

**RECOMMENDATION 1:****RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS**

Costa Rica reports that it has implemented this recommendation by enacting Law No. 8042.

CICAD expresses with satisfaction the fulfillment of this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 2:****ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT THE NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG PLAN**

Costa Rica reported that on September 11, 2001, the decree adopting the National Anti-Drug Plan was enacted, and that the Plan entered into force on October 1, 2001. This document integrates the separate efforts that were being made in different areas related to the drug problem.

CICAD expresses with satisfaction the fulfillment of this recommendation in the adoption and implementation of the National Anti-Drug Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION 3:****SIGN AND RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS**

Costa Rica has not signed the Convention and reported that the signature process would take roughly four months; after that time, the Convention would be submitted to the Legislative Assembly for ratification.

CICAD urges the country to take the necessary steps to effectively comply with this recommendation and, reiterates the recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 4:****DEVELOP AND DELIVER PREVENTION PROGRAMS FOR PRISON OFFICERS AND OUT OF SCHOOL YOUTH**

Costa Rica reported that it has partially complied with this recommendation. It has launched an informal education program for out of school youth and plans to begin a program for prison officers in February 2002; responsibilities have already been assigned to the Ministry of Justice, the Institute on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency (IAFA), and the National Center for Drug Prevention (CENADRO).

CICAD acknowledges the progress made and invites Costa Rica to continue with its efforts to comply with the implementation of this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 5:****STRENGTHEN PROGRAMS TARGETING PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN, THE WORKPLACE, AND WOMEN**

Costa Rica reported that in January 2001, Law No. 8093 was enacted, creating a junior high



school drug prevention program, whose execution will begin in the second half of 2002. In addition, for several years, the "Adventures for Life" school program has been in operation. The "DARE" program has been operating for 10 years, and the interscholastic comprehensive prevention festival took place.

As regards workplace programs, the Institute for Alcoholism and Drug Addictions (IAFA) is offering prevention programs, which are implemented in keeping with company demand.

Furthermore, the "Following the Community Path" program targets Costa Rican women.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made by Costa Rica to fulfill this recommendation, and invites the government to continue to implement it.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 6:**

##### **APPLY MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAMS NATIONALLY**

Costa Rica reported that it complied with this recommendation by creating an accreditation office and an accreditation committee within the IAFA, and publishing the respective regulatory documents.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction with the fulfillment of this recommendation.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 7:**

##### **DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN FOR ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM FOR DETERMINING REQUIREMENTS IN TERMS OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

The country does not report the development of a specific action plan for estimating controlled substance requirements. However, since January 2001 it has been taking steps to improve current control registries and procedures, such as coding local purchasers of the substances most widely used to manufacture drugs, which will make it possible to identify the real needs of the legal industry.

CICAD recognizes the efforts made by Costa Rica to continue with efforts to fulfill this recommendation.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 8:**

##### **CREATE A REGISTER AND/OR DATABANK TO IDENTIFY THE NUMBER OF SEIZURES, OPERATIONS, ROUTES AND ORIGINS OF THE FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS IN DRUG TRAFFICKING**

Costa Rica indicates that starting September 2002, a database will be implement as to do the, legal and regulatory reforms relating to the possession and importation of firearms are required. It is working on said reforms.

In view of the information provided, CICAD encourages the Costa Rica authorities to continue their efforts to fulfill with this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 9:**

**CREATE A MECHANISM OR AUTHORITY TO CONTROL THE REGISTER OF THE MANUFACTURE, IMPORT, EXPORT, AND TRANSIT OF FIREARMS, EXPLOSIVES, AMMUNITION, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS**

Costa Rica reported that it has complied with this recommendation, through Law No. 7530.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction with the fulfillment of this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 10:**

**CREATE AN ENTITY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COORDINATION OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE REGARDING THE MANUFACTURE, EXPORT, AND TRANSIT OF FIREARMS, EXPLOSIVES, AMMUNITION, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS BOTH NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY**

Costa Rica reports that it has implemented this recommendation by enacting Law No. 427-2001, appointing to a General Director of Firearms to carry out and coordinate at the international level.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction with the fulfillment of this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION 11:**

**DEVELOP THE CAPACITY TO ESTIMATE THE HUMAN, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC COST OF THE DRUG PROBLEM**

CICAD concludes that implementation of this recommendation requires that a project be designed that lays the methodological bases for conducting a study on the social, human, and economic costs of the drug problem.

In this regard, CICAD, along with states of the Hemisphere that have made progress in the area, will present, during the first half of 2002, a proposal for a basic, homogeneous methodology applicable to all countries.

**FINAL COMMENT**

CICAD appreciates Costa Rica's commitment to complying with the recommendations issued in the first evaluation round of the MEM of 1999-2000. The country has complied with the implementation of the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Trafficking of Firearms and other Related Materials, as well the implementation of the National Anti-Drug Plan. Concerning Demand Reduction, CICAD invites the country to continue to develop the design of an education policy and programs directed to primary school students in the work place.

