

# M E M M

## Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism

**Inter-American Drug Abuse  
Control Commission  
(CICAD)**

**Secretariat for  
Multidimensional  
Security  
(SMS)**

**Mexico**

**EVALUATION  
OF PROGRESS  
IN DRUG CONTROL**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS  
FIFTH EVALUATION ROUND**

**2012**



**Organization of  
American States**



Organization of  
American States



Inter-American Drug Abuse  
Control Commission

## Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)

# MEXICO

## Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control

## Implementation of Recommendations from the Fifth Evaluation Round

2012

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## PREFACE

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) is an instrument designed to measure progress in actions taken by the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) to address the global drug problem and other related offenses.

The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), an OAS specialized agency, implemented this Mechanism in 1998, pursuant to a mandate from the Second Summit of the Americas held in Santiago, Chile in April 1988.

The MEM is not only a diagnostic tool but has also become a vehicle for disseminating information on the progress achieved through the individual and collective efforts of OAS member state governments, catalyzing hemispheric cooperation, promoting dialogue among member state government authorities, and precisely channeling assistance to areas requiring greater attention by optimizing resources.

The evaluation reports are drafted by the Governmental Expert Group (GEG), a multidisciplinary group composed of experts designated from all OAS/CICAD member states. Each expert functions independently from his or her own government, and experts do not participate in the evaluation of their own countries. Additionally, each country has the opportunity to review and comment on the contents of the evaluations, ensuring an open and participatory process.

The Fifth Evaluation Round, covering the period 2007-2009, consisted of two phases. The full evaluation phase assessed progress made by all member states in combating the drug problem in the subject areas of institutional strengthening, demand reduction, supply reduction and control measures. This culminated with the publication of national reports containing 350 recommendations for individual member states. The follow-up phase evaluated progress made in the implementation of the recommendations assigned in the Fifth Round.



## RECOMMENDATION 1

### APPROVE A NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN THAT SERVES AS A FRAMEWORK FOR ALL ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE ANTI-DRUG SYSTEM.

Mexico reports that even though the National Drug Control Program (NDCP) for the period 2007-2012 was developed in 2006 by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic (PGR), legal technicalities prevented the completion of such process.

Nevertheless, Mexico reports that the competent federal entities in this area agreed to maintain the inter-institutional coordination plan, which had been in place since 2001, in order to give continuity to the operational follow up and evaluation framework of the national anti-drug policy.

Mexico indicates that the work carried out through the inter-institutional coordinating mechanisms has helped consolidate the national anti-drug policy of Mexico with a comprehensive and balanced approach.

CICAD takes note of the information provided and encourages the country to comply with the recommendation.

## RECOMMENDATION 2

### EXPAND COVERAGE OF GOVERNMENT DRUG USE PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RESULTS OF EVALUATIONS OF THE PREVENTION PROGRAMS BEING IMPLEMENTED.

Mexico reports that it has information to estimate the demand for services among its population and the country has implemented the “National Information for a New Life Campaign” which has been joined by municipal, state and national entities.

The country has a universal drug prevention program targeting the entire population, whose main objective is to raise awareness about the risks of drug use, and has also implemented selective drug prevention programs targeting youth at risk of drug use, reaching 38% coverage.

Mexico reports that it has data on universal drug prevention services provided by Youth Integration Centers-CIJ (information, guidance, training, participation in community mobilization activities) between 2007 and 2011. In cooperation with various governmental agencies and State Councils against Addictions, various persons were trained (teachers, parents, health professionals, among others) on the strategies that are part of the “National Information for a New Life Campaign.”

The country points out that it has conducted evaluations of its drug prevention programs and that emphasis has been placed on producing “new and interactive” educational material.

CICAD views with satisfaction the fulfillment of this recommendation.



## RECOMMENDATION 3

**ESTABLISH A REGISTRY TO IDENTIFY THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES TREATED IN OFFICIALLY-LICENSED SPECIALIZED TREATMENT FACILITIES FOR PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG USE.**

Mexico reports it has a registry of cases of patients receiving treatment for drug related problems which includes both facilities that meet the minimum standards of care established by NOM 028-SSA2- 2009, for Addiction Prevention, Treatment and Control, and facilities going through the licensing process. The country reports that 32 federal entities report cases treated, gathering data from four primary sources of information. The country indicates that reporting cases of those being treated in specialized facilities became mandatory for all entities.

CICAD views with satisfaction the fulfillment of this recommendation.

## RECOMMENDATION 4

**ESTABLISH AN INFORMATION MECHANISM TO COLLECT DATA ON THE NUMBER OF CASES THAT COMPLETE TREATMENT PLANS.**

Mexico reports that, since 2011, it has implemented an on-line information system allowing control of the procedures and to exchange information with other entities. The country reports that it has collected data on the number of cases that completed treatment plans.

Mexico reports that, within the follow-up framework to commitments of the Specific Action Plan (2007-2012), meetings were held with addiction treatment experts from the most important national addiction treatment facilities (public and private) for the purpose of determining the format of the follow-up report. This included the redefinition of the indicator “Number of Cases that Complete Treatment Plans,” since the indicator does not reflect the number of respondents or treatments that can be considered successful.

CICAD takes note of the information provided and encourages the country to comply with the recommendation.

## RECOMMENDATION 5

**CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE MAGNITUDE OF DRUG USE IN THE SCHOOL POPULATION.**

Mexico informs that it currently has the methodology to conduct a national survey on the use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs in the student population and the infrastructure to implement it. The country does not have a timetable for implementing the recommendation.

CICAD takes note of the information provided and encourages the country to comply with the recommendation.



## RECOMMENDATION 6

### ESTABLISH INFORMATION MECHANISMS TO RECORD THE NUMBER OF PENAL SANCTIONS IMPOSED FOR THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

Mexico reports that the information relating to criminal proceedings of drug related offenses is included in the Institutional Statistical Information System (SIIE) under the Coordination of Planning, Development and Institutional Innovation (COPLADII) of the Office of the Attorney General.

CICAD takes note of the efforts reported by Mexico and encourages the country to comply with the recommendation.

## RECOMMENDATION 8

### CARRY OUT CONTROL AND MONITORING ACTIVITIES FOR THE PRESCRIPTION, SALE AND MANUFACTURE OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

Mexico reports that the Federal Health Risk Protection Commission (COFEPRIS) is undertaking activities for the control and follow up of prescription, sales and manufacturing of pharmaceutical products through the evaluation and implementation of electronic books. In addition, prescription control is carried out through bar codes for medications of Group I (Narcotics).

Mexico indicates that in regard to the monitoring of the legal movement of substances subject to international control, specially the inspection of retail establishments that sell controlled substances, the Federal Health Risk Protection Commission (COFEPRIS) uses the Project Progress Report Electronic Transfer System (STEAP), a mechanism that helps generate monthly reports on inspection activities carried out in the country. This mechanism is being improved to perform an efficient and integral task.

CICAD views with satisfaction the fulfillment of this recommendation.

## RECOMMENDATION 9

### ESTABLISH INFORMATION MECHANISMS TO RECORD THE QUANTITIES OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS SEIZED AND DISPOSED OF.

Mexico reports that the Office of the Attorney General (PGR) does not have statistical records of pharmaceutical products disposed of. The country informs that the PGR has held a series of inter-institutional meetings to address the problem and is trying to identify an information mechanism to record the quantities of pharmaceuticals seized and disposed of.

CICAD takes note of the information provided by the country and encourages it to comply with this recommendation.



## RECOMMENDATION 10

**ESTABLISH INFORMATION MECHANISMS TO RECORD THE NUMBER OF PENAL SANCTIONS IMPOSED FOR THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.**

Mexico reports that the information regarding criminal proceedings related to drug offenses is contained in the Institutional Statistical Information System (SIIE), under the Coordination of Planning, Development and Institutional Innovation (COPLADII), of the Office of the Attorney General.

CICAD takes note of the information provided by the country and encourages it to comply with this recommendation.

## RECOMMENDATION 12

**CARRY OUT RESEARCH AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND OTHER DRUGS VIA THE INTERNET, WHICH WILL ENABLE THE COUNTRY TO IDENTIFY ITS REGULATORY AND OPERATIVE NEEDS.**

Mexico reports that in order to confront the problem of the sale of pharmaceutical products over the internet, from the perspective of prevention of a sanitary risk, a multi-disciplinary team is being assembled within COFEPRIS with the participation of different Committees that were assigned the roles of: information exchange; monitoring of facilities; risk communication; and the tracking of electronic sites that offer controlled drugs.

Mexico reports that the PGR has held several coordination meetings in order to develop a continuous training program on this subject.

CICAD takes note of the information provided by the country and encourages it to comply with this recommendation.

## RECOMMENDATION 13

**IMPLEMENT A REGISTRATION SYSTEM FOR PERSONS FORMALLY CHARGED AND CONVICTED IN MONEY LAUNDERING CASES.**

Mexico reports that information regarding criminal proceedings relating to drug offenses is included in the Institutional Statistical Information System (SIIE) under the Coordination of Planning, Development and Institutional Innovation (COPLADII) of the Office of the Attorney General.

Mexico reports that the system has recently undergone a number of improvements and will generate information on the number of persons formally charged and convicted for money laundering.

CICAD takes note of the information provided by the country and encourages it to comply with this recommendation.



## CONCLUSIONS

Mexico was assigned thirteen recommendations during the Fifth Evaluation Round, 2007-2009. CICAD reports that the country has implemented three of the thirteen recommendations and shows progress in eight. Two recommendations were withdrawn.<sup>1</sup>

CICAD notes that in the area of institutional strengthening, although Mexico does not have a National Drug Control Strategy that has been approved and implemented, the federal entities competent in this area agreed to maintain the inter-institutional coordination plan to provide continuity.

CICAD recognizes that in the area of demand reduction, Mexico has been able to expand coverage of its preventative programs, based on evaluations made to such programs and has established a registry of cases of patients receiving treatment at specialized facilities. In the supply reduction area the country has implemented control and follow up of prescriptions, sales and manufacturing of pharmaceutical products.

CICAD notes that in the area of demand reduction, Mexico has made progress in establishing registries of cases that complete the treatment plan and designing a study on the magnitude of drug use among the school population. The actions left to complete these recommendations are the strengthening of the information system implemented, the licensing of specialized treatment facilities and to homogenize certain technical criteria to be able to define with precision what will be understood by “complete treatment.”

CICAD notes that in the supply reduction area, Mexico has made progress in establishing a mechanism to maintain a registry of criminal sanctions imposed for the diversion of pharmaceutical products and controlled chemical substances, such as establishing a mechanism to register pharmaceutical products seized and disposed of. Additionally, Mexico has made progress in the implementation of investigative actions and training activities on the prevention and control of trafficking in pharmaceutical products via the internet and implementation of a registry system that keeps count of the number of persons formally charged and convicted for money laundering. The actions left to complete these recommendations is the strengthening of the information system and to finalize the institutional coordination already initiated.

CICAD recognizes Mexico’s participation in the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism process and encourages the country to continue its efforts to comply with the recommendations still pending.

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<sup>1</sup> Recommendations 7 and 11 were withdrawn.





## ADDENDUM

Within the framework of the fifty-first regular session of CICAD, 9-11 May, 2012, the Government of Mexico, mindful of the approved process for the preparation of country reports, reiterates the observation made during the forty-eighth regular session of the Commission, considers it necessary that Mexico's report reflects the situation and conditions of the country.

With regard to Recommendation 1: "Approve a National Anti-Drug Plan that serves as a framework for all activities within the Anti-Drug System," Mexico reiterates that it has an approved national anti-drug strategy within the framework of its National Drug Control Program (PNCD), 2001-2006. This does not imply that the country does not have a specific Program dedicated to the issue. At the time, the National Program was based on the National Development Plan (2000-2006) and is in concurrence with the National Development Program (2007-2012) with its core axis being "Rule of Law and Security."

<http://pnd.presidencia.gob.mx/>

The PNCD is a comprehensive document still in force today, which includes the following sections that coincide with areas of action that should be considered in any anti-drug strategy:

Prevention and demand reduction

Prevention and supply reduction

Addressing related crimes

International cooperation

The PNCD incorporates the overall course of action of each of the entities participating in the Program according to their functions and powers. This course of action is then developed in accordance with the yearly programming and priorities identified by each sector within their respective treatment scope. In this sense, all competent Mexican authorities involved in combating drugs have given continuity to their work.

In this connection, the initiatives of the Federal Government are framed within the PNCD with the aim of promoting effective coordination, monitoring and evaluation of public agencies directly and indirectly involved in the comprehensive fight against illicit drug trafficking.

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