

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism MEM



Uruguay

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



**RECOMMENDATION 1:****RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND, 1999–2000.**

Uruguay reports that it signed the Convention on January 22, 1993, and that since December 5, 2008, the question of its ratification has been under consideration by the House of Representatives' Committee on International Affairs, awaiting parliamentary approval.

CICAD urges Uruguay to conclude the ratification process, given that this reiterated recommendation was assigned during the First Evaluation Round, 1999–2000.

RECOMMENDATION 2:**ACCEDE TO THE PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE SECOND EVALUATION ROUND, 2001–2002.**

Uruguay reports that it acceded to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, of the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, on April 3, 2008, with entry into force on May 3, 2008.

CICAD views with satisfaction the fulfillment of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 3:**RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION, 2003.**

Uruguay ratified the United Nations Convention against Corruption on January 10, 2007.

CICAD views with satisfaction the fulfillment of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 4:**IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF PENAL, CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS IMPOSED FOR THE DIVERSION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.**

Uruguay reports that it is developing a system to record administrative sanctions imposed for the diversion of pharmaceutical products. However, the country does not have a system to report the number of penal or civil sanctions imposed in connection with the diversion of pharmaceutical products.

CICAD takes note of the information provided and encourages the country to implement this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 5:**

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 OPERATIONAL NEEDS.

Uruguay reports that it has not initiated the implementation of this recommendation.

CICAD encourages Uruguay to make efforts to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

DEVELOP A SYSTEM TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON PERSONS FORMALLY CHARGED WITH AND CONVICTED OF ILLICIT POSSESSION OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.

Uruguay reports that trafficking in firearms is not criminalized in its national legislation.

CICAD considers the information provided insufficient to carry out an adequate evaluation, and urges Uruguay to take the necessary measures to implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the Third Evaluation Round, 2003–2004.

RECOMMENDATION 7:

DEVELOP A REGISTER ON SEIZURES OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS, INDICATING THOSE THAT WERE LINKED TO ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING.

Uruguay reports that it has a registry system that gathers information on seizures of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials, including those related to illicit drug trafficking. The country also reports that work is under way to integrate this database with other state agencies' databases, allowing the identification of a connection between those seizures and illicit drug trafficking.

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

RECOMMENDATION 8:

IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM FOR MONITORING SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTION REPORTS, A RECOMMENDATION REITERATED FROM THE THIRD EVALUATION ROUND, 2003–2004.

Uruguay reports that it is implementing a comprehensive management system at its Financial Information and Analysis Unit, including the management of Suspicious Transaction Reports, the expansion of the existing database, and the integration of all obligated entities via information technology tools. The implementation of this system was expected to conclude during the first half of 2009.



CICAD takes note of the information provided and urges Uruguay to fully implement this reiterated recommendation, given that it was assigned in the Third Evaluation Round, 2003–2004.

CONCLUSIONS

During the Fourth Evaluation Round, a total of eight recommendations were assigned to Uruguay, of which the country fully implemented two, made progress in five, and reported that it had not initiated the implementation of one.

The country complied with adhering to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and also ratified the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

CICAD urges Uruguay to make efforts to implement research and training activities for the prevention and control of trafficking in pharmaceuticals and other drugs over the Internet, an area in which the country made no progress. The recommended actions will enable the country to identify its regulatory and operational needs related to this topic.

CICAD recognizes Uruguay's participation in the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), and encourages the country to continue its efforts toward the full implementation of the pending recommendations.