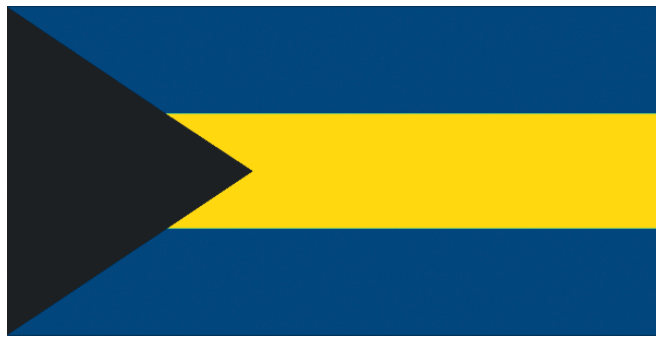


**Multilateral
Evaluation Mechanism
MEM**



The Bahamas
(Commonwealth of)

**2005 PROGRESS REPORT IN DRUG CONTROL
IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS
FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND**



**RECOMMENDATION 1:**

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

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2001

REITERATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

JUNE 2005

The Bahamas reports that the matter of ratification of the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, 1992, is currently with the Attorney-General's Office. However, the country did not provide information on its status.

CICAD notes with concern that The Bahamas has not made progress in the ratification of this Convention given the fact that this recommendation is reiterated from the First Evaluation Round, 1999–2000 and urges the country to ratify this Convention.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME AND ITS FOLLOWING PROTOCOLS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.

A) THE PROTOCOL AGAINST THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS BY LAND, SEA AND AIR.

B) THE PROTOCOL TO PREVENT, SUPPRESS AND PUNISH TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

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

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

REITERATION DATE: JUNE 2005

The Bahamas reports that the instruments of ratification of the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime are currently being prepared for transmission to the United Nations by late 2006.

CICAD takes notes that The Bahamas has advanced the process to ratify the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and urges the country to continue its efforts to also ratify the three Protocols given that this is a reiterated recommendation from the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002.

**RECOMMENDATION 3:****IMPLEMENT THE NATIONAL DRUG OBSERVATORY TO GATHER AND ANALYZE STATISTICS AND OTHER RELATED DATA, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002**

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

REITERATION DATE: JUNE 2005

The Bahamas reports that it has recently secured premises for the National Anti Drug Secretariat (NADS), which was included in the National Anti Drug Plan. The building had completed extensive renovations and is now purpose designed. The National Drugs Observatory is a semi autonomous unit in the Secretariat and facilities are provided for the Observatory in the new building. The head of the Observatory has been identified and work has begun on making the Unit operational.

Agency-specific statistics gathering and analysis is in place and preparation has begun in order to integrate the statistics.

CICAD urges The Bahamas to continue with its work to fully comply with this recommendation which is reiterated from the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002.

RECOMMENDATION 4:**CONDUCT EVALUATIONS OF ALL DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002**

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

REITERATION DATE: JUNE 2005

The Bahamas reports that evaluations are currently being undertaken on all existing treatment and prevention programmes. A workshop was held in The Bahamas on drug programme evaluations, specifically to train the trainers.

The country indicates that this process should be completed by the end of 2006 with the publication and dissemination of the evaluation reports.

CICAD recognizes the efforts being made by The Bahamas to fulfill this recommendation reiterated from the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002, and encourages the country to conclude this process within the timeframe indicated by the country.

RECOMMENDATION 5:**ESTABLISH MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE FOR DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002**

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

REITERATION DATE: JUNE 2005

The Bahamas informs that the draft legislation is being reviewed to establish minimum standards of care. In the interim the Ministry of Health and Social Services maintains a close watch on the activities of entities that offer care and treatment.



CICAD recognizes the efforts made by The Bahamas and encourages the country to continue its work to fulfill this recommendation reiterated from the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

CONDUCT EVALUATIONS OF EXISTING TREATMENT PROGRAMMES

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

The Bahamas reports that an evaluation of all existing treatment programmes is in progress and will be completed by the end of 2006. The country informs that periodic reviews are carried out with a view to ensure that internationally accepted best practices are employed.

CICAD recognizes the efforts being made and encourages the country to work towards completion of the studies by the indicated timeframe.

RECOMMENDATION 7:

CONDUCT A STUDY TO ESTIMATE THE PREVALENCE OF DRUG USE AMONG THE GENERAL POPULATION, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

REITERATION DATE: JUNE 2005

CICAD has reexamined the relevance of this recommendation and considers that currently, this type of study among the general population, does not constitute a priority in The Bahamas' drug policy. Therefore, CICAD encourages the country to strengthen the strategies of its national anti-drug plan by undertaking studies on specific group populations.

RECOMMENDATION 8:

APPROVE REQUIRED LEGISLATION IN ORDER TO ALLOW EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

The Bahamas informs that the required legislation to allow effective control and ensure compliance with standards and regulations for preventing diversion of pharmaceutical products is presently being considered by the Cabinet.

CICAD encourages the country to continue the process for the approval of the legislation.

**RECOMMENDATION 9:****DEVELOP A SYSTEM TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE COMPLIANCE WITH THE STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS FOR PREVENTING THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION, 2001–2002**

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

REITERATION DATE: JUNE 2005

The Bahamas informs that the required legislation to allow effective control and ensure compliance with standards and regulations for preventing diversion of pharmaceutical products is presently being considered by the Cabinet.

CICAD urges the country to continue the process for the approval of the legislation to allow effective control of pharmaceutical products. Furthermore CICAD notes with concern that this recommendation was reiterated from the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002.

RECOMMENDATION 10:**APPROVE REQUIRED LEGISLATION IN ORDER TO ALLOW EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES**

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

The Bahamas reports that the draft legislation to effectively control chemical substances listed in the United Nations Convention against the Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 is currently before the Cabinet for approval.

CICAD encourages the country to continue the process for the approval of the required legislation to effectively control chemical substances.

RECOMMENDATION 11:**DEVELOP A SYSTEM TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE COMPLIANCE WITH THE STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS FOR PREVENTING THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION, 2001–2002**

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

REITERATION DATE: JUNE 2005

The Bahamas informs that the draft legislation to provide effective compliance with the standards and regulations for preventing the diversion of chemical control substances is currently before the Cabinet for approval.

CICAD urges the country to continue the process for the approval of the required legislation to complete this recommendation reiterated from the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002.

**RECOMMENDATION 12:****AMEND LEGISLATIONS TO PROVIDE FOR ORGAN TRAFFICKING AS A PREDICATE OFFENSE OF MONEY LAUNDERING**

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

The Bahamas reports that the Attorney General's Office is presently considering legislative changes to criminalize organ trafficking as a predicate offence of money laundering.

CICAD encourages The Bahamas to continue its efforts to comply with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 13:**ESTABLISH ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS ON STOCK EXCHANGES TO PREVENT MONEY LAUNDERING**

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2005

The Bahamas informs that this matter is receiving attention by relevant government agencies, without providing further details.

CICAD encourages The Bahamas to make the necessary efforts to establish administrative controls on stock exchanges to prevent money laundering.

CONCLUSIONS

Since the Third Evaluation Round MEM report on Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control 2003–2004, The Bahamas has made little progress in the implementation of the recommendations. Considerable work remains to complete all of the recommendations made to the country, in particular those recommendations reiterated from the First and Second Evaluation Rounds. In this Third Evaluation Round, 2003–2004, of the thirteen recommendations made by CICAD, one was reiterated from the First Evaluation Round, 1999–2000, six were reiterated from the Second Evaluation Round, 2001–2002 and six are new.

CICAD acknowledges the preparatory work that has been done to operationalize the National Drugs Observatory. CICAD also recognizes important first steps being taken for the evaluations in the area of drug abuse prevention and treatment programmes, as well as the efforts to adopt legislation on control of pharmaceutical products, chemical substances and the strengthening of the existing laws on money laundering even though all remain work in progress. The country has advanced on the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

CICAD notes with concern that The Bahamas has not made progress on the recommendation to ratify the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters as reiterated from the First Evaluation Round, 1999–2000 nor has it advanced on the ratification of the three Protocols to the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime.

CICAD encourages The Bahamas to intensify efforts to fully comply with all the recommendations assigned through the MEM.