the Manual on Requirements for Authorization of Professional Institutions involved in treatment of problematic drug users. This manual has been under study since 2001; the country is therefore urged to adopt it as soon as possible.

In the area of supply reduction, CICAD expresses its concern at the appearance of small labs for the processing of cocaine paste.

Likewise, CICAD views with concern that the country lacks information of the sanctions applied against the diversion of pharmaceutical products and controlled chemical substances.

In the area of illicit drug trafficking and international cooperation, it should be noted that there has been an increased cooperation on the part of Uruguay with its neighboring states. CICAD urges the country to create systematic registries on convictions for illicit drug trafficking, as well as, information on the extradition requests received and submitted.

The country is also invited to make greater efforts to obtain statistics on arrests, trials, and convictions for illicit firearms possession and trafficking.

CICAD recognizes that Uruguay has advanced in broadening the list of institutions and persons subject to administrative controls in the area of money laundering. Notwithstanding this, it views with concern that the country still does not have a system that enables the follow-up of suspicious operation reports nor a method to evaluate the efficiency of said system.

In the area of corruption and the fight against organized crime, CICAD notes that the country has recently strengthened its legal framework allowing for improved controls for corruption relating to illicit drug trafficking. The country is also demonstrating progress in its fight against organized crime, having passed important legislation that will facilitate the control of crimes relating to money laundering, terrorism and its financing, and drug trafficking by the authorities.

Uruguay's implementation of various recommendations is to be noted, together with the country's active participation and proactive role throughout the MEM process.



VI. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are assigned to Uruguay 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 BUILDING

- 1. ALLOCATE THE RESOURCES NECESSARY FOR THE NATIONAL DRUGS BOARD TO EFFECTIVELY CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES.
- 2. RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.
- 3. RATIFY THE FOLLOWING PROTOCOLS TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001-2002:
 - A) PROTOCOL AGAINST THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS BY LAND, SEA AND AIR
 - B) PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION
- 4. IMPLEMENT A FORMAL MECHANISM FOR EVALUATING THE EFFICIENCY OF THE SYSTEM FOR COMPILING, ORGANIZING, AND ANALYZING DRUG-RELATED DATA AND DOCUMENTATION.

DEMAND REDUCTION

- 5. DEVELOP PREVENTION PROGRAMS TARGETING WOMEN, AS WELL AS WORKPLACE PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR.
- 6. APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE IN DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND. 1999-2000.
- 7. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO EVALUATE THE QUALITY OF TREATMENT SERVICES PROVIDED.
- 8. INCLUDE SYSTEMS FOR EARLY DETECTION AND CASE REFERRAL AMONG TREATMENT METHODS.
- 9. Develop studies to enable the country's existing treatment programs to be evaluated in a comprehensive manner.
- 10. Create registries to obtain systematic data on drug use-related mortality and drug use-related traffic accidents.



SUPPLY REDUCTION

- 11. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF PENAL, CIVIL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS IMPOSED TO PREVENT THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.
- 12. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF PENAL, CIVIL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS IMPOSED TO PREVENT THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.
- 13. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF PRIOR NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED AND RECEIVED.

CONTROL MEASURES

- 14. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEMATIC RECORDKEEPING SYSTEM TO ENABLE INFORMATION TO BE OBTAINED ON CONVICTIONS FOR ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND ILLICIT DRUG POSSESSION.
- 15. DEVELOP A SYSTEM TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON ARRESTS, TRIALS, AND CONVICTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH ILLICIT POSSESSION AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION.
- 16. COMPILE RECORDS ON THE NUMBER OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS SEIZED AS PART OF ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING-RELATED PROCEEDINGS.
- 17. IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM FOR MONITORING REPORTS OF SUSPICIOUS OPERATIONS AND A METHOD TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SUCH A SYSTEM.