

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism MEM



Argentina

2009 EVALUATION OF PROGRESS IN DRUG CONTROL
IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS
FROM THE FOURTH EVALUATION ROUND



**RECOMMENDATION 1:****EXPAND THE COVERAGE OF EXISTING PREVENTION PROGRAMS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.**

Argentina reports that implementation of different comprehensive drug abuse prevention programs, strategies, and measures continues, with special priority given to strengthening prevention in the area of education.

The country informs that it has implemented the “Quiero Ser” Education Program. This program targets boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 14 and is implemented in a decentralized fashion in public and private schools. In the 2007-2008 period, the program’s average coverage was 2.08%, representing a 1.68% increase over the 2005-2006 period.

The Community Program, whose objective is to contribute to strengthening specific areas of drug abuse prevention at the municipal level, had an average coverage of 1.31% during the 2007-2008 period.

The Youth Participation and Prevention Program’s purpose is to strengthen and promote a nationwide network of young people committed to drug abuse prevention issues. Under this program, awareness was raised among an average 0.035% of the target population during 2007-2008.

The Prevention Program for Vulnerable Populations, whose objective is to raise awareness and provide training in drug abuse prevention for personnel of the Federal Penitentiary Service and the provincial penitentiary services, trained a total of 510 people in 2007, representing 5.19% of the target population. As of 2008, this program is no longer being implemented for its target population.

However, as of 2008, implementation of the Prevention Program for Vulnerable Populations through Sports began, targeted at youth 10 to 20 years of age in marginalized areas. During that year, the program reached a population of 3,000 beneficiaries.

The objective of the Program for Prevention in the Workplace is to promote awareness of drug abuse issues among business leaders and workers, and to promote their commitment to, and participation in, solving them. The program’s coverage averaged 0.045% of its target population during 2007-2008.

CICAD recognizes the progress made and urges Argentina to continue its efforts to implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the Third Evaluation Round, 2003-2004.

RECOMMENDATION 2:**UPDATE THE REGISTRY OF INSTITUTIONS THAT PROVIDE EARLY INTERVENTION, TREATMENT, REHABILITATION, AND AFTERCARE SERVICES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL.**

Argentina reports that it has submitted to Congress a bill that would introduce mandatory registration for these institutions.



At the same time, the Registry of Institutions has begun to carry out various activities to improve and expand its operations, including a baseline study, through the Ministries of Health in all provinces, which covers all institutions that provide assistance and care to drug dependent individuals in their respective jurisdictions.

Agreements have also been signed between various national government entities that keep records on institutions that provide treatment and care to drug dependent individuals, thereby increasing information compilation resources.

Finally, collaboration has been requested from entities that group private-sector institutions in order to move forward with the creation of a more efficient Registry.

CICAD recognizes the progress made and encourages Argentina to continue its efforts to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

IMPLEMENT A REGISTER OF THE NUMBER OF SEIZURES AND QUANTITIES OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS SEIZED.

Argentina has not started the implementation of this recommendation.

CICAD encourages Argentina to initiate efforts to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 4:

IMPLEMENT A REGISTER OF THE NUMBER OF PENAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS IMPOSED IN CASES INVOLVING THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

Argentina reports that it has not started the implementation of this recommendation.

CICAD encourages Argentina to initiate efforts to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 5:

APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT LAWS TO CONTROL THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND OTHER DRUGS OVER THE INTERNET.

Argentina reports that Law 17.565 (Law on Pharmaceutical Activity) establishes mandatory participation by a professional pharmacist in the preparation, distribution, and sale to the public of pharmaceutical products, which implies a prohibition against marketing products of this type in unauthorized places.

Additionally, the country reports that it has introduced in Congress a new draft Medication Law containing an express ban on the sale of pharmaceutical products and other drugs over the Internet, among other provisions designed to improve the control and oversight of these products.

CICAD takes note of the information provided and encourages Argentina to continue its efforts to implement this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 6:**

ADOPT THE NECESSARY REGULATIONS TO ENABLE THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES TO IMPROVE CONTROL OVER CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.

Argentina reports that draft regulations to Law 26.045, which govern control of chemical substances, have been submitted to the Executive Branch for final approval.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made and urges the country to implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the Third Evaluation Round, 2003-2004.

RECOMMENDATION 7:

ADOPT LEGISLATION TO DETERMINE THE DESTINATION OF SEIZED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.

Argentina reports that draft regulations to Law 26.045, which govern control of chemical substances, have been submitted to the Executive Branch for final approval.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made and encourages the country to continue its efforts to complete this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 8:

IMPLEMENT A REGISTER OF THE CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES SEIZED AND DISPOSED OF AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, WHICH INCLUDES DATA FROM ALL INSTITUTIONS THAT PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCESS.

Argentina did not provide any information on this recommendation.

CICAD encourages Argentina to make efforts to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 9:

IMPLEMENT A SINGLE REGISTER FOR COLLECTING INFORMATION ABOUT DRUG SEIZURES, CONTAINING INFORMATION FROM ALL THE AGENCIES THAT GENERATE SUCH DATA.

Argentina did not provide any information on this recommendation.

CICAD encourages Argentina to make efforts to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 10:

IMPLEMENT A REGISTER TO MAINTAIN RECORDS OF EXTRADITIONS THAT ARE SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING, SEPARATE FROM OTHER CRIMES.

Argentina reports that it has made modifications to the computer systems in operation, and begun the development of a new system to digitize case records on extraditions specifically related to illicit drug trafficking.



CICAD encourages Argentina to continue its efforts to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 11:

IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO COMPILE DATA ON THE NUMBER OF PERSONS FORMALLY CHARGED WITH AND CONVICTED OF POSSESSION OF OR ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS.

Argentina did not provide any information on this recommendation.

CICAD encourages Argentina to make efforts to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 12:

EXPAND THE ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL ACTIVITIES FOR PREVENTING MONEY LAUNDERING TO INCLUDE LAWYERS AND ACCOUNTANTS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.

Argentina did not provide any information on this recommendation.

CICAD urges Argentina to intensify its efforts to implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the Third Evaluation Round, 2003-2004.

CONCLUSIONS

During the Fourth Evaluation Round, twelve recommendations were made to Argentina, six of which are being implemented. The country has not initiated two, and has not provided information regarding the other four.

CICAD recognizes the progress made in expanding the coverage of drug abuse prevention programs that are being implemented for student and vulnerable groups, and for the workplace and at the municipal level.

CICAD also acknowledges the progress made in registering institutions that provide early intervention, treatment, rehabilitation, and social reintegration services; enacting and implementing laws for control of the sale and distribution of controlled pharmaceutical products and other drugs over the Internet; adopting provisions to determine the disposition of chemical substances seized; and implementing registries of extraditions specifically related to illicit drug trafficking, distinguishing it from other crimes.

CICAD views with concern that Argentina has not provided information regarding the implementation of four recommendations on important aspects, such as the expansion of administrative controls to prevent money laundering to lawyers and accountants, and the implementation of registers to record seized and disposed chemical substances, drug seizures, and persons formally charged with and convicted of illicit trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.

CICAD recognizes Argentina's participation in the MEM process and encourages the country to continue its efforts to implement all recommendations.