

**RECOMMENDATION 1:****APPROVE A BUDGET THAT WOULD ALLOW FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN****PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

Nicaragua reports that it negotiated a loan with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), to be disbursed over five years, which would be used to implement the Citizen Security Program. This Program includes, inter alia, activities designed to reduce drug demand consumption and illicit drug sales.

The country indicates that, to that end, it begun a pilot project, which also has funding from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

CICAD recognizes the efforts made by the country to obtain funding to implement its National Anti-Drug Plan. However, it urges Nicaragua to approve a budget that enables all areas of the Plan to be implemented.

**RECOMMENDATION 2:****REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS****PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2001****REITERATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

Nicaragua reports that the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters was ratified on September 24, 2002. The instrument of ratification was deposited with the Organization of American States (OAS) General Secretariat on November 25, 2002.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction that this recommendation has been implemented.

**RECOMMENDATION 3:****SIGN AND RATIFY THE THREE PROTOCOLS TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME****PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

Nicaragua reports that the protocols to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime have been signed and that the ratification process that would enable this to be ratified by the National Assembly has begun.

CICAD takes note of the signature of the three protocols and urges the country to continue with the corresponding procedures that would enable this recommendation to be implemented.



#### RECOMMENDATION 4:

### **IMPLEMENT THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM OF UNIFORM DATA ON DRUG USE (SIDUC) IN ORDER TO UNIFORM THE SYSTEM THAT COMPILES DATA AND EXCHANGES INFORMATION AMONG PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS WORKING IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS**

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Nicaragua reports that, with CICAD's technical and financial support through the SIDUC project, implementation of this recommendation is under way. It also reports that data had begun to be gathered at the national level on drug use among secondary school students and in public and private treatment centers.

The country underscores that technical and financial assistance are needed to compile data on the general population that would enable it to obtain complete information on drug use in Nicaragua.

CICAD recognizes the efforts and progress made by the country and encourages it to continue to fully implement this recommendation.

#### RECOMMENDATION 5:

### **EVALUATE THE PROCESSES AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE DARE PREVENTION PROGRAM IN SCHOOLS**

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Nicaragua reports that implementation of the recommendation is under way. The prevention program to which the recommendation refers is in its third year of execution. In late 2002, this program was evaluated regarding its acceptance and its impact on the school age population.

The country notes that the results obtained were favorable and enabled it to obtain funding for the program for 2003.

CICAD recognizes the progress made and urges the country to implement the recommendation.

#### RECOMMENDATION 6:

### **REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO TEST, APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT MINIMUM STANDARDS OF TREATMENT FOR DRUG ABUSE**

**PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2001  
REITERATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

Nicaragua indicates that the recommendation is being implemented. The minimum standards of treatment, developed with the financial and technical support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), were validated in a pilot project in five treatment centers and the process of approval is under way. The country indicates that the time estimated for this recommendation to be fully implemented is May 2004.

CICAD recognizes the progress made by Nicaragua and urges it to approve and implement, by the date indicated by the country, the minimum standards of treatment for drug abuse, a recommendation assigned to the country during the First Evaluation Round 1999-2000.

**RECOMMENDATION 7:****REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO IMPLEMENT A NATIONAL STUDY THAT WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO ESTIMATE DRUG USE PREVALENCE AND TRENDS AMONG THE GENERAL POPULATION IN THE COUNTRY****PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2001  
REITERATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

Nicaragua indicates that it had not begun to implement the recommendation. However, it indicates that it has a series of indicators that will enable an information system to be created to establish the status of drug use. This is to be implemented as part of the schedule of activities proposed for the preparatory work for the Mesoamerican Dialogue, adopted in the Tuxtla Agreements concluded between Central America and Mexico.

In addition, the country states that to conduct a national study to obtain data on the general population, a household survey was planned, for which the technical and financial assistance of CICAD was requested.

CICAD takes note of the planning described by Nicaragua to move forward in implementing this recommendation and urges the country to implement it fully, if possible, by the end of 2004.

**RECOMMENDATION 8:****REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999 – 2000 TO CARRY OUT PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN THE WORKPLACE****PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2001  
REITERATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

Nicaragua indicates that it had not begun to implement this recommendation. It indicates that it lacks resources to address this population and that it had directed its efforts towards sectors considered more vulnerable.

CICAD urges the country to pay due attention to this recommendation and make efforts to implement it if possible, by the end of 2004, as it was assigned to the country during the First Evaluation Round 1999-2000.

**RECOMMENDATION 9:****DEVELOP A MECHANISM TO FACILITATE THE EXCHANGE OF OPERATIONAL INFORMATION AND COOPERATION AMONG THE AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTROLLING PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS****PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

Nicaragua indicates that it had implemented this recommendation by signing institutional agreements among the national entities involved, for the establishment of an operations communication mechanism among them, in the framework of the legislation in force and of their respective areas of competence.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction that the recommendation has been implemented.

**RECOMMENDATION 10:****PROVIDE THE HUMAN AND TECHNICAL RESOURCES NEEDED FOR FULL ENFORCEMENT OF EXISTING LEGISLATION ON PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES****PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

Nicaragua reports that it had not begun to implement this recommendation owing to lack of human and financial resources.

CICAD urges Nicaragua to make the efforts necessary to begin to implement this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 11:****CREATE A REGISTRY OF THE NUMBER OF PRE-EXPORT NOTIFICATIONS OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES SENT BY THE COUNTRY****PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

Nicaragua reports that the Medicine and Food Accreditation and Regulation Office of the Ministry of Health has a computer system that maintains records of import applications sent to it by exporting companies, in keeping with the requirements of Law 292, the Medications and Pharmacies Act, Article 34 of the regulations, numbers 1–9, thereto, and that it keeps detailed records of each product.

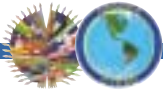
Nicaragua indicates that it does not export controlled chemical substances, however, it does not make reference to re-exportation and chemical substances in transit.

CICAD recognizes the progress made and encourages Nicaragua to fully comply with the recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 12:****REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999-2000 TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT CRIMINALIZES AND REGULATES AS AN OFFENSE THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURE, TRAFFICKING, IMPORT AND EXPORT OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION****PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2001****REITERATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

Nicaragua reports that it had drafted, in the framework of the international conventions in this area, the Preliminary Draft Law on Firearms. On January 10, 2004, the executive branch introduced in the National Assembly the bill that criminalizes the offenses mentioned in this recommendation.

CICAD recognizes the progress made and urges Nicaragua to continue with efforts to implement the recommendation fully if possible, by the end of 2004, as it was assigned to the country in the First Evaluation Round 1999-2000.

**RECOMMENDATION 13:****REITERATE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999-2000 TO CREATE A REGISTER OR DATABASE CONTAINING INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF SEIZURES FOR FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION MADE IN CONNECTION WITH ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING****PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

Nicaragua indicates that it had implemented the recommendation by strengthening the method for collecting data on seized goods, including firearms and ammunition, for which the Drug Investigation and the Judicial Assistance Offices of the National Police and the National Council for the Fight against Drugs have responsibility.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction for the fulfillment of this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 14:****DEVELOP LEGISLATION THAT CRIMINALIZES AND PUNISHES ALL THE ACTS SET FORTH IN THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION****PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

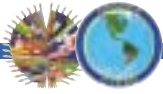
Nicaragua indicates that implementation of the recommendation is under way. Currently, a new Penal Code criminalizing the offenses to which the recommendation refers is now before the National Assembly.

CICAD encourages Nicaragua to continue with the corresponding procedures to ensure that this legislation is enacted.

**RECOMMENDATION 15:****ESTABLISH ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS TO PREVENT THE OFFENSE OF MONEY LAUNDERING IN ACTIVITIES SUCH AS OFFSHORE BANKS, CASINOS, REAL STATE, LAWYERS, NOTARIES AND ACCOUNTANTS****PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 2003**

Nicaragua indicates that implementation of this recommendation had begun in that new legislation on Psychotropic Substances, Narcotics and Money Laundering has been drafted in which these types of control will be included.

CICAD appreciates the effort made and encourages Nicaragua to implement the recommendation fully.



## CONCLUSIONS

Nicaragua has shown progress regarding the recommendations in the area of control of pharmaceutical products and controlled chemical substances, having developed mechanisms to facilitate the exchange of operational information, while in the demand reduction area, it has moved ahead in compiling information on student drug use.

However, it does not show progress in the development of a study that will allow to estimate drug use in the general population. Moreover, minimum standards of care in drug abuse treatment have not yet been approved or implemented.

In respect of control of firearms, corruption and money laundering, the country has not yet approved the administrative and legislative provisions and controls recommended to it. Also ratification of the three protocols to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime remain pending by the National Assembly.

CICAD views with concern that Nicaragua still lacks a budget for implementation of all areas of the National Anti-Drug Plan and encourages the country to make efforts to ensure that this situation is overcome in order for the country to make a more effective contribution to the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere.