

**RECOMMENDATION 1:****RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS.**

Ecuador reports that it is making the necessary efforts to obtain congressional ratification of the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters.

CICAD reiterates the need for the Executive to continue efforts intended to obtain congressional ratification of the aforementioned legal instrument.

RECOMMENDATION 2:**ELABORATE PREVENTION PROGRAMS FOR PRISONERS AND OTHER GROUPS AT RISK, PRISON OFFICERS, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS.**

Ecuador reports that it has implemented prevention programs in high risk populations in Pichincha, Azuay and Guayas Provinces, with the participation of NGOs, and has plans to implement an intervention program in the community, to be developed in the last quarter of 2001.

As regards the prison population, Ecuador has developed three prevention programs, which have not yet been implemented owing to lack of funding. To overcome this obstacle, Ecuador has requested economic assistance from OAS/CICAD and other international organizations.

CICAD notes the measures taken by Ecuador and encourages it to move forward with these projects.

RECOMMENDATION 3:**CONTINUE WITH "DRUGS IN THE WORKPLACE" PROGRAMS**

Ecuador reports that implementation of this recommendation is ongoing, but that there is an evident lack of funds to continue prevention programs in the workplace. However, Ecuador is seeking to obtain the necessary resources from the beneficiary companies.

CICAD acknowledges the efforts demonstrated by Ecuador, and urges it to continue them.

RECOMMENDATION 4:**CONDUCT STUDIES ON THE EXTENT OF DRUG USE, USING METHODOLOGIES THAT ALLOW COMPARISONS TO BE MADE OVER TIME**

Ecuador reports, that, despite the budgetary problems facing it, some progress has been made in measuring drug consumption in specific populations. However, Ecuador has approached international organizations to obtain funds to be allocated for the execution of programs to measure drug use.

CICAD notes that Ecuador is working to implement this recommendation and reiterates it.

**RECOMMENDATION 5:****PERFORM EVALUATIONS OF ALL DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAMS**

Ecuador indicates that it is proposing to conduct studies to evaluate the effects of demand reduction programs developed by government agencies and nongovernmental organizations, but it is encountering serious economic difficulties. Ecuador has already developed a proposed system for evaluating the National Council for the control of Narcotic and Psychotropic Substance (CONSEP) prevention programs although it has not begun to implement it. However, Ecuador has requested financial and technical assistance from international agencies to carry out this activity.

CICAD notes the foregoing and Ecuador's commitment to support the strengthening of the Ecuadorian Drug Observatory, through which it hopes to carry out research to measure the impact of demand reduction programs. The recommendation stands.

RECOMMENDATION 6:**STRENGTHEN THE APPLICATION OF THE PRE-EXPORT MECHANISM FOR CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES PURSUANT TO THE CONVENTION OF VIENNA OF 1988**

Ecuador reports that it is not an exporter of controlled chemical substances. The country is strengthening the control mechanism to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances through implementation of the OAS/CICAD's RETCOD communication system, but also reports that there is a lack of cooperation by some exporting countries in transmitting pre-export notifications.

CICAD recognizes the efforts of Ecuador and encourages the country to continue in its efforts to fully implement the recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 7:**ESTABLISH A SYSTEM FOR IDENTIFYING THE NEEDS OF THE LICIT INDUSTRY FOR CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES**

Ecuador reports that it is making efforts to establish an optimal system for identifying licit industry needs for controlled chemical substances because the National Council for the control of Narcotic and Psychotropic Substance (CONSEP) handles the system of annual quotas that are determined based on the results of the inspections of the industrial processes and what is declared by the different licit industries. To that end, effective control measures are being implemented, such as inspections, audits, and declarations to improve the current system for control of quotas.

CICAD recognizes the efforts of Ecuador and encourages the country to continue in its efforts to fully implement the recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 8:**CONTINUE DEVELOPING THE CAPACITY TO ESTIMATE THE HUMAN, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC COST OF THE DRUG PROBLEM**

CICAD concludes that for this recommendation to be implemented, it will be necessary to devise a project addressing the methodological bases for conducting a study of the social, human, and economic costs of the drug problem.

Accordingly, in the first half of 2002 CICAD, together with states in the Hemisphere that have



progressed in this area, will present a proposed basic and homogeneous methodology applicable to all countries.

FINAL COMMENTS

Ecuador has assumed a positive attitude towards implementing the recommendations, which is made evident by the actions taken in the area of prevention programs aimed at high-risk populations, community intervention, and the establishment of a system to identify the needs for controlled chemical substance.

Emphasis should also be made that, in spite of economic and technical difficulties, Ecuador has carried out efforts to implement the recommendations, including projects to execute programs in the area of demand reduction, creating studies that will permit evaluations of the aforementioned projects, and strengthening control mechanism that will prevent the diversion of imported chemical substances.

CICAD recognizes the efforts that Ecuador and also takes note of the request for technical and financial assistance to develop the activities that is has presented to complete the formulated recommendations

