

RECOMMENDATION 1:

APPROVE THE NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN AND THE BUDGET FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

The Bahamas reports that the National Anti-Drug Plan and a budget for its implementation have been approved by the government. The Plan covers a period of five years: July 2003 to June 2008. A sum of \$200,000 has been allocated for the first year.

CICAD views with satisfaction the fulfillment of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2001
REITERATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

The Bahamas reports that the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters is currently being reviewed by the Attorney General's Office with a view to recommend its ratification to the government.

CICAD urges The Bahamas to continue with its legal procedures to fulfill this recommendation if possible, by the end of 2004.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME AND ITS THREE PROTOCOLS

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

The Bahamas has not provided information on the status of this recommendation.

CICAD takes note that The Bahamas has not ratified the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols and urges the country to fulfill this recommendation.

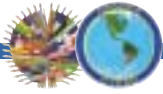
RECOMMENDATION 4:

CREATE A DRUGS OBSERVATORY THAT WOULD COMPILE AND ANALYZE STATISTICS AND OTHER RELATED INFORMATION

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

The Bahamas reports that it has begun the process of developing the National Drugs Observatory (NDO), which is expected to be completed by the third quarter of 2004.

CICAD encourages The Bahamas to continue with its efforts to fully comply with this recommendation in the timeframe indicated by the country.



RECOMMENDATION 5:

EVALUATE DRUG PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN SCHOOLS

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

The Bahamas states that this recommendation has been implemented. Drug prevention programs in schools are being individually evaluated for use in future planning. Methods used include supervision of instructors, observation of lessons, student evaluation and conferences with teachers and school administrators. The country reports that the results obtained indicate a need for an increase in such programs at the primary level.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction with the fulfillment of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

ESTABLISH MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE FOR TREATMENT OF PERSONS AFFECTED BY DRUG ABUSE

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

The Bahamas reports that the National Anti-Drug Plan has identified a project to establish minimum standards of care for treatment of persons affected by drug abuse. This project is prioritized for the third quarter of 2004, and should be fully implemented by January 2005.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made by The Bahamas and encourages it to continue the process for fully implementing this recommendation in the timeframe indicated by the country.

RECOMMENDATION 7:

CONDUCT A STUDY TO ESTIMATE THE PREVALENCE OF DRUG USE AMONG THE GENERAL POPULATION

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

The Bahamas indicates that the National Anti-Drug Plan (NADP) makes provision for a general survey to be conducted by 2005 and has allocated funds for this purpose.

CICAD encourages the country to continue with the process for full implementation of this recommendation within the timeframe indicated by the country.

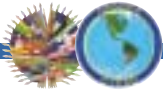
RECOMMENDATION 8:

DEVELOP A SYSTEM TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS TO PREVENT THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

The Bahamas reports that The Precursor and Chemicals Bill, 2003, has been drafted and is presently being circulated to all relevant stakeholders for their comments. Once this has been done and responses obtained, it will be presented to Parliament. It is anticipated that the new Act to govern the control of chemicals and precursors will be enacted during 2004.

The Precursor and Chemicals Bill, 2003, stipulates that a competent authority be appointed to carry out monitoring, control and investigation of any activity related to these substances.



However, the country does not provide information with reference to the prevention of pharmaceutical products.

CICAD encourages The Bahamas to continue with the efforts to comply fully with this recommendation within the timeframe indicated by the country.

RECOMMENDATION 9:

CREATE A NATIONAL REGISTRY ON IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND TRANSIT OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

The Bahamas reports that a register of arms legitimately imported, as well as those seized, licensed and in transit is maintained by the Police. The country states that firearms or ammunition are neither manufactured nor exported. The Bahamas further informs that permits issued by the Police Commissioner are required to carry firearms.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction with the completion of this recommendation.

CONCLUSIONS

The Bahamas has made progress in the implementation of several of the CICAD recommendations. Among them, the National Anti-Drug Plan (July 2003 – June 2008) and its corresponding implementation budget has been approved; drug prevention programs in schools are being evaluated for efficacy; and it has created a national registry on imports, exports and transit of firearms and ammunition.

In addition, it has initiated the process to establish a National Drugs Observatory (NDO) expected to be completed in 2004; with the assigned financial resources, it expects to complete a prevalence of drug use survey among the general population for 2005 and to establish minimum standards of care for the treatment of persons affected by drug abuse.

The Bahamas has also drafted the Precursors and Chemicals Bill 2003, which is pending approval.

However, no progress has been made in the ratification of important international conventions, such as the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, assigned to the country since the First Evaluation Round 1999 – 2000, and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols.

CICAD recognizes the progress made by The Bahamas and encourages the country to continue with its effort for the full implementation of outstanding recommendations.