

RECOMMENDATION 1:

IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM TO EVALUATE TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTERS

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2001

Mexico reports that the National Council Against Addictions, along with the General Department of Health Quality and Education of the Health Secretariat, drew up Minimum Quality Criteria and a Quality Evaluation System for mutual help groups in 2001. This system for evaluating treatment centers has its legal basis in the Official Mexican Statute 028-SSA2-1999 for the Prevention, Treatment and Control of Addiction published on September 15, 2000, observance of which is mandatory throughout the country and which applies to all institutions providing treatment and rehabilitation, including mutual assistance groups, professional care services, and mixed groups. At present, there is also a system for the evaluation of the operation of professional and Residential Mutual Help Treatment Centers, which is being implemented through the State Councils against Addictions (CECA).

In addition, the responsible authorities are preparing certification criteria for treatment and rehabilitation establishments, which will mean higher quality standards in institutions recognized as competent to implement all their processes and procedures.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction as this recommendation has been fully implemented.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

CONTINUE EFFORTS TO MEASURE DRUG CROPS AND PRODUCTIVITY, IN ORDER TO HAVE A TOOL TO MONITOR AND SUPERVISE THE DYNAMIC OF ILLICIT CROPS IN THE COUNTRY AND EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ERADICATION ACTIVITIES

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

Mexico reports that at present, it is setting up a three-stage system to determine production potential, cultivated area, and new illicit drug crops. In 2002, the study on opium poppies was completed, which concluded that the national yield of opium gum was 8.5 kg. per hectare. It is therefore estimated that 1 kg. of heroin is extracted from each hectare. With regard to the study of marijuana, the third stage of the study was carried out in 2003, and it is expected that the data will be analyzed in 2004, with a view to presenting the final results in the same year, although a specific date has not yet been set. As to the chemical analysis, the project is being conducted with support from the United States.

CICAD recognizes the progress made by Mexico in measuring the production potential of illicit crops of poppy and marijuana and encourages it to develop procedures to measure crops, with a view to implementation of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF COMPREHENSIVE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO PREVENT THE INVOLVEMENT OF FARMERS IN ILLICIT CROP PRODUCTION, IN ORDER TO DETERMINE THE DEGREE OF SUCCESS OF SUCH PROGRAMS IN PREVENTION

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

Mexico reported during the First Evaluation Round 1999-2000 that the alternative development concept operates through comprehensive rural development policies that include, among other things, prevention of drug production. Its specific policies promote alternatives for economic and social development in areas at risk of illegal cultivation through social development programs,



infrastructure works, and support to farmers by providing sources of lawful employment, thereby providing them with alternative means of support.

Mexico reports that for 2003, its activities to substitute illicit cultivation were carried out taking a comprehensive rural development approach. Activities carried out by the Agrarian Reform Secretariat (SRA) and the Secretariat of the Interior (SG), the Secretariat of Social Development (SEDESOL), the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishing, and Food (SAGARPA), as well as SEDESOL, have as a goal, among other objectives, discouragement of illicit production, and are designed to have only indirect impact on illicit crop substitution, and it is not therefore possible to evaluate their impact more precisely.

Mexico reiterates that comprehensive rural development programs are included in different national anti-poverty programs and have only indirect impact on crop substitution, so that there is no method to evaluate the specific impact on the population that is potentially related to illicit crop production.

CICAD urges Mexico to evaluate the impact of comprehensive rural development programs, taking into account the different activities to prevent the farming population from becoming involved in illicit crops.

RECOMMENDATION 4:

ESTABLISH AN ADMINISTRATIVE VERIFICATION MECHANISM FOR INDIVIDUALS OR COMPANIES EFFECTING CHEMICAL SUBSTANCE TRANSACTIONS SO AS TO STRENGTHEN PREVENTION OF THE DIVERSION OF SUCH SUBSTANCES

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

Mexico reports that in October 2002, it consolidated under a single command the controls of essential chemicals, chemical precursors, narcotic drugs, and psychotropic substances. The areas with responsibility in this topic, set forth in the Federal Law for Controlling Precursors, Essential Chemical Products, and Machines to Manufacture Tablets and/or Pills, carried out different activities on this subject.

In addition, Mexico reports that it has been possible to strengthen health inspection by implementing a strategy of random inspections of the distribution chains of the establishments that carry out chemical substance transactions.

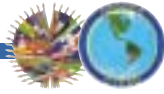
CICAD expresses its satisfaction with full compliance with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 5:

UPDATE LEGISLATION ON CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES IN VIEW OF THE NEW TRENDS IN THEIR DIVERSION

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

Mexico reports that the necessary steps have been taken to update the recommended legislation. The following remains to be done: (a) Finalize the draft amendments to the Federal Law for the Control of Precursors, Essential Chemical Products, and Machines to Manufacture Tablets and/or Pills; (b) Introduce the draft amendments in the legislative branch; and (c) Pass the draft amendments. The precise date for passage of the amendments cannot be given, as the initiatives must first be introduced in the legislature and passed by that branch. Nevertheless, it is hoped that the amendments will be ready during the first quarter of 2004.



CICAD encourages Mexico to continue its legal procedures to update, pass, and enact this legal instrument in the hope that this will be achieved in 2004.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

IMPLEMENT THE PRE-EXPORT NOTIFICATION MECHANISM FOR CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES IN KEEPING WITH ARTICLE 12 OF THE UN CONVENTION AGAINST ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, VIENNA 1988

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

Mexico reports that in order to fulfill the international commitments in this regard, the Health Authority has implemented the prior notification mechanism for exports of controlled chemical substances, in keeping with Article 12 of the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. Since March 2003, prior notification has been given of all Mexican exports of essential chemicals, and, in particular, the commitments stemming from Operation Topaz and Operation Purple are fulfilled in the framework of the International Narcotics Control Board. It should be noted that, in addition to giving prior notification of Mexican exports, the country replies to prior notifications by other countries.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction that this recommendation has been implemented.

RECOMMENDATION 7:

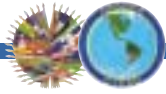
OPTIMIZE CONTROL OF ILLICIT TRAFFICKING VIA MARITIME ROUTES FREQUENTLY USED BY CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

Mexico reports that illicit drug trafficking is controlled by enforcing the legislation currently in force, based on Article 30 of the Organic Law of Federal Public Administration and Article 2 of the Organic Law of the Navy of Mexico; Articles 17 and 18 of the 1988 United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances; Article 18 of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, regarding illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and application of Circular 040 of the Commanders of Mexican Naval Vessels (relative to Illicit Traffic by Sea, Zones, and Free Ports).

Also, Mexico reports that, in order to fulfill its duties, the Secretariat of the Navy of Mexico has carried out different activities such as: (a) Interdiction operations, to prevent drug trafficking activities along Mexico's seaboard, and in its territorial waters and exclusive economic area; (b) New operating methods in the fight against drug trafficking in order to address effectively changes in routes, technology and improvement of methods used by drug traffickers to conceal and transport drugs; and (c) The Carena Program, whose purpose is to maintain the operating capacity of the Mexican naval fleet. Through such activities, in 2002, Mexico was able to seize large amounts of illicit drugs and other substances.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction that this recommendation has been implemented.



RECOMMENDATION 8:

ENSURE THAT LEGISLATION IN THE MONEY LAUNDERING AREA INCLUDES ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS FOR THE ACTIVITIES OF OFF SHORE BANKS, CASINOS, REAL ESTATE BROKERAGES, ATTORNEYS, NOTARIES, ACCOUNTANTS AND FOR THE MOVEMENT OF CASH AND NEGOTIABLE BEARER INSTRUMENTS AND THAT THE OBLIGATION IS ESTABLISHED IN THE CONTROLLED SECTORS TO APPOINT ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003

Mexico reports that the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic is preparing a Federal Anti-Money Laundering Bill, which establishes an obligation to report pertinent unusual transactions carried out by non-financial institutions, such as certain professions and economic activities.

Mexico reports that, regarding the inclusion of attorneys and notaries in the Federal Anti-Money Laundering Bill, consideration is being given to whether such professionals carry out activities not covered by professional privilege and whether, therefore, they may be considered subjects obliged to report pertinent unusual suspicious transactions.

CICAD reiterates to Mexico the recommendation to include attorneys and notaries in the Federal Anti-Money Laundering Bill and to make mandatory the presences of the enforcement officials in sectors under its control, and it encourages the country to complete the legal procedures for passage and enactment of these legal instruments, if possible, by the end of 2004.

CONCLUSIONS

Since the First Evaluation Round 1999-2000 of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), Mexico has made major efforts to comply with its recommendations. These efforts were increased during the Second Evaluation Round 2001-2002.

Of the eight recommendations made, the country has fully implemented five, strengthening the treatment and rehabilitation area; the control measures area, especially in connection with controlled chemical substances to strengthen prevention of their diversion; and the supply reduction area, with a view to optimizing control of illicit drug trafficking via maritime routes and methods.

However, Mexico must still continue efforts to implement a process to measure crops that will enable it to obtain a useful tool to monitor and supervise the dynamics of illicit crops in the country and evaluate the effectiveness of eradication activities. It must also make efforts to evaluate the impact of comprehensive rural development programs in order to determine the extent to which the prevention mission is being accomplished. In addition, Mexico must ensure that money laundering legislation incorporates the necessary controls and that enactment procedures are streamlined.

CICAD acknowledge Mexico's commitment in the fulfillment of the recommendations given to the country in the Second Evaluation Round 2001-2002.