

# Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism MEM



# Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

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





**RECOMMENDATION 1:****APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT THE NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines reports that its National Anti-drug Plan was prepared more than five years ago. Previous attempts by the Ministry of Health and the Environment to have the Plan approved were unsuccessful because the Plan was extremely costly and therefore did not receive support from the country's financing authorities, among other reasons.

CICAD is concerned about the lack of progress in the approval and implementation of the National Anti-drug Plan, and urges the country to implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the First Evaluation Round, 1999-2000.

**RECOMMENDATION 2:****ESTABLISH A NATIONAL DRUG COUNCIL AND A SECRETARIAT TO COORDINATE NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG ACTIVITIES, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines informs that implementation of this recommendation has not started. In the absence of a national drug council, the government continues to implement anti-drug activities through the police, the Ministry of Education and the Marion House, a non-governmental counseling center.

CICAD expresses its concern that St. Vincent and the Grenadines has not established a national drug council or a secretariat to coordinate national anti-drug activities, and urges the country to implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the First Evaluation Round, 1999-2000.

**RECOMMENDATION 3:****ALLOCATE A SPECIFIC BUDGET FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines informs that implementation of this recommendation has not been started. The country is currently revising the National Anti-drug Plan, after which the financial implications will be determined.

CICAD encourages the country to complete the financial details of the National Anti-drug Plan and to allocate a specific budget for the execution of the Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION 4:****RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME AND ITS THREE PROTOCOLS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001-2002:****A. THE PROTOCOL AGAINST THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS BY LAND, SEA AND AIR;**



- B. THE PROTOCOL TO PREVENT, SUPPRESS AND PUNISH TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN; AND**
- C. THE PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines informs that implementation of this recommendation has not started.

CICAD urges the country to implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the Second Evaluation Round, 2001-2002.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 5:**

**RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS (CIFTA), A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines informs that implementation of this recommendation has not started.

CICAD urges the country to implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the First Evaluation Round, 1999-2000.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 6:**

**ACCEDE TO THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines informs that implementation of this recommendation has not started.

CICAD urges the country to implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the First Evaluation Round, 1999-2000.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 7:**

**ACCEDE TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION, 2003.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines informs that implementation of this recommendation has not started.

CICAD encourages the country to accede to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003.

**RECOMMENDATION 8:****IMPROVE DATA COLLECTION CAPACITY TO ENABLE THE COUNTRY TO COMPLY WITH ITS INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003-2004.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines informs that a Drug Information Network Group has been formed and its national coordinator appointed. The country indicates that in order to complete the recommendation, a centralized office that organizes, compiles and coordinates drug-related statistics and other drug-related information is to be established.

CICAD notes the steps taken by St. Vincent and the Grenadines and urges the country to fully implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the Third Evaluation Round, 2003-2004.

**RECOMMENDATION 9:****ESTABLISH A CENTRALIZED OFFICE THAT ORGANIZES, COMPILES OR COORDINATES DRUG-RELATED STATISTICS AND OTHER DRUG-RELATED INFORMATION.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines informs that a centralized office responsible for drug-related statistics has not yet been established. In the interim, the Drug Information Network is coordinating this activity.

CICAD encourages the country to implement this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 10:****EXTEND COVERAGE OF PREVENTION PROGRAMS TARGETING SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines informs that the Ministry of Education developed a Health and Family Life Education curriculum guide. The guide covers drug abuse prevention and is taught up to ninth grade. The program has not yet been extended to all forms in secondary schools.

CICAD takes note of the progress made, and encourages the country to continue its efforts to fully comply with this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 11:****ESTABLISH AND ENSURE APPLICATION OF SYSTEMS, GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS ON STANDARDS OF CARE IN DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT PROGRAMS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999-2000.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines reports that implementation of this recommendation has not started.

CICAD urges the country to implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the First Evaluation Round, 1999-2000.

**RECOMMENDATION 12:****CARRY OUT RESEARCH AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND OTHER DRUGS VIA THE INTERNET, TO IDENTIFY POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL REGULATORY AND OPERATIVE NEEDS.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines reports that the importation of drugs via the Internet is the responsibility of the Pharmacy Council, which has recommended regulations to be enacted under the Pharmacy Act. The Drug Inspector is drafting a project to host a workshop that will consider the resources needed, and the legal and financial obligations for implementation of this recommendation.

CICAD takes note of the initial steps to prevent and control the illicit traffic of pharmaceutical products and other drugs via the Internet, and encourages the country to fully implement this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 13:****CONDUCT TRAINING COURSES FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR PERSONNEL HANDLING PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines informs that the corresponding regulations of the Pharmacy Act are pending. The country considers it necessary to have these regulations in place prior to conducting training courses. The Pharmacy Council has submitted a draft body of regulations to be made under the Pharmacy Act. These regulations will be discussed with stakeholders, and an amended version of the Act will be submitted to Parliament. A proposal that incorporates training is being drafted for implementation.

CICAD encourages the country to continue its efforts to implement this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 14:****IMPLEMENT A CONTROL MECHANISM TO MONITOR AND PREVENT THE DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines informs that no regulations have been passed under the Precursor Chemical Act. The country indicates that in order to implement a control mechanism for controlled chemical substances, regulations have to be drafted and enacted.

CICAD encourages the country to continue its efforts to implement this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 15:****IDENTIFY, TRAIN AND ASSIGN PERSONNEL TO ENSURE THE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF THE CONTROL OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES IN THE COUNTRY.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines informs that implementation of this recommendation has not started.

CICAD encourages the country to take the necessary steps to implement this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 16:****STRENGTHEN INTERNAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE PROCESSES AMONG AGENCIES WITHIN THE COUNTRY REGARDING THE CONTROL OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines informs that senior officials from Police Headquarters, Customs, Narcotics and the Financial Intelligence Unit now meet quarterly to discuss the control of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, among other issues.

CICAD views with satisfaction the implementation of this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 17:****EXPAND THE LIST OF PREDICATE OFFENSES FOR MONEY LAUNDERING TO INCLUDE ALL CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES CONSIDERED SERIOUS CRIMES UNDER THE PALERMO CONVENTION (PUNISHABLE BY A MAXIMUM DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY OF AT LEAST FOUR YEARS OR A MORE SERIOUS PENALTY), A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003-2004.**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines reports that the Proceeds of Crime and Money Laundering Act, which was amended in 2005, covers all predicate offenses for money laundering.

CICAD takes note of the information provided and considers the recommendation fulfilled.

**CONCLUSIONS**

Of the 17 recommendations assigned to St. Vincent and the Grenadines during the Fourth Evaluation Round, two have been completed and implementation of seven is in progress, while implementation of eight has not been started.

CICAD is concerned about the lack of progress in the approval and implementation of the National Anti-drug Plan, which was drafted more than five years ago. CICAD also expresses its concern that St. Vincent and the Grenadines has not been able to establish a national drug council or a secretariat to coordinate national anti-drug activities.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines did not make progress in ratifying the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols, or the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials; or in acceding to the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters or the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

CICAD observes that, to improve data collection capacity, a Drug Information Network Group has been formed and its national coordinator appointed. CICAD encourages the country to establish a centralized office that organizes, compiles and coordinates drug-related statistics.

CICAD is concerned that St. Vincent and the Grenadines did not extend coverage of school prevention programs or establish systems, guidelines and regulations on standards of care for drug abuse treatment programs.



Regarding the handling of pharmaceutical products, CICAD notes that the country is making efforts to draft regulations under the Pharmacy Act, to be followed by training courses for public and private sector personnel. Similarly, CICAD notes the drafting of regulations under the Precursor Chemical Act to implement a control mechanism to monitor and prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances.

CICAD views with satisfaction that St. Vincent and the Grenadines has established a quarterly internal information exchange process among the agencies responsible for control of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials.

CICAD also notes the expansion of the list of predicate offenses for money laundering to include all criminal activities considered serious crimes under the Palermo Convention.

CICAD takes note of the participation of St. Vincent and the Grenadines in the MEM process and encourages the country to step up its efforts to fully comply with the assigned recommendations.