

RECOMMENDATION 1:

RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS

Canada informs that it expects this recommendation to be fulfilled by January of 2003. The Canadian Constitution requires that the government already have implemented firearms-related measures before the country can ratify the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunitions, Explosives and other Related Materials. To that effect, a comprehensive overhaul of the entire domestic system to monitor and regulate firearms and explosives is in progress.

CICAD acknowledges the progress made by Canada and encourages completion of the recommendation by the target date.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

DETERMINE THE AVERAGE AGE OF THE FIRST TIME USE OF DRUGS OTHER THAN CANNABIS AND ALCOHOL

Canada informs that provincial student surveys have, to date, been the source of information on the first time use of drugs. Despite the high quality and richness of this information, provincial student surveys cannot provide complete and consistent coverage required to present a truly national, composite picture which poses problems as regards such drugs as cocaine or heroin. In order to overcome such problems, a survey called the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY) began to be conducted cyclically since 1994-95 addressing, among other things, drug abuse by youth aged 10-11. By 2008 information shall be available for the 10-25 years old age cohort. Partial data on first-time use of drugs among young people aged between 10 and 17 should be available in 2002, based on the findings of the 2000-2001 cycle of the NLSCY.

CICAD acknowledges the efforts made by Canada and urges Canada to continue its efforts to develop alternative data sources for this information.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

DETERMINE THE ANNUAL INCIDENCE OF NEW DRUG USERS NATIONALLY

Canada informs that provincial student surveys will continue to serve as the primary source of information on the incidence of new drug users until 2002, when the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY) will provide data on new drug users for youth aged 10-17. Full data from the NLSCY, for the complete youth cohort ages 10-25 will become available in 2008.

CICAD acknowledges the efforts made by Canada and urges Canada to continue its efforts to develop alternative data sources for this information.

RECOMMENDATION 4:

CONTINUE THE EVALUATION OF THE DRUG COURT PROGRAM

Canada informs that it is continuing the evaluation of the Drug Treatment Court Program, which has been in operation in Toronto since 1998 and that discussions are being held with a view to implementing a second Drug Treatment Court Project in Vancouver.

CICAD is satisfied with the completion of this recommendation.



RECOMMENDATION 5:

DEVELOP A NATIONAL MONITORING CENTER ON DRUG ABUSE IN ORDER TO GATHER INFORMATION OF FEDERAL, TERRITORIAL, PROVINCIAL AND MUNICIPAL LEVELS, INCLUDING INFORMATION ABOUT NGO-ADMINISTERED PROGRAMS

Canada informs that the establishment of a national monitoring centre on drug abuse is made difficult by its political structure, given that responsibility for the delivery of health care services and education rests with provincial and territorial governments. In order to overcome such difficulties, however, a Clearinghouse has been established under the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse, a national NGO mandated to provide a centralized source of information on alcohol and other drugs.

CICAD is satisfied with the completion of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

CONTINUE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO OTHER COUNTRIES WITH RESPECT TO DRUG EFFORTS

Canada informs that it has implemented a programme to contribute to international/multilateral efforts to control illicit drugs under the coordination of an interdepartmental committee of federal departments and agencies called the International Drug Issues Committee (IDC). A considerable number of assistance projects were listed.

CICAD is pleased that this recommendation was fulfilled.

RECOMMENDATION 7:

DEVELOP SYSTEMS TO ESTIMATE AND MONITOR CANNABIS CULTIVATION

Canada reports that a variety of systems are in place to estimate and monitor marijuana cultivation. These include ground and aerial surveys and data collected from plant seizure reports, and enforcement and crop eradication programs. Recently, Canada launched a new program involving the police and the Canadian Space Agency to enhance detection and monitoring of illegal crop production. Canada notes that a complete picture of marijuana cultivation is difficult to obtain because a significant portion of cultivation is indoors.

CICAD is satisfied with the completion of this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 8:

CONTINUE THE DESTRUCTION OF SYNTHETIC DRUG PROCESSING FACILITIES

Canada informs that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) has allocated considerable resources to the destruction of synthetic drug processing facilities, with the technical support of the Drug Analysis Service of Health Canada. In particular, a new program entitled "The National Precursor Chemical Diversion Program" came into being, with the aim of preventing the diversion of precursor chemicals and to detect clandestine laboratory sites through chemical tracking.

CICAD is pleased that Canada is continuing with the destruction of synthetic drug processing facilities.



RECOMMENDATION 9:

APPLY THE 1988 VIENNA CONVENTION CONSISTENT WITH PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 12

Canada informs that it expects this recommendation to be fulfilled during 2002. The country is developing new regulations for the control of precursor chemicals which shall enable it to meet its international obligations under Article 12 of the 1988 UN Convention.

CICAD acknowledges the progress made by Canada and encourages completion of the recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 10:

DEVELOP REGULATIONS FOR THE CONTROL OF CHEMICAL PRECURSORS

Canada informs it expects this recommendation to be fulfilled during 2002. The country is in the process of developing a regulatory framework for the control of precursor chemicals and other substances frequently used in the clandestine production of controlled substances.

CICAD acknowledges the progress made by Canada and encourages completion of the recommendation by the target date.

RECOMMENDATION 11:

CONTINUE TO ESTABLISH MECHANISMS THAT ENSURE THAT IMPORTING OR IN-TRANSIT COUNTRIES ISSUE THE NECESSARY LICENSES OR AUTHORIZATIONS FOR RELEASE FOR EXPORT OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITIONS, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS

Canada informs that it expects this recommendation to be fulfilled by January 2003. According to the country, exports of all rifled weapons firing centre-fire ammunitions and all military weapons and explosives require export and import permits. Changes to relevant legislation are being made to further extend controls of exports of firearms, explosives, ammunitions and other related materials.

CICAD takes note that Canada suggests that it would be helpful if a central information database facilitated by OAS/CICAD were established to provide contact information on the in-transit authority in each country of the hemisphere.

CICAD acknowledges the efforts made by Canada towards the implementation of this recommendation and encourages it to complete the recommendation by the target date.

RECOMMENDATION 12:

ESTABLISH A MECHANISM TO POSITIVELY IDENTIFY WEAPONS SEIZED IN RELATION TO DRUG TRAFFICKING

Canada informs that it expects this recommendation will be fulfilled by January 2003. According to the country, a number of monitoring and reporting systems on weapons seizures are in operation, but that there are significant technical complexities and resource demands in developing and monitoring a database that would allow the identification of weapons seized in relation to drug trafficking. Nevertheless, the creation of a comprehensive database that would address such deficiencies is being considered.



CICAD acknowledges the progress made by Canada and encourages completion of the recommendation by the target date.

RECOMMENDATION 13:

ESTABLISH MECHANISMS TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC DATA ON THE NUMBER OF ADMINISTRATIVE OR REGULATORY SANCTIONS APPLIED BY SUPERVISORY AGENCIES TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS OR JUDICIAL SANCTIONS

Canada informs that a framework for implementing this recommendation has been developed, through the establishment of the Financial Transaction and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC), which is expected to become operational by March 2002.

CICAD acknowledges the progress made by Canada and encourages completion of the recommendation by the target date.

RECOMMENDATION 14:

CREATE A MECHANISM TO REGISTER AND/OR DATA BANK TO IDENTIFY THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS CHARGED AND CONVICTED FOR CRIMES RELATED TO DRUG TRAFFICKING

Canada informs that this recommendation has been fulfilled through the operation of the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, which collects crime and traffic statistics reported by all police agencies in the country, as well as by the Adult Criminal Court Survey and Youth Court Survey, which collect information on cases heard by such courts.

CICAD is satisfied with the completion of this recommendation.

FINAL COMMENT

Canada has made considerable efforts to comply with the complete range of recommendations made to it under the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism. Where it has proven difficult, up to the present, to completely fulfill recommendations, attempts have been made to overcome the obstacles involved and progress towards fulfillment achieved.

CICAD notes with satisfaction Canada's commitment to the objectives of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism and encourages it to persist in such commitment.