



ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES



**CICAD**

Comisión Interamericana para el Control del Abuso de Drogas  
Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission

MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM

*Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control*

HEMISPHERIC REPORT 1999 – 2000

APPROVED BY CICAD FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 11 - 15 DECEMBER, 2000



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## INTRODUCTION

*At the Second Summit of the Americas, held in Santiago, Chile, in April 1998, the Heads of State and Government highlighted the need to strengthen mutual confidence, dialogue, and hemispheric cooperation in dealing with the diverse manifestations of the drug problem. They agreed to establish “a singular and objective process of multilateral governmental evaluation in order to monitor the progress of their individual and collective efforts in the Hemisphere and of all the countries participating in the Summit.”*

*This hemispheric report is the result of the first evaluation exercise by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) in the framework of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), established in fulfillment of the mandate of the Second Summit of the Americas. The MEM is based on respect for the sovereignty, territorial jurisdiction, and domestic legal systems of the states and the principles of reciprocity, shared responsibility, and balanced treatment of the issue. The report covers the period 1999-2000, with information and data as of October 2000 when possible.*

*A Governmental Experts Group (GEG), composed of one representative appointed from each of the 34 participating governments, headed up this first evaluation exercise. The experts did not participate in the evaluation of their own countries. The GEG worked throughout the year and held four meetings in Washington, D.C. between April and November 2000.*

*In keeping with the methodology established, the governments had the opportunity to present their observations on the GEG’s work at different stages of the Group’s deliberations, to ensure the necessary transparency, impartiality, and equity. Each government was responsible for designating a national coordinating authority to consolidate the information requested and serve as the government liaison with the GEG.*

*The evaluation was based on a questionnaire containing 61 indicators. The items considered by the GEG in preparing both the country reports and the hemispheric report were the replies to the questionnaire, the report from each government explaining the status of the drug problem in its territory, including the strategies implemented, hurdles encountered, and results achieved and, finally, the governments’ observations presented at different stages in the process.*

*The first multilateral exercise was an assessment of compliance with the indicators in the questionnaire. This provided the frame of reference for evaluating in subsequent rounds the progress made in the policies and measures implemented in the spheres identified in the indicators. These, in turn, correspond to the priority lines of action identified in the Anti-Drug*



*Strategy in the Hemisphere, adopted in Buenos Aires in 1996 and signed in Montevideo, Uruguay in that same year. The Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere addresses the drug problem from a global, multidisciplinary perspective.*

*All countries of the Hemisphere recognize that they share a responsibility for ensuring that a comprehensive and balanced approach is taken on all aspects of the phenomenon, taking into account their available capabilities and resources. Likewise, they agree on the need for additional resource allocation by each state and for new financial resources to be identified to fulfill national and hemispheric recommendations.*

*The MEM is an evolving process. Its capacity to identify trends and monitor individual and collective progress vis-à-vis the drug problem in the Hemisphere will be strengthened with each evaluation exercise.*

*This first report is an initial collective attempt to describe the status of the drug problem in the region that will make it possible to identify and promote concrete measures for domestic action by governments of member states, as well as international cooperation, based on the individual needs of the states and general trends in the Hemisphere. The number of recommendations to any member state is not a measurement of that state's vigilance in addressing effectively the Anti-Drug Strategy.*

**I.****GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE SITUATION IN THE HEMISPHERE**

In light of hemispheric developments regarding the drug problem in recent years and the recognition thereof at the Second Summit of the Americas, the region has resisted the international tendency to draw distinctions among producer, user, and transit countries. Drug use rates have risen in those formerly considered producer countries, while the so-called user countries have recognized that they are also affected by the other manifestations of the problem in their respective territories.

The general overview of the status of the drug problem in the Hemisphere shows signs of progress in some areas and new problems and challenges in different areas of drug abuse control.

Demand for narcotics and psychotropic substances has risen in most countries in the Hemisphere. In many cases, those countries were traditionally considered to be production and/or transit areas.

Some of the drugs destined for countries which represent large consumer markets now remain for domestic use in the countries where production or transshipment occurs. This is due either to the application of effective law enforcement measures resulting in the cutting off of transit routes, or the adoption of a new form of payment in kind by drug traffickers. Middlemen and traffickers market the drugs among the resident population, in particular children, adolescents, and other vulnerable populations, thus increasing local supply. This new trend has generated new scenarios of violence and crime associated with the drug problem.

In countries where comparative drug abuse studies have been conducted, data indicates that there are clear indications that the average age of first use has fallen, and there has been a marked increase in the annual incidence of new users.

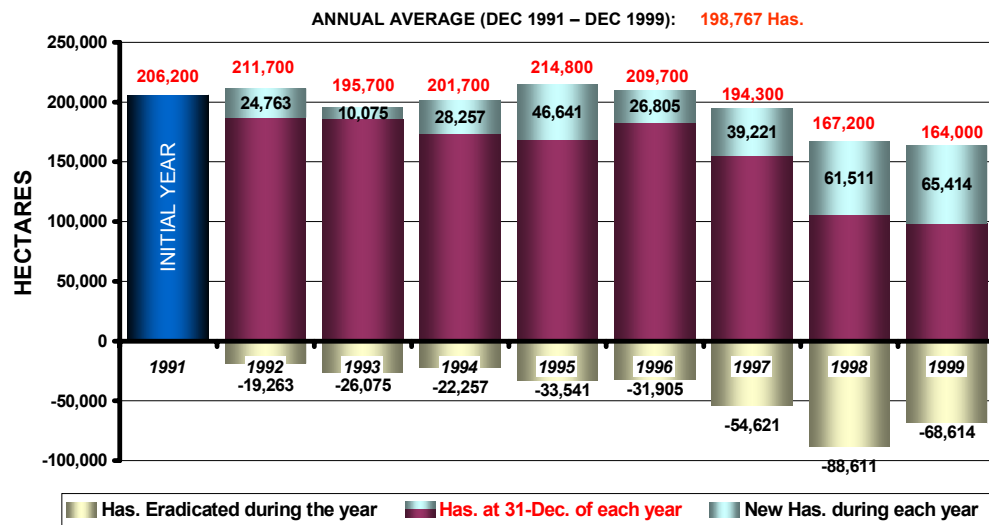
One new trend is the use of heroin in countries that were not affected by that problem in the past. New synthetic drugs have appeared on the market and are more readily available.

With regard to the production of organic drugs, although Peru and Bolivia considerably reduced the area of illicit coca cultivation, there has been a proportionate increase in Colombia. Therefore, total cultivated area in the



region, estimated at 200,000<sup>1</sup> hectares on average, remained generally stable in the period 1990-2000, with a slight variation in 1999. Moreover, CICAD member states are also concerned about criminal efforts in the Hemisphere to cultivate illegal coca outside the traditional growing areas. Poppy and cannabis cultivation have spread to other countries. Also, potential production, the volume of illicit drugs available, and drug purity levels have all risen.

### COCA CULTIVATION AREA IN THE HEMISPHERE



$$(\text{Has. at 31-Dec yr. N}) + (\text{New Has. yr. N+1}) - (\text{Has. Eradicated yr. N+1}) = \text{Has. at 31-Dec yr. N+1}$$

Note: The existing hectares of cultivation at the end of each year include 12,000 Has. corresponding to the traditional cultivation area of Yungas, Bolivia.

Source: CICAD / CICDAT

Production and availability of synthetic drugs are on the rise in the Hemisphere. Amphetamines, such as MDA (speed) and MDMA (ecstasy), are produced in small illicit laboratories that can be easily moved or abandoned, which substantially complicates control efforts. The Internet has become the most widely used medium for expanding production of this type of drug. Web sites can be easily located that provide detailed information on how to produce these drugs at home.

The presence of new, more profitable markets for drugs from the Americas, particularly in Europe, is another factor spurring on production.

<sup>1</sup> The average figure of 200,000 hectares for the period 1990-2000 is based on total number of cultivated hectares to December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. This figure takes into account the new cultivated areas as well as the eradicated hectares during each year.

During the First Special Session of CICAD, Bolivia indicated that to December 2000, its non-traditional coca crops had decreased by 90%.



The diversion and smuggling of controlled chemical substances continues to be a serious problem in the Hemisphere due, in particular, to weak controls and insufficient implementation by both exporting and importing countries of international commitments derived from the conventions in force.

The main chemical substances used to produce synthetic drugs, such as ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, are legal in most countries. Often, they are readily available given their different uses in the pharmaceuticals industry, resulting in low production costs and high rates of profit.

The emergence of new markets, the strengthening of the control measures implemented by the countries involved and, in general, the dynamics of the drug problem have changed trends in trafficking routes and drug-related crime patterns, among others.

Owing to greater control over traditional air and land routes for trafficking drugs to markets in North America and other regions, particularly Europe, a marked increase in illicit activities has been observed in the Pacific and in the Eastern Caribbean.

Drug trafficking, as an expression of organized crime in the Hemisphere, has been transformed and grown more sophisticated, through the use of the main instruments of globalization, such as instant communications, electronic funds transfers, the Internet and the latest technologies and increased ability to obtain confidential information. Today the same resources and modalities used for international commerce in goods and services are employed by international criminal organizations to trafficking in illicit drugs, controlled chemical substances, and firearms.

As a result, criminal organizations have gained power and acquired financial resources and weapons that the governments do not have the institutional capacity to control.

Increasingly, firearms-trafficking routes are being used to traffic drugs. Cases have been detected in which drug traffickers exchange drugs for weapons and symbiotic relationships have developed between drug-trafficking and firearms-trafficking groups.

In addition to their enormous financial capacity, which fosters corruption, drug trafficking groups have also intensified and diversified their involvement in criminal activities other than firearms trafficking, such as money laundering, trafficking in persons, and vehicle theft. This affects public safety, hinders economic development, weakens governance, and destroys the fabric of society. Likewise, this situation puts at risk government institutions and private



and civil society organizations, and weakens the capacity of states to develop national and hemispheric strategies.

The countries of the Hemisphere have made progress in adopting legislation to prevent and control money laundering. However, the development and enforcement of those laws have just begun to yield significant results. Money laundering continues to be one of the related offenses with the greatest impact on governments' ability to tackle transnational organized crime in all its manifestations, particularly drug trafficking.

The countries in the region, in the past, focused national efforts principally on interdiction or eradication in order to limit supplies and drive down consumption. Experience has shown however, that this approach has been insufficient. For example, even multi-ton drug seizures have not appeared to affect price or availability in the short run. Countries have achieved greater impact on all aspects of the drug problem through comprehensive strategies that include both the full range of enforcement measures as well as demand reduction and, where appropriate, alternative development.

Notwithstanding the scale of the challenges we face in the fight against drugs, in recent years progress has certainly been made in building hemispheric cooperation and in strengthening national capacities. An international legal framework has been developed, based on the principles of international law and shared responsibility, both under the aegis of the United Nations and at the inter-American level.

The existing legislative framework in the region and the need to constantly update it, with full enforcement by the countries, provide the Hemisphere with sufficient tools for effective cooperation to prevent the extension and expansion of the different manifestations of the problem.

Dialogue and cooperation on problems of common interest have been strengthened significantly through CICAD. In many cases, CICAD has been a pioneer at the international level, as reflected in the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere and the development and implementation of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism.





## II. NATIONAL STRATEGY

*This section deals with the national anti-drug plans and strategies employed by the countries of the region to combat the various manifestations of the drug problem. These plans and strategies constitute the basic tools available to countries for defining priorities, assigning responsibilities to the competent national institutions, and identifying the economic resources required to implement these priorities and assess the performance of the institutions concerned.*

*Reference is also made to the existence of an institutional structure, including the so-called national anti-drug commissions charged with the coordination and application of national plans and national anti-drug strategies. Appropriately structured and suitably funded national institutions are required throughout the Hemisphere.*

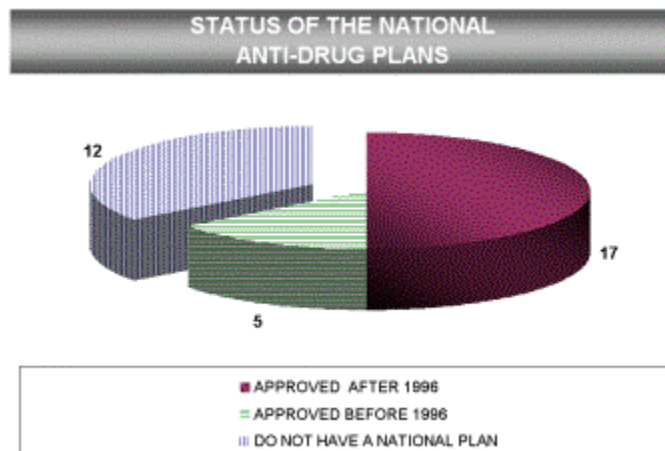
*Member states require legal frameworks and operational structures, as well as the data collection systems and statistics necessary to design and implement anti-drug programs.*

### GENERAL HEMISPHERIC TRENDS:

#### NATIONAL PLANS

A review of the replies to the evaluation questionnaire reveals that of the 34 countries subject to the multilateral evaluation process, 22 have national plans, 17 of which have been approved since 1996, following the adoption of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere. The remaining countries are in the process of formulating and approving their respective plans with technical and financial assistance provided by CICAD.

However, the adoption and full implementation of national plans and national strategies is being hampered by insufficient financial, material, and human resources. In addition, there is an obvious need to develop appropriate evaluation systems to measure how effectively the national plans and national strategies have been implemented and to quantify the extent to which the expected changes or modifications have taken place in populations targeted by national plan programs and projects.



### NATIONAL COMMISSIONS

Thirty-three countries have national anti-drug commissions, although not all of these coordinate all aspects of their respective strategies. Analysis of the information provided reveals that deficiencies persist in interagency coordination, principally in the law enforcement area. In many cases it was not possible to establish the level of importance the countries attach to the central coordinating authority or its management capacity.

### NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORKS AND AGREEMENTS SIGNED AND RATIFIED

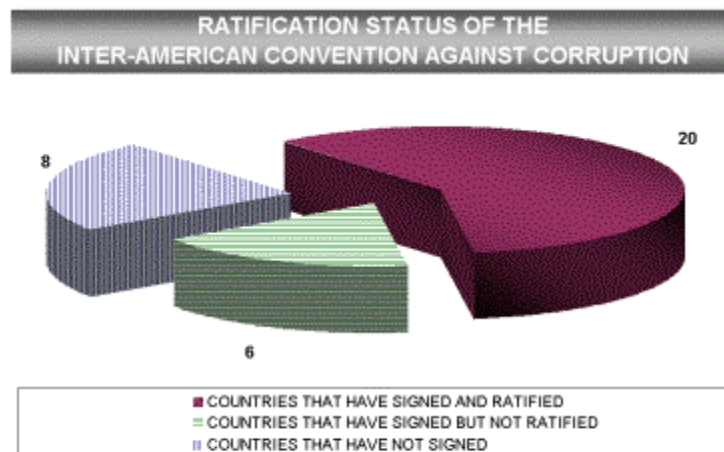
The international legal framework in this area is constituted by the UN Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988), the UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971), the UN Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961), the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (1992), the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption (1996), and the Inter-American Convention Against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials (1997).

The majority of countries in the Hemisphere have acceded to the above UN Conventions, and it should be emphasized that all countries in the Hemisphere have acceded to the 1988 Vienna Convention.

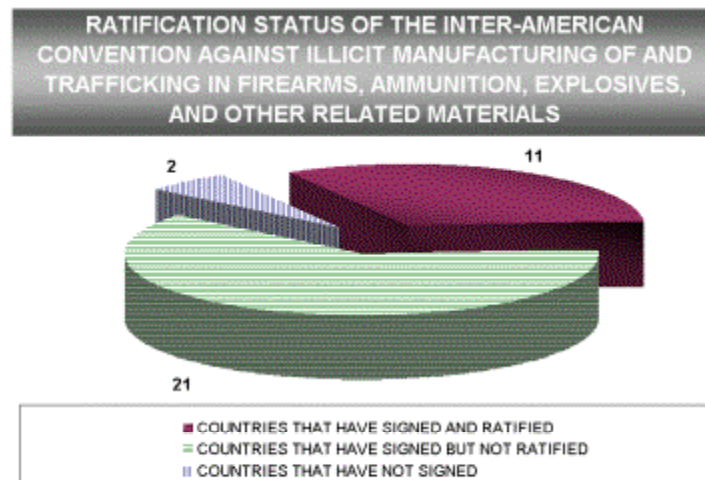
In the Inter-American context, 32 countries have signed the Inter-American Convention Against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials, while 21 countries have yet to complete the corresponding ratification or accession process. The Inter-American Convention against Corruption has yet to be signed by 8 countries and 6 of the 26 current signatories have still to complete the ratification or



accession process. 26 countries have not yet ratified the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters. It should be emphasized that various countries have stated that the signing of bilateral agreements has superseded this legal instrument.



With regard to national legislation on the prevention and control of money laundering, the diversion of controlled chemical substances, the control of the trafficking of firearms, ammunition, explosives and related materials, 24 member states have adapted their legislation or incorporated the provisions contained in international conventions and CICAD Model Regulations.





## NATIONAL SYSTEMS PROVIDING DATA AND STATISTICS ON DRUGS

Some countries in the region have integrated statistical and documentary systems. However, developing the first multilateral evaluation exercise revealed that most countries of the Americas only have basic and fragmented systems for collecting statistical and documentary information, and therefore do not cover all aspects of the drug problem.

The countries involved recognize the importance of having systems to identify, compile, and organize national production of documents and statistics related to supply reduction, demand reduction, control measures, and the societal impact of drugs, in order to adequately monitor trends and consequences of the drug phenomenon in the national arena and to assist the decision-making process to improve efficiency in addressing these issues. In this context, the initiatives currently being undertaken by the CICAD Inter-American Observatory on Drugs aimed at implementing national observatories, and the support provided by the European Observatory and the National Drug Plan of Spain to specific countries in the region represent progress in this area.

Only four countries have a system for estimating the human, social, and economic cost of the drug problem. This information is essential for each country to understand better the magnitude of the drug problem and recognize its cost as a percentage of gross domestic product or the annual national budget. Any assistance that the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs, with the support of other competent entities, could lend to the countries to build such a system will make a major contribution to the effort to clearly and scientifically identify the cost to the Hemisphere of the drug problem.

**III.****DEMAND REDUCTION**

*This section deals with national demand reduction strategies through which the Governments of the region strive to improve and achieve greater effectiveness in their efforts to prevent drug consumption, and to provide for the treatment and rehabilitation of drug users.*

*Reference is also made to studies on trends and levels of consumption, and these studies provide assistance in formulating effective prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation programs.*

**GENERAL HEMISPHERIC TRENDS:****NATIONAL DEMAND REDUCTION STRATEGY**

The UN Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and the Plan of Action adopted in the twentieth extraordinary session of the UN General Assembly in 1998 provides the terms of reference for the drafting of relevant national strategies and their subsequent implementation via national systems and national programs.

Although there is evidence of regional progress in the development and implementation of national demand reduction strategies that have been adjusted to the international standards agreed within the UN framework, there is clearly a need for increased efforts, principally in Caribbean and Central American countries. Most of the countries do not routinely evaluate their demand reduction programs.

The evaluations involve the compiling, analyzing, and interpreting data on the performance, effect, and impact of demand reduction efforts. This improves understanding of prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation and lays the foundation for decisions to test, improve, modify, or abandon programs and projects carried out in those areas, as appropriate.

**MAGNITUDE, TRENDS IN AND DISTRIBUTION OF DRUG USE**

Much of the national research conducted over recent years demonstrates that in almost all countries illicit drug consumption has been on the increase. However, there are no estimates of overall hemispheric consumption, in that



most countries do not conduct uniform and comparable epidemiological research in the general population to measure the prevalence, incidence, and age of first drug use.

#### **NATIONAL SYSTEMS FOR THE PREVENTION OF DRUG ABUSE IN KEY AND HIGH-RISK ELEMENTS OF THE POPULATION**

Although a significant number of countries have prevention programs targeting specific sections of the population (primarily school children), it is recognized that priority must be given to develop comprehensive national systems to cover all sections of the population.

In view of the fact that some countries have conducted partial prevention programs, while others are establishing the basic structure required to implement these programs, technical cooperation must be obtained from national regional and international organizations with experience in this area.

It is equally necessary to develop, improve and establish comprehensive programs for the treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration and after-care of drug abusers. It should be pointed out that these services are provided by nongovernmental organizations in most countries.

The data obtained in this area reveal that the majority of countries involved will have to procure higher levels of resources.



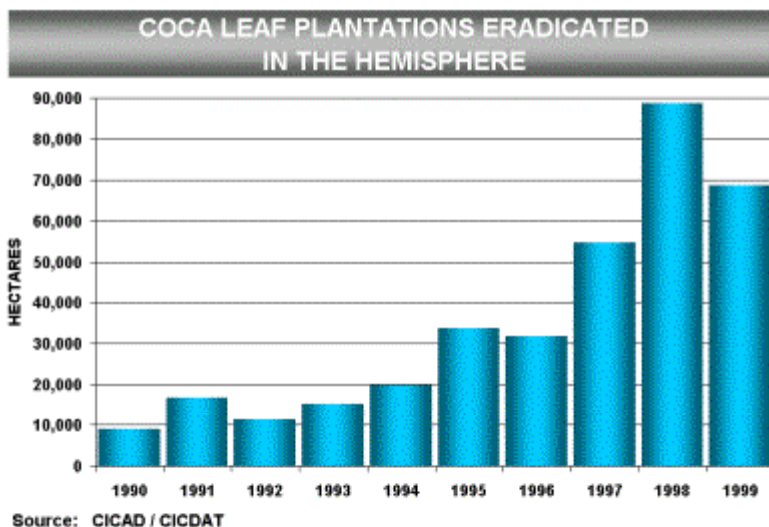
## IV. SUPPLY REDUCTION

*This section deals with the strategies and initiatives developed and implemented by the Governments of the Hemisphere to reduce the production of organic and synthetic drugs. These strategies and initiatives relate to the application of administrative measures, controls, and developments designed to reduce the areas used in the cultivation of illicit crops, synthetic drug production, and the diversion of controlled chemical substances employed in this process.*

### GENERAL HEMISPHERIC TRENDS:

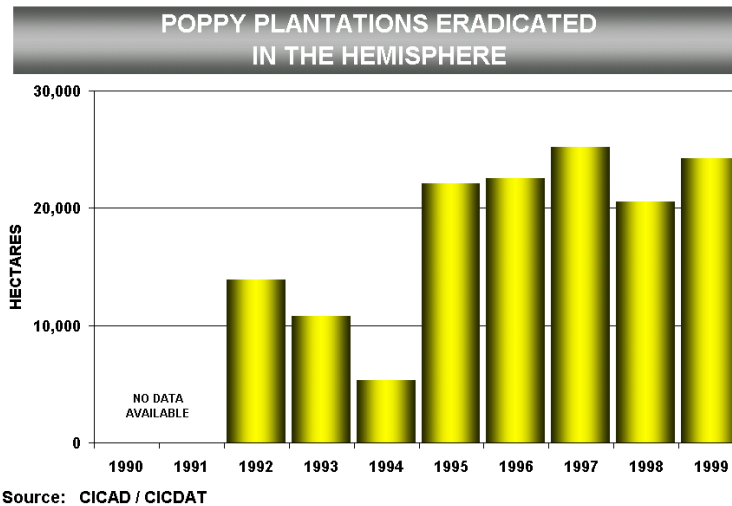
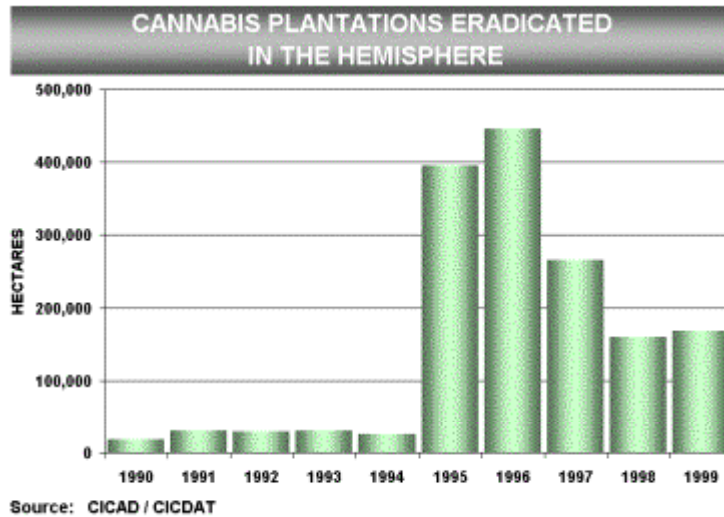
#### ILLICIT DRUG PRODUCTION

Coca production in the Hemisphere is concentrated in three Andean countries: Bolivia, Colombia, and Peru. At the end of 1999, the cultivated area was estimated at 152,000 hectares (refer to table on page 6). 70,000 hectares were eradicated, and there are no estimates as of yet on the new harvest in any of the countries involved.





Cannabis is cultivated in 30 countries in the Hemisphere, while poppy is grown in four countries: Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru. However, no consolidated hemispheric estimates are available on area cultivated and potential production during the period under review.







Although there are no consolidated estimates on annual production of synthetic drugs in the Hemisphere, data on production in Canada, the United States and Mexico were available. The information provided reveals that there is amphetamine, methamphetamine, phencyclidine (PCP) and ecstasy (MDMA) production in the Hemisphere, and availability has been increased by quantities proceeding from other regions, such as Europe.

### **ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**

The orchestration of wide-ranging integrated alternative development programs constitutes one of the main tools available to producer countries to reduce and eliminate the cultivation of illicit crops in these countries.

Despite the efforts of the producer countries in which alternative development programs are applied, the implementation of these programs has been affected by various factors, including a lack of funds that limits their sustainability.

In addition, there is evidence that alternative development programs can only be successful insofar as they are part of a long-term comprehensive strategy linked to control and prevention.

Various countries have been affected by the emergence of small-scale illicit crop cultivation, in regions characterized by particularly critical socio-economic conditions. In this context, attention has been drawn to the necessity of developing programs designed to avoid the spread of these crops. Other countries are implementing programs broadly based on a comprehensive development concept that seeks to prevent both the establishment of illicit crops and the displacement of unemployed labor to the areas in which these crops are grown.

### **PREVENTION OF THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICALS AND CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES USED IN ILLICIT DRUG MANUFACTURING**

Although 21 countries in the Hemisphere have both the controls needed to prevent the diversion of pharmaceuticals and controlled chemical substances, and the corresponding institutional framework comprising authorities, legislation, the capacity to determine the licit needs of controlled chemical substances and ensure national coordination, the diversion of controlled chemical substances and pharmaceuticals continues to be one of the main problems confronting the region. This demonstrates the urgent need to strengthen the application of national and international control mechanisms, particularly in terms of pre-export notification of controlled substances.



Aware of this dimension of the problem, the countries in the region have been improving their international coordination and cooperation mechanisms in the form of initiatives designed to reduce and control the production of and trafficking in illicit drugs and the diversion of controlled chemical substances. In this context, the efforts being made by 14 countries in the region to perfect international operational coordination and cooperation via the United Against Drugs initiative sponsored by CICAD and the US government are considered highly significant.

Similarly, in implementing an initiative proposed in the framework of the United Nations, since April 1999 some countries in the region have participated in "Operation Purple", the objective of which is to control transactions involving potassium permanganate, to prevent its diversion.



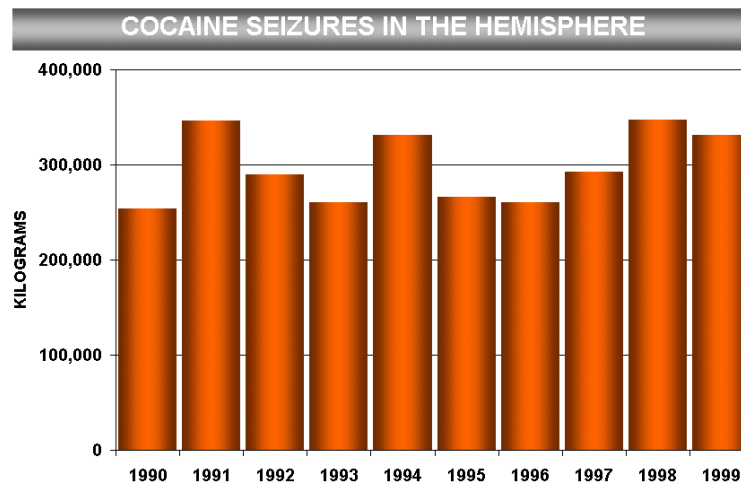
## V. CONTROL MEASURES

*This section discusses the application, in the framework of international cooperation, of national and hemispheric administrative and enforcement measures designed to prevent drug trafficking.*

### GENERAL HEMISPHERIC TRENDS:

#### ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING: LAW ENFORCEMENT

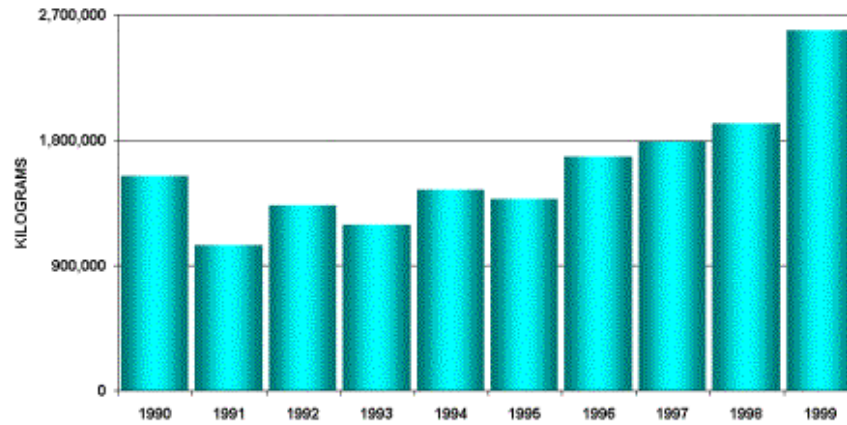
Recognition of the growing impact of drug trafficking-related criminal activity has led to greater coordination among countries, bringing about, *inter alia*, the dismantling of several drug-trafficking networks, confiscation of large quantities of chemical substances, seizure of goods related to this offense, and a rise in arrests for involvement in drug trafficking.



Source: CICAD / CIDAT

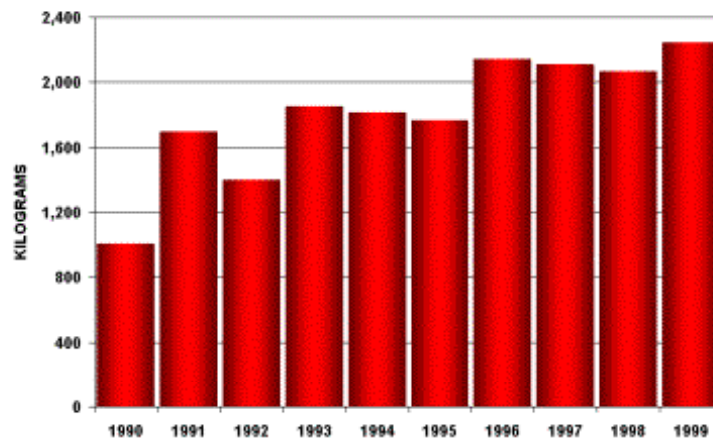


### CANNABIS SEIZURES IN THE HEMISPHERE



Source: CICAD / CICDAT

### HEROIN SEIZURES IN THE HEMISPHERE



Source: CICAD / CICDAT



However, the disparity between convictions and the number of arrests suggests deficiencies in enforcement and/or in justice administration systems. It also suggests a lack of coordination between the entities responsible for these activities. It is essential to address these problems to ensure the effective repression of drug related offenses.

#### **FIREARMS: REDUCTION IN THE DIVERSION OF FIREARMS RELATED TO ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING**

The information supplied confirms the growth of firearms trafficking and smuggling in the region. However, given the lack of databases and standardized records, it is impossible to determine the hemispheric scale of such offenses.

Most countries have criminalized the illicit manufacture and trafficking of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials, and have administrative controls in place authorizing their seizure and confiscation. Nonetheless, development of a legal arms control framework remains at a very incipient stage despite the fact that this is a transnational phenomenon, as the countries have only recently begun to attempt to deal with it.

As the routing of arms trafficking is being diversified and extended, it is imperative for the countries of the Hemisphere to continue to develop and improve mechanisms for identifying the origin and routing of seized firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials. This will make it possible to effect greater international coordination and cooperation in controlling this phenomenon.

#### **MONEY LAUNDERING: PREVENTION, CONTROL, AND SUPPRESSION**

Most countries of the Hemisphere have adopted legislation on money laundering control in keeping with international standards, particularly as regards creating financial intelligence units (FIU), requiring the reporting of suspicious transactions and creating mechanisms to the manage and administer seized and confiscated assets. However, given the recent adoption of legislation and regulations, some countries are not yet able to provide sufficient information to evaluate the extent of effective application of laws in prevention, control and suppression of money laundering.



The countries of the Hemisphere are making various efforts in the area of international cooperation through their active participation in different groups, such as the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) and the recently established South American Financial Action Task Force (GAFISUD).

The CICAD Expert Group also promotes, on an ongoing basis, the improvement of national legislation and training and instruction programs in this area. The joint CICAD/Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) work is significant in this field.

**VI.****INTERNATIONAL HEMISPHERIC COOPERATION**

In 1986, when CICAD was established, the foundations were laid for anti-drug cooperation among the member states. It has been possible, within that framework, to develop the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere and acquire greater knowledge of the problem in its various manifestations.

A comprehensive understanding of the drug phenomenon has been consolidated based on the principle of shared responsibility and respect for the fundamental principles of international law. There is now full awareness that international cooperation is the only road to success in tackling the worldwide drug problem.

The work carried out by the CICAD Experts Group in the areas of demand reduction, money laundering control, control of the diversion of chemical substances, firearms and explosives smuggling control, and alternative development have led to legislative and regulatory progress and promoted the exchange of information and expertise among competent authorities. In this context, through the CICAD Model Regulations, the Hemisphere has gradually incorporated in its juridical framework legal measures responsive to the dynamics of the problem; thus today we have acquired general guidelines based on which the countries may develop their respective legislation.

Nonetheless, despite progress made, the states continue to face enormous challenges. The fight against drugs involves heavy costs for the countries, both in terms of their economic and social development, and the human and financial resources they must devote to that fight.

The magnitude of the impact of drugs on society makes it imperative to strengthen international cooperation so as to respond adequately to new trends and modalities confronted by the countries in their anti-drug efforts. Such cooperation must also extend to regions outside the Hemisphere to encompass bilateral arrangements as well as working with other multilateral organizations in particular the United Nations International Drug Control Program (UNDCP).

The implementation of anti-drug strategies in the region has met with partial, if imperfect, success. The permutations of the drug phenomenon, ever seeking to improve its methods of operation, require coordination and cooperation among the countries of the Hemisphere to prevent the displacement and expansion of the problem and its manifestations.



## VII.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

*In view of the drug situation in the Hemisphere and the trends identified in this report, the following recommendations are made to all the governments and to CICAD for action as soon as possible:*

1. Adopt and ratify the pertinent UN and Inter-American conventions on drugs, as well as other related international instruments in this area, particularly those concerning the fight against corruption and transnational organized crime. The countries should take all necessary domestic measures for the full observance of such conventions in their respective territories. CICAD and other international organizations could provide technical assistance, at the countries' request, to ensure the proper implementation of this recommendation.
2. Strengthen the institutional structure of all member states for purposes of dealing with this problem in all of its manifestations by allocating the necessary resources for their effective management. Countries without adequate institutional anti-drug structures should make every effort to ensure that they are established. CICAD should prioritize technical assistance in helping countries that request support in this area. CICAD's efforts should include a regional seminar to promote the modernization of the above-mentioned structures.
3. Promote training of government officials, through CICAD and other competent international agencies, to develop national strategies and the general legal and regulatory frameworks of countries lacking these instruments, as well as to strengthen anti-drug capacities in specific areas, based on the needs of each country.
4. Promote the signature of bilateral anti-drug and mutual legal assistance agreements between countries in the region, including the exchange of expertise and information, among other mechanisms, to build confidence between the operative authorities of member countries. CICAD should provide technical assistance to those countries that request such support.
5. Develop integrated systems for gathering data and documentary information on all aspects of the drug problem. The Inter-American Observatory on Drugs should support the member states in this effort, as well as exchanging information with national equivalents and drug observatories of other regions.





6. Conduct more in-depth standardized comparable epidemiological research. To that end, the CICAD Inter-American Observatory on Drugs must step up efforts to support countries needing assistance to carry out such studies.
7. Promote bilateral and multilateral exchanges of expertise, information, personnel and, in some cases, financial resources for demand reduction. Greater emphasis should be given at national and international levels to demand reduction activities, beginning with greater resource allocation in each country and, depending on their specific situations, diverting resources from other areas.
8. Seek resources and funding to strengthen and improve the infrastructure for the delivery of treatment and rehabilitation services in countries where systems or institutions for such services delivery are lacking or nonexistent. CICAD should assist countries in the proposal development process for accessing such funding.

Identify domestically or through the international community, effective research-based treatment protocols or modalities that can be adopted by countries and adapted locally in response to the local cultural issues and needs of target populations.

Require that all such funded programs adhere to such quality standards as the World Health Organization's "Minimum Standards of Care for Treatment".

9. Intensify joint Inter-American Development Bank/CICAD efforts in order to obtain financial resources from the international donor community, through Consultative Groups supporting anti-drug efforts, for alternative development and demand reduction programs.
10. Develop systems to monitor and estimate areas under cultivation in the countries affected by illicit crops, in order to prevent their expansion.
11. Urge the Member States, Permanent Observers, and international trade institutions to seek to maintain and, as appropriate, consider strengthening and developing trade preference systems that support regional alternative development programs, such as the Andean Trade Preference Act, the Caribbean Basin Initiative, the special provisions of the Generalized System of Preferences of the European Union (EU) for the Andean and Central American countries, and the EU-Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific (Lomé) Agreement.



12. Strengthen, directly or through CICAD, ties with the United Nations and European governments and those of other regions to strengthen cooperation against drug trafficking and related offenses, particularly regarding the diversion of and trafficking in controlled chemical substances and money laundering.
13. Support cooperation to improve the application of the pre-export notification mechanism of controlled chemical substances, by the exporting and importing countries of the region.
14. Strengthen, through CICAD, programs to support the updating of legislation in Member States related to the prevention of money laundering so as to have homogeneous instruments and regulations in the region.
15. Establish units with financial intelligence functions in countries that have not yet done so, with the support of CICAD and international agencies specialized in this area. In that context, it is recommended that CICAD and IDB training efforts be expanded.
16. Adopt and strengthen information exchange and international cooperation mechanisms on money laundering, control of chemicals, and legal assistance.
17. Strengthen advanced training for members of the judicial branch and Public Prosecutor's Office and other bodies responsible for dealing with drug-related offenses.
18. Expedite the process of ratification and accession to the 1997 Inter-American Convention against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA) and support the activities initiated by the Consultative Committee established by that juridical international instrument.
19. Increase interagency and international law enforcement operational coordination and cooperation.
20. Develop within the framework of CICAD a long-term strategy that includes a three-year program to establish a basic and homogeneous mechanism to estimate the social, human, and economic costs of the drug problem in the Americas and to support the countries with the necessary technical assistance.
21. Seek to obtain the assistance needed so that those Member States requiring it may implement the above recommendations.