

RECOMMENDATION 1:

RATIFY THE UNITED NATION CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME AND THE THREE PROTOCOLS THERETO

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

Guatemala reports that the Convention and its three Protocols were ratified by the Congress in August 19, 2003 in Decree 36-2003, and came into force on September 17, 2003.

The country reports that technical, financial and training assistance are needed in order to implement the three Protocols.

CICAD express its satisfaction with the fulfillment of the recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

IMPLEMENT A MECHANISM FOR VERIFYING THE VALIDITY OF THE INFORMATION COLLECTED BY THE INTER-AMERICAN DRUG OBSERVATORY (OID)

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

Guatemala reports that its Drug Observatory is already working. Its Technical Cooperation Committee was formed in October 2001, and it now has a Web Page. The country states that Regulations of the Observatory, implementation of its work plan and recommencement of data collection are presently pending for approval.

Guatemala reports that technical, financial and training assistance are needed.

CICAD recognizes Guatemala efforts to put the Observatory into operation and encourages the country to push for the approval of the Regulations of the Observatory, in order to give follow up to the validation of the information collected and fulfill this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

SELECT A PREVENTION PROGRAM THAT, IN THE COUNTRY'S VIEW, HAS ACHIEVED BROAD COVERAGE AND WIDE ACCEPTANCE BY THE POPULATION SO AS TO INITIATE A PILOT EVALUATION THEREOF

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Guatemala reports that in order to implement this recommendation the Executive Secretary of the Anti-Drug Addiction and Illicit Trafficking Commission chose the National Comprehensive Preventive Education Program in order to evaluate its performance between 2000 and 2002.

The evaluation determined that during the Program execution period, a total of 2,442 members of the education sector were trained throughout the country. Those trained in former years have replicated the message to 27,202 members of the national educational community and 98% qualified the activities as satisfactory or partially satisfactory. Reproduction of the Integral Preventative Education Manual was also achieved.

Finally, there was a recommendation, among others aspects, to promote active, committed participation of all attendants, establish an evaluation and on-going monitoring program to measure its progress, results and impact.

CICAD states its satisfaction with the fulfillment of this recommendation.



RECOMMENDATION 4:

REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999-2000 TO IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM FOR GATHERING DATA SO THAT REGULAR MEASUREMENTS CAN BE MADE OF DRUG USE AMONG THE GENERAL POPULATION, THE AVERAGE AGE OF FIRST DRUG USE, TYPES OF DRUGS USED, AND INCIDENCE OF FIRST USE

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2001 REITERATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

Guatemala reports that in 2000 it implemented the Inter-American System of Uniform Drug-Use Data (SIDUC) methodology as a drug data collection system, beginning with the Phase 1 survey of secondary school students in cities. In 2003, the country developed the Phase 2 of the survey in 19 of the 22 departments of the country. With United States Embassy sponsorship, a study of Psychological Disorders and its relationship to drug use among young people and adolescents was conducted.

The country reports that technical, financial and equipment assistance are needed.

CICAD recognizes the progress achieved and urges Guatemala to carryout studies in the general population, if possible by the end of 2004.

RECOMMENDATION 5:

INVESTIGATE MEANS TO IMPLEMENT ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN TO PREVENT THE EXPANSION OF MARIJUANA AND POPPY CULTIVATION

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Guatemala reports that in 2001-2002 Drug Control Progress Evaluation Report an increase in illicit crops, especially marihuana.

The country reports that in the National Anti-Drug Strategy 2004 – 2008 has Alternative Development programs, however, it doesn't mention the financial measures taking.

CICAD encourages Guatemala to approve the resources needed for project to implement the alternative development programs.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

ESTABLISH AN INTEGRATED ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR MONITORING AND CONTROLLING OF PHARMACEUTICALS AND CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES

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Guatemala reports that Government Agreement 545-2003 was issued in March 2003, in which the Regulations for the control of Precursors and Chemical Substances were adopted and a Technical Committee to control these substances was established. It also reports, that the Technical Committee is made up of the Ministry of Public Health, the Superintendent of Tax Administration, the Ministry of National Defense, the Ministry of Government and the Executive Secretariat of the Commission Against Drug Addiction and Illegal Trafficking (SECCATID) are completing a comprehensive strategy to strengthen the control of precursors and chemical substances and is participating in the "Prisma" project, intended to prevent the diversion of chemicals and precursors.



The country reports that pharmaceutical product control is contained in Governmental Accord No. 712-99 Regulation for Sanitary Control of Medicines and Similar Products.

CICAD is satisfied with the fulfillment of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 7:

CREATE A DATABASE TO IDENTIFY SEIZURE OPERATIONS AND THE ROUTING AND ORIGIN OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITIONS IN CONNECTION WITH TRAFFICKING OF ILLICIT DRUGS

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Guatemala reports that an Anti-Drug Analysis and Information Service has been established with a database containing information on weapons, ammunition and explosives. The Department for the Control of Weapons and Ammunition of the Ministry of National Defense has a database on the lawful entry of these materials. The country notes a lack of inter-ministerial coordination for the exchange of information on the origin of seized weapons and a lack in follow-up on their origin and routing. A work schedule has been developed for October 2003 to 2004 to unify criteria and databases.

CICAD acknowledges the efforts made by Guatemala to comply with this recommendation, and encourages it to consolidate the work plan to solve the lack of inter-ministerial coordination.

RECOMMENDATION 8:

DEVELOP ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS TO INCLUDE REGULATED SECTORS SUCH AS REAL ESTATE, BROKERAGES, ATTORNEYS, NOTARIES AND ACCOUNTANTS TO PREVENT MONEY LAUNDERING

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

Guatemala reports that there is presently no regulatory initiative oriented toward implementing this recommendation, though the Bank Superintendence has submitted a draft Law to Congress to prevent and sanction the financing of terrorism; the sanctions are applicable to all persons, including real estate brokerages, attorneys, notaries and accountants. It also states that the bill is in its final stages of approval.

CICAD urges the country to fully complain with this recommendation.



CONCLUSIONS

Guatemala fulfilled three of the eight recommendations given at the Second Evaluation Round (2001-2002), regarding ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols; the Regulations for Control of Chemical Precursors and Substances, and Control of Pharmaceutical Products. Likewise, it established a database to identify seizure operations, routes and sources of firearms in connection with drug trafficking; and executed a pilot test to evaluate a Prevention Program.

CICAD is concerned that Guatemala did not comply with the recommendation issued in the First Evaluation Round, 1999-2000, to make epidemiology studies on the general population, and urges the country to make more progress in researching the dimension of the drug consumption problem. Also, the country should take concrete steps to comply with recommendations on verifying information collected by the Observatory on Drugs on drug use studies. Likewise, approval of a budget to implement alternative development programs and action to establish a database to identify seizure operations, transit routes and origin of firearms in connection with illicit drugs are necessary.