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**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT**  
**ON THE PLAN OF ACTION TO IMPLEMENT**  
**THE ANTIDRUG STRATEGY IN**  
**THE HEMISPHERE**

## I. DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

- 1. *Mandate the Group of Experts on Demand Reduction to continue to examine the subject of Demand Reduction, and periodically to incorporate its conclusions and recommendations in the Plan of Action.*
- 2. *Establish a mechanism to compile and disseminate information on experiences and successes related to demand reduction programming and initiatives.*
- 3. *Prepare statistics on drug consumption in countries, including illicit drugs and licit pharmaceuticals.*
- 4. *Compile and disseminate information regarding best practices in the areas of prevention and treatment in relation to special groups such as youth, women, indigenous peoples, etc.*
- 6. *At technical meetings held by CICAD on this subject, promote the preparation of clear guidelines outlining those aspects and factors that, from a conceptual and methodological standpoint, should be included in a national prevention program, with a view to achieving standardization at the inter-American level on the basis of successful experiences carried out thus far.*
- 23. *Assist with training.*
- 26. *Develop impact indicators regarding programs and initiatives.*

Drug abuse prevention is a key element of the ***Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere*** and of all national drug control plans. The demand reduction section of the ***Plan of Action*** concentrates on disseminating information about experiences, successes and best practices, and on measuring the impact of prevention and treatment programs through statistical research and impact indicators.

The Executive Secretariat interprets member states interest in best practices as a desire to ensure that their program resources are being appropriately targeted, and are achieving satisfactory results. Indeed, the question of trends and best practices in prevention and treatment has been discussed in depth at both meetings of CICAD's new Expert Group on Demand Reduction (July 1997 and March 1998). The majority of CICAD's prevention and treatment programs are geared to professionals in demand reduction, and involve the pooling of experiences and transfer of knowledge, through training, upgrading of skills, and professional seminars, as well as formal educational opportunities.

### 1. CICAD's Expert Group on Demand Reduction

The Expert Group met for the second time in Mexico City in March 1998, attended by representatives of twenty countries, and examined the desirability of establishing minimum standards of care in drug treatment, the accreditation of treatment centers, and the licensing of treatment providers. The recommendations are found in document CICAD/doc.953/98.

In 1998, in order to help member states implement these recommendations, CICAD and the Pan American Health Organization have cooperated with four member states (Ecuador, Panama, Peru and Uruguay) to help them develop standards of care for drug treatment centers, and make those standards operational. The Dominican Republic has also requested assistance for 1999. CICAD's Web site includes the texts of the treatment standards of several countries. The third meeting of the Expert Group will be held in Uruguay early in 1999.



***Drug abuse prevention for street children in the Andean***

***Region:*** This project, sponsored by the US and Japanese Governments, helps train street educators in substance abuse problems, develops training manuals and prevention materials, and fosters networks of organizations working with street children. In-service job training for youth at risk is being provided through the Working Child Program in Quito, Ecuador, and the QHARURU Project in La Paz, Bolivia, which are also providing basic schooling. As a result of a national seminar sponsored by CICAD in Venezuela in 1997, the National Anti-Drug Commission and the NGO *Prevencion Alternativa* have established a prevention network for street educators. In 1998, training courses for street educators from throughout the Andean region were held in Bolivia and Colombia, thanks to the Comunidad San Gregorio in Bogota, Colombia.

## 2. Training and Human Resources Development

Some fellowship opportunities are offered to attend university-level courses in demand reduction issues as the result of cooperation among interested Governments, the OAS Fellowships Program and CICAD, where each subsidizes a portion of the costs. CICAD is attempting to find more such educational offerings:

- since 1993, the Spanish Government and the OAS have offered fellowships for a post-graduate diploma course in addictions studies at the Complutense University in Madrid; for the 1998-99 academic year, a total of ten fellowships were awarded.
- in 1998, for the first time, the Government of Israel offered scholarships for English-speakers at a one-month course in Israel on addictions studies.

In 1998, CICAD also organized:

- training of trainers workshops in drug abuse prevention methodologies for youth and parents, in cooperation with the Inter-American Children's Institute (Peru, Honduras, Uruguay, Dominica, Bolivia and Belize)

- courses in drug treatment, rehabilitation and relapse prevention for counsellors in the English-speaking Caribbean (regional courses in Grenada, Belize, and Bluefields, Nicaragua)
- in-service training in treatment methods and technical needs assessments in Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Guyana
- a national training course for treatment professionals working with high-risk youth in Bolivia, using trainers from the Comunidad San Gregorio in Colombia
- two Central American Atlantic Coast regional training courses in community mobilization, strategic planning and decision-making, program evaluation and research to measure local attitudes about the drug problem (Panama City, Panama; and Limon, Costa Rica)
- an ongoing Central American exchange program with the M.A. Program in Intercultural Public Health at the University of the Autonomous Region of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua (URACCAN)
- training in drug abuse prevention and treatment for nursing school students. This new pilot project, funded by the Government of Japan, has set up local curriculum committees in four nursing schools in the hemisphere (Carabobo, Venezuela; Cordoba, Argentina; Bogota, Colombia, and Sao Paulo, Brazil), and training in substance abuse issues has begun for the nursing school faculty. The project will expand to Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador.

### **3. Information – Inter-American Drug Information System (CICAD/IADIS)**

#### **3.1. Documentation/Referential data**

CICAD has fully entered the INTERNET age, and regularly posts on its Web page information about its projects and programs in demand reduction. The Executive Secretariat has developed a "webliography" (bibliography of web sites) of approximately fifty sites containing information about prevention and treatment programs and projects. As sites are verified for content and appropriateness, links to each will be provided from CICAD's own Web page.

In its continuing effort to facilitate demand reduction information to OAS Member States, CICAD/IADIS has developed three databases with data on prevention institutions, programs and experts. Information on the prevention programs and institutions' databases are available at <http://www.oas.org/EN/PROG/w3/index.htm>. Information on prevention experts is available through CICAD's Inter-American Drug Documentation and Information Center (IADIC).

IADIS' second CD-ROM entitled "Illicit Drugs," produced in the fall of 1998 and distributed at CICAD's XXIV Regular Session, provides over 43,500 references to materials on prevention, and treatment and rehabilitation, in addition to other demand reduction-related topics.

### 3.2. Statistics – Module on Drug Use Data (SIDUC)

The *Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere*, and its Action Plan, give high importance to statistics on the use of both illicit drugs and licit pharmaceuticals. The Executive Secretariat of CICAD has thus developed SIDUC to help member states monitor problems associated with drug use and abuse, provide adequate program responses and gauge their effectiveness. The Module, still in its initial stages in most countries, will include surveys in drug treatment centers, emergency rooms, detention centers, and high schools, and, if funding were available, general household surveys.

***SIDUC has made the following progress over the last year:***

- ***The first SIDUC report*** was presented to the twenty-second regular session of CICAD (Lima, November 1997), and three months later, a technical meeting was held in Panama in which experts from nineteen countries assessed the research findings. The drug treatment center surveys showed, among other findings, that a majority of patients were between the ages of 25 and 34, most were either unemployed or students, and nearly all patients started their substance use with alcohol and/or marijuana. These data are limited and must be complemented by research on other population groups, particularly school children.
- ***The second phase of the project*** consisted of surveys of drug use conducted in emergency rooms in 1998 in twenty countries, along with further treatment center studies. The preliminary findings are being presented to the twenty-fourth regular session of CICAD.
- ***The EPI-SIDUC software*** was improved during the year, to facilitate data entry and analysis.
- ***The international SIDUC advisory group*** met on three occasions to discuss and refine the survey questionnaires and ensure technical standards for the reports.

***SIDUC training activities in 1998***

- A national training course on the SIDUC methodology was held in ***Brazil (May 1998)*** for technical staff of all the collaborating centers of the National Drug Commission (CONFEN). This course was conducted in cooperation with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP). The SIDUC instruments were translated into Portuguese, and are currently being revised and refined in Brazil by national experts.
- A training seminar was held ***for twenty national coordinators of SIDUC (Medellin, Colombia, April 1998)***, focusing on sampling size, field methodologies and data collection techniques.

SIDUC faces obstacles in the short term, such as the large differences in research infrastructure in different countries, and the need for trained personnel to conduct the surveys and analyze the data. Financial assistance to CICAD from the Government of the United States has been instrumental in launching SIDUC in twenty countries, but additional funding support will be needed on a sustained basis to enable member states to establish trend data over several years.

In 1999, particular emphasis will be placed on implementing the SIDUC program in the Caribbean region, in accordance with the Barbados Plan of Action. The Executive Secretariat of CICAD developed a research proposal for funding,

which is receiving favorable consideration by the European Commission and UNDCP.

To help prevention institutions gain access to the INTERNET, CICAD is providing them with computers, scanners, printers and modems, as equipment and/or funding become available. In 1998, the Government of Korea again donated ten computers, which CICAD is shipping to drug researchers in Central America and the Caribbean in support of the Statistical Module on Drug Use Data System (SIDUC).

## II. RESEARCH

- 5. *Strengthen its capacity and assist countries in monitoring trends and promote research on drug abuse, including studies on the health and social costs of substance abuse.*
- 24. *Assist the countries in data base development and data gathering regarding all aspects of the drug issue.*
- 26. *Develop impact indicators regarding programs and initiatives.*

The Executive Secretariat has been working hard to increase the level and quality of research on drug use, in the conviction that prevention and treatment programs must be driven by knowledge and science about the nature of addiction, risk and protective factors, and the characteristics of different populations of drug users or potential drug users. Research is also essential to measuring the impact of demand reduction programs.



In addition to this ongoing program, CICAD is working with the Johns Hopkins University to investigate drug use among adolescents in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic, under a research grant from the U.S. National Institute on Drug Abuse.

In 1998, at the request of the Government of Belize, CICAD provided technical assistance to the National Drug Council in its analysis of a survey of drug use among high school students.

## III. OTHER

### 1. Technical assistance in project development

At the request of the Peruvian Government, the Executive Secretariat of CICAD provided technical assistance to the National Drug Commission (CONTRADROGAS) in the development of demand reduction projects in a joint effort by the Peruvian Government, CICAD and the Inter-American Development Bank to raise funding for demand reduction and alternative development programs in Peru.

#### IV. RESOURCES NEEDED IN 1999- PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES, INFORMATION AND STATISTICS RELATED TO DEMAND REDUCTION

Activity/Project	Estimated Cost (1999)
Assist member states in developing and implementing minimum standards of care in drug treatment	\$375,000
Prevention research	\$200,000
Expansion of prevention training in nursing schools	\$250,000
Demand Reduction Expert Group meeting(s) @\$30,000 each	\$ 60,000
Support for development of post-graduate courses in addictions studies at Latin American and Caribbean universities	\$250,000
Training program in demand reduction for the Americas	\$700,000
SIDUC surveys, training, international advisory group costs	\$800,000
Information services	
Product development/Identification/ Expansion of access to demand reduction information	\$ 80,000
TOTAL	\$2,715,000

## SUPPLY REDUCTION

### I. CONTROL AND INTERDICTION

- 7. *Assist in promoting greater coordination among law enforcement agencies/officials and among the judiciary.*
- 8. *Promote and facilitate better coordination in intelligence gathering/exchange and regarding drug-related investigations internationally.*
- 23. *Assist with training.*
- 27. *Identify and compile information concerning existing training activities being carried out by agencies/organizations and further coordinating training initiatives being contemplated by CICAD with these existing programs.*

Communication and the exchange of intelligence and information play an important role in successful monitoring, investigation, interdiction and prosecution of drug-related cases. Equally important are cooperation and collaboration among agencies and officials, in country and internationally, involved in drug law enforcement and prosecution. Within the framework of the Plan of Action, the Executive Secretariat has been pursuing the following activities to promote or facilitate the foregoing:

#### 1. Drug Control Telecommunication Network for Precursor Chemicals (RETCOD/Precursors)

RETCOD/Precursors is a computer and radio-based system, currently being implemented in South America. The network is intended to promote and facilitate secure communication and cooperation among those responsible for the control of chemicals. A more detailed discussion of this initiative can be found in the **Control Measures** section of this report.

#### 2. Training

The importance of communication and the exchange of information as well as the need for cooperation are re-enforced during the training workshops organized by the Executive Secretariat. While some of these workshops are detailed in other parts of this report, it is important to note in particular the emphasis given to this in the training courses carried out in conjunction with the Governments of Spain and Canada.

##### *CICAD/Government of Spain Training courses (international cooperation on legal assistance):*

- May 1998, *Antigua, Guatemala*: for Central American countries.
- November 1998, *Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia*: Mercosur and Andean Community countries

##### *CICAD/Government of Canada Training Courses:*

- July 1998: 10<sup>th</sup> Inter-American Drug Control Workshop at the Canadian Police College in *Ottawa* which devoted considerable time to the issue of money laundering control.
- November 1998: *Bahamas*, money laundering investigations training programs for Caribbean Countries



### 3. CICAD's Money Laundering Control Expert Group

The Expert Group has developed a guide to promote cooperation, information exchange and to facilitate better coordination in intelligence gathering and exchange on drug and related matters that can be accessed electronically through CICAD's web page. At this time it provides a listing of central authorities through whom cooperation, information and mutual legal assistance can be obtained. It is limited only by whether countries have or have not provided this information to the Secretariat.

### 4. Information- Inter-American Drug Information System (CICAD/IADIS)

#### 4.1. Statistics- Module for the Control Area (CICDAT)

The Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere and the Plan of Action for its implementation, encourage increased international cooperation in the standardized collection of material and data analysis. Both are important elements which support the decision making process and the establishment of adequate national and hemispheric anti-drug policies. In 1987, and in the framework of CICAD/IADIS, the Executive Secretariat of CICAD created the Inter-American Data Bank as a mechanism with the principal objective of continuous, systematic and standardized gathering of national data on drug control and consumption. Time series data from issues such as drug seizures, chemical precursors and substances, laboratories, eradicated, fumigated or abandoned areas, arms, money and real-estate, and captured persons, are already available through the CICAD Statistical Bulletin. The latest edition (1998) of the Bulletin has just been released.

A Technical Meeting, which took place in the Dominican Republic (June 22 to 24, 1998), for the evaluation of the CICDAT project concluded that

*Problems encountered during CICDAT development:* 1. The considerable difference in infrastructure and training level in place in the respective countries. 2. The lack of an institutionalized national system for the collection of statistical information. 3. The lack of specialized personnel.

due to the potential use of CICDAT in the projected "Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism" (MEM) it is necessary to continue and to strengthen the CICDAT module in order to achieve the uniform collection, centralization and analysis of the distinct supply control variables, and to obtain the data necessary for the construction of statistical indicators which allow greater knowledge of the problem and the redirection of supply control plans, programs, and policies.

***Principal recommendations put forth at CICDAT Technical Meeting:***

- To encourage the support from the national authorities to achieve full implementation and development of the CICDAT module in the member countries.
- To establish an "Inter-American Statistical Drug Data Network" (RIDED), which integrates the control module (CICDAT) and the consumption module (SIDUC). This network will be integrated by the offices responsible for the consolidation of statistics, the Control and Consumption Areas of each member country, the respective Anti-Drug Commissions or their equivalent, and in the Inter-American [Statistics] Data Bank of the Executive Secretariat of CICAD. The Network could also be integrated with the respective agencies of the Permanent Observer Countries before the OAS, as well as with governmental International Organisms as requested.

## II. ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT

- 9. *Establish a mechanism for the compilation and dissemination of information concerning experiences in alternative development efforts and programs (including those of NGO's)*
- 10. *Assist member states making representation to international financial institutions for financial support for alternative development initiatives.*
- 11. *Develop a mechanism for the verification of illicit drug cultivation, environmental damage and identification of economic redevelopment of these areas in member states.*
- 25. *Assist countries with the identification of sources of money to support the implementation of the strategy*
- 27. *Identify and compile information concerning existing training activities being carried out by agencies/organizations and further coordinating training initiatives being contemplated by CICAD with these existing programs.*

Alternative development is an essential component of an integrated and comprehensive drug strategy to reduce illicit cultivation of drugs. The success of alternative development initiatives depends in part on the availability of sufficient financial support and the economic viability of the alternative proposed. The Executive Secretariat has initiated the following projects within the Plan of Action to address the foregoing aspects of alternative development:

### 1. Consultative Groups to Support Anti-Drug Efforts in Peru and Colombia

During the XXII Regular Session of CICAD, held in Lima, Peru in November 1997, members approved the recommendations of the Alternative Development Working Group (September 1997), requesting the Executive Secretariat to assist member states in formulating presentations to the international financial community. Moreover, they requested CICAD to assist in convening meetings of donors and consultative groups to fund alternative development projects.

The Executive Secretariat, working with the Peruvian government and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), has invited the international community to participate in a consultative group meeting. The meeting is to be held at the headquarters of the European Community (EC) in Brussels, Belgium (November 10-11, 1998). The objective of the meeting is to stimulate financial support for alternative development activities and drug prevention projects in Peru.

The Colombian Government has also requested CICAD's assistance to organize a similar meeting, and preliminary coordinations continue.

## **2. International Financial Institutions (IFIs)**

To assist countries with the identification of sources of money to support alternative development activities, the Executive Secretariat has prepared a directory of IFI's which includes the financial terms, the documents required, government input, the minimum expected yield, and details of who to contact in each IFI, as well as other international cooperation institutions. This guide incorporates not only those institutions which have already financed alternative development projects, but also potential funding institutions. The guide was distributed in Colombia during the meeting of the Alternative Development Group of Experts (September 22-24) and at the CICAD meeting in Honduras (Oct 26-30).

## **3. Generalized Land-Use Evaluation and Management Tool (GLEAM):**

With contracted assistance from the private sector, the Executive Secretariat initiated development of the Generalized Land-Use Evaluation and Management Tool (GLEAM).

In August 1998, the Executive Secretariat initiated a mini pilot project of the GLEAM Tool centered in the Upper Huallaga Valley of Peru. The Government of Peru has been actively involved in the formulation and implementation of this project. The Executive Secretariat has been working with the Peruvian National Drug Control Commission – CONTRADROGAS, to formulate the specifics of the project. The pilot project will be completed by mid-November 1998.

*How does GLEAM work?:* Using satellite imagery and aerial photography, identifies current land use patterns as well as areas under illicit cultivation. Supplementing this with other information and data sets, it is possible to build a multidimensional model or image of the land in question. The model documents the physical circumstances of the area and the infrastructure in place. GLEAM examines and documents the environmental conditions and allows for an assessment of the impact of such cultivation. Using GLEAM, it is possible to assess the current situation and, based upon various factors, develop economically viable alternatives for redevelopment, which may or may not be agriculturally based.

Pending the results of the pilot, consideration will be given to applying GLEAM to a larger area in Peru. The Government of Colombia has also expressed its interest in participating in a similar project.

## **4. Information - Inter-American Drug Information System CICAD/IADIS**

### **4.1. Documentation/Referential Data**

In support of the establishment of a mechanism for the compilation and dissemination of information concerning experiences in alternative development efforts and programs

(including those of NGO's), the Executive Secretariat has promoted the development of data bases containing detailed description of such projects, institutions and experts. Most of the information collected about such programs and projects are already available on the Internet, on CICAD's web page, under the Inter-American Drug Information System section <http://www.oas.org/EN/PROG/w3/index.htm>

The information concerning institutions and experts on alternative development is available in offline referential databases. Directories of programs and projects and institutions and experts have been compiled, and are available on the Internet. In addition to these compilations, bibliographic and Internet information on alternative development and other trafficking topics has been added to the Executive Secretariat's library collection.

IADIS second CD-ROM entitled "Illicit Drugs" provides over 400 references to materials on alternative development.

### **III. RESOURCES NEEDED IN 1999 – PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES, INFORMATION AND STATISTICS RELATED TO SUPPLY REDUCTION.**

<b>Activity/Project</b>	<b>Estimated Cost (1999)</b>
Control and Interdiction	
Training: CICAD-RCMP workshop	\$55,000
Alternative Development	
Consultative Group: Colombia	\$20,000
IFI Guide	\$1,000
Alternative development Information Center	\$35,000
GLEAM	
- Peru (post mini pilot)	\$550,000
- Colombia	\$550,000
Integrated Pest Management	\$85,000
Information services	
Product development/Identification-Expansion of access to supply reduction information	\$ 20,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,316,000</b>

## CONTROL MEASURES

### I. CONTROL OF PRECURSORS AND OTHER CHEMICALS.

- *12. Reinforce training initiatives regarding the control of precursor chemicals including the safe and acceptable disposal of these substances and the neutralization of chemical by-products on the environment with the assistance of relevant experts in these fields*
- *13. Develop model systems and procedures for the control of precursor chemicals, while not interfering with legitimate commercial or industrial trade in/use of these substances.*
- *14. Develop mechanisms to control precursor chemicals.*
- *15. Promote collaboration and cooperation among the countries regarding the movement of precursor chemicals using various mechanisms including standard form and procedures for verification.*
- *23. Assist with training*
- *28. Ensure strong coordination with the UNDCP and other appropriate international organizations to avoid overlap and duplication, promoting the development of collaboration and the pursuit of joint initiatives.*

Precursors and other chemicals used in the production of illicit drugs are being shipped to and through countries in this hemisphere. The 1988 UN Vienna Convention and the CICAD Model Regulations concerning precursor chemicals define controls over these substances.

The prevention of diversion and use of these substances is a priority area of concern to CICAD as defined by the Hemispheric Anti-Drug Strategy and its Plan of Action. Within the framework of the foregoing, the Executive Secretariat has developed an integrated strategy to address this issue. The objective of this strategy is to enhance the ability of member states to control the movement and use of precursors and other chemicals and, in so doing prevent or minimize their diversion. The scope of the strategy covers a plan of action as defined by the following activities:

#### 1. Administrative controls

CICAD's Expert Group on Precursor Chemicals met in Santa Cruz, Bolivia (September 28- October 2, 1998) to conclude its review of the Model Regulations to Control Chemical Precursors and Chemical Substances, Machines and Materials. During this meeting, the Expert Group also discussed administrative procedures and mechanisms as part of a model system for the control of these substances.



A draft of summary elements for a proposed model control system will be available by the end of calendar year 1998.

The issue of security and forgery related to permits, labeling of chemical shipments etc. was also discussed by the Expert Group. In this context, the Executive Secretariat is identifying methods that might be employed by member states to increase the security of chemical shipments. The results of this work will be disseminated to member states and included in CICAD's chemical control reference manual.

## 2. Cooperation, Coordination and Communication

The magnitude and complexity of the drug problem exceed the resources of any one country or organization and their capacity to deal with it alone. This is further complicated by the transnational nature of drug trafficking and related illegal criminal activities. As such, inter agency and international cooperation and communication are essential. The Executive Secretariat re-enforces the importance of the foregoing during all of its training programs as noted below. At the same time, the Executive Secretariat is working to facilitate this communication through the Drug Control Telecommunication Network for Precursor Chemicals (RETCOD/Precursors), also described in greater detail below.

The Executive Secretariat, working in partnership with the DEA, convened the Regional Conference on Chemical Diversion Control in Santiago, Chile (June 2-5, 1998). Participants included representatives from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay as well as observers from China, France, Germany, the Netherlands, World Customs Organization and INTERPOL. The objectives of the meeting were to increase awareness regarding the diversion of precursors and other chemicals and to develop strategies to deal with this problem. The participants focused particular attention on elements of an effective control strategy, domestic controls and chemical industry involvement in controlling diversion. Among the recommendations developed was a proposal that the RETCOD/Precursors system be extended to the entire region. A second one proposed that RETCOD/Precursors be linked with existing networks such as the World Customs Organization's (WCO) Regional Intelligence Liaison Office (RILO) network. The Executive Secretariat is pursuing these and other recommendations from the Santiago meeting.



## 3. Drug Control Telecommunication Network for Precursor Chemicals (RETCOD/Precursors)

RETCOD/Precursors is a computer and radio-based system, currently being implemented in South America. The network is intended to promote and facilitate secure communication and cooperation among those responsible for the control of chemicals. Using this system, these officials are able to exchange tactical

information on the movement of chemicals and coordinate their enforcement and interdiction activities.

The Executive Secretariat is continuing with the development and implementation of the RETCOD/Precursors network.

A total of fifty-one computer systems have been purchased and installed with the responsible authorities in the participating countries. The Executive Secretariat has been working with the *Secretaría de Defensa Social* in Bolivia, the Brazilian Federal Police, Colombia's *Dirección Antinarcticos* of their National Police Force, Chilean Customs and Police Officials, the *Dirección Nacional Antinarcticos* (DINANDRO) in Peru, and Venezuela's *Comision Nacional Antidrogas* (CNA).

Implementation of the radio component of the network has been initiated with technical and financial support from the United States of America and the Government of France. The Executive Secretariat is working with experts from the U.S. Department of Defense to assess technical requirements, select appropriate equipment, and proceed with training and first phase installation of the 4 base station radios in Brazil, Colombia and Peru. First phase implementation is scheduled to be completed by the end of 1998. Additional funding is being sought to finalize the radio component of the existing network in 1999. Funding is also required to expand the network to other regional components in the hemisphere.

#### 4. Training

Precursors and other chemicals are potentially dangerous to the law enforcement, Customs and other officers responsible for their control. It is therefore essential that these officers have the necessary skills to effectively and safely fulfill their duties. At the same time, such chemicals can harm the environment in areas where they are being used to process drugs.

The Executive Secretariat conducts various training workshops for officers in member states concerned with the control of illicit drug production, trafficking and use. As appropriate, the program includes components dealing with the use of chemicals in the

***The Executive Secretariat has pursued the following precursors chemical control training activities during 1998:***

- Working in partnership *with the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and the Government of Puerto Rico*, the Executive Secretariat convened a workshop for National Drug Control Administrators (December 1-5, 1997).
- *The Executive Secretariat and the Government of France*, through its Centre Interministeriel de Formation Anti Drogue (CIFAD), held a chemical control workshop *in Fort de France, Martinique* (December 8-12, 1997).
- In September 1998, *the Executive Secretariat, working in partnership with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)* conducted a workshop *in Guatemala City, Guatemala* regarding the control of precursors and other chemicals
- *The Executive Secretariat and the Government of France*, through its Centre Interministeriel de Formation Anti Drogue (CIFAD), held a Customs workshop *in Fort de France, Martinique* (October 5-9, 1998) regarding the control of contraband such as precursors, other chemicals, illicit drugs, arms and explosives.
- *The Executive Secretariat and the Caribbean Customs Law Enforcement Council (CCLEC)* conducted a workshop in Barbados (October 19-23, 1998) for customs officers from Eastern Caribbean countries.
- The Executive Secretariat held a chemical control workshop *in Lima, Peru* (November 16-20, 1998) for lawenforcement officers in South America
- *In support of its training activities, the Executive Secretariat developed a comprehensive reference manual* concerning precursors and other chemicals used in the production of illicit drugs for distribution at its workshops. The manual was prepared drawing on existing resources prepared by other organizations and agencies such as the DEA and the RCMP. It is being expanded to include sections on officer safety and the disposal of chemicals in a safe and environmentally acceptable manner and will be ready for distribution in February 1999

production of drugs, clandestine laboratories, the control of these substances and officer safety. Workshops are evaluated and programs are revised based upon feedback from participants.

## **5. Information – Inter-American Drug Information System (CICAD/IADIS)**

### **5.1. Documentation/Referential data**

In support of control measures activities, and particularly its training activities, the Executive Secretariat has promoted the collection and cataloging of extensive literature and websites in the area of officer safety, cleanup of clandestine laboratories, and disposal of chemicals as the basis for the revision of the reference manual concerning precursors and other chemicals used in the production of illicit drugs, developed by and distributed at the Executive Secretariat workshops.

Another important information support is the collection and cataloging of international and bilateral agreements, national legislation, institutions and projects related to the control of precursors and other chemicals. Much of this information is available in the online databases posted on the Internet (CICAD's web page). CICAD/IADIS' second CD-ROM entitled "Illicit Drugs", provides over 500 references to materials on precursor and essential chemicals as well as additional materials on control.

## **II. Legal Development**

- *16. Provide support and assistance in the review and modification of laws as part of a harmonization of legislation and judicial review*
- *17. Provide assistance/training in the use of intelligence in investigations and prosecutions.*
- *18. Establish a mechanism for the electronic exchange of information regarding judicial reform and modernization of criminal/legal procedures.*

### **1. Technical Support**

The Executive Secretariat continues to promote the harmonization of laws in member states through the work of CICAD's Expert Groups as well as through its training and technical assistance functions.

The Precursor Chemical Control and Money Laundering Control Expert Groups, have been at work in 1998 - two meetings of each group in May and October- to modify the corresponding OAS/CICAD model regulations so as to bring them current with conventional international practice in these two highly dynamic and evolving fields. This exercise represents a significant effort to update the model regulations for the first time



since they were adopted by the OAS General Assembly in 1991 and 1992 respectively. It is expected that this round of modifications will conclude in 1998 since the regulations cannot be always in flux as they are designed to provide guidance under the general goal of promoting harmonization of national measures.

In addition, both the Expert Groups have been carrying out a review of training needs, where required, in order to reinforce national legislation with the corresponding administrative support required to put it into effect. In the case of money laundering control, the training needs have been prioritized into cooperation and money laundering prevention in the financial sector, training to assist nascent financial intelligence units and training to assist prosecutors and judges to more effectively enforce national laws through increased prosecutions and convictions.

The Executive Secretariat has been active in providing technical assistance to a number of countries (five in 1998) providing advice on drug control and money laundering control laws, laws relating to forfeiture and to the establishing of financial intelligence units. This is an on-going commitment of the Secretariat that will continue to be offered as long as countries solicit the Secretariat's advice.

In addition, throughout 1998 the Executive Secretariat has been active in training programs either by participating in national programs or international programs set up by governments or other organizations or in cooperation with governments or other entities such as the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or the *Plan Nacional sobre Drogas* of the Government of Spain.

The issue of a mechanism for the electronic exchange of information on judicial reform and the modernization of criminal procedure exists through CICAD/IADIS, but thus far the Secretariat has not yet fully explored how it can be put to greatest effect. The Secretariat will carry on with this on-going task in the context of its priorities and will endeavor to find resources to promote its implementation.

## **2. Information - Inter-American Drug Information System (CICAD/IADIS)**

In an effort to provide the Executive Secretariat and Member states with relevant legal information as the basis for transnational cooperation, national legislation on all aspects of the drug problem have been collected, cataloged, and are currently being scanned so that they can be available on the Internet. Many national laws are already available both referentially and in full on CICAD's web page, and a comprehensive index of legislative documents related to drugs is being developed with assistance from the Institute of Political Sciences "Francisco de Miranda", del Peru.

Also as an important support to legal development activities, websites in the areas of arms and explosives, and money laundering have been collected and classified, providing timely information crucial to Member states. IADIS' second CD-ROM entitled "Illicit Drugs", provides over 500 references to laws, decrees, and regulations on drugs, money laundering and other related topics, many in full text. It also contains complete

full text access to Colombian legislation on drugs, with some jurisprudence, and legal and jurisprudential information from Nicaragua.

### III. Money Laundering

- *19. Redouble its efforts before the Inter-American Development Bank to re-emphasize the importance of recommendations of the December 1995 Summit of the Americas Buenos Aires Communique and inquire as to what assistance is required from the OAS to expedite approval of the funding proposal related to the foregoing recommendations (with the good offices of the Secretary General of the OAS and member states).*

The Executive Secretariat has concluded its negotiations with the IDB to establish this pilot project directed at the prevention of money laundering in financial institutions in selected countries. A letter of agreement to this effect was signed by President Enrique Iglesias of the IDB and Secretary General César Gaviria of the OAS on September 29, 1998. The Executive Secretariat expects the project to be well underway before the end of the fourth quarter of 1998.

### IV. Control and Interdiction

- *20. Promote and encourage hemispheric cooperation among member states in customs and maritime control issues.*
- *21. Encourage member states to enter into constructive dialogue with the private sector to identify mechanism for the control of drug smuggling.*
- *23. Assist with training*

Drug trafficking is a transnational problem. As such, communication and bilateral/multilateral cooperation among countries and agencies, such as Customs, maritime authorities and Coast Guard, concerned with the control of drugs and chemicals is extremely important. This has been highlighted in other parts of this report. Collaboration of this nature allows for the exchange of information and intelligence and the coordination of interdiction activities. Within the framework of the Plan of Action, the Executive Secretariat has been pursuing the following activities to promote or facilitate the foregoing:

## 1. Training

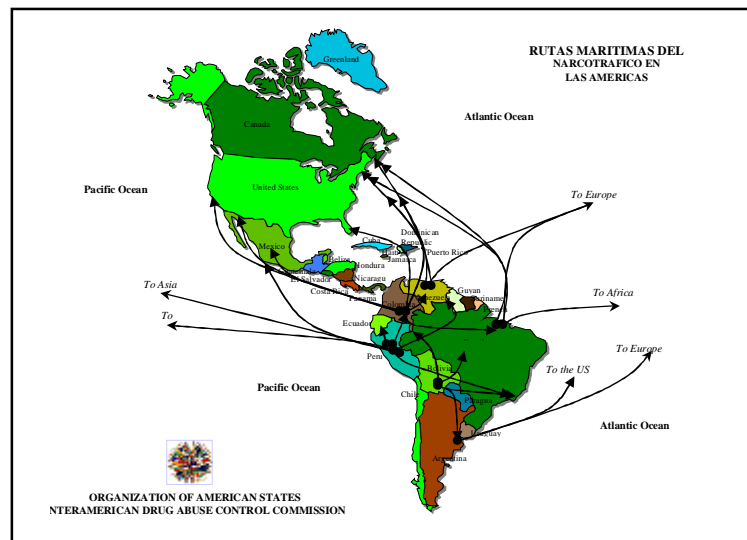
The Executive Secretariat emphasizes the importance of and need for cooperation, collaboration and communication among member states, drug control officers, agencies and control bodies during all training workshops that it organizes. Some of these training initiatives are described in the report on paragraph 16 of the Plan of Action.

## 2. Riverine Cooperation

RETCOD/Precursors is also concerned with promoting communications, coordination and cooperation among Customs, Coast Guards, Police and other officers concerned with the control of drug trafficking and chemicals diversion in the South-American riverine basins.

## 3. Maritime Cooperation

The importance of bilateral and multilateral agreements on various drug related issues including maritime cooperation was identified in the Santo Domingo Declaration Against Drugs (December 9, 1997). The Declaration also committed to support the Kingdom of the Netherlands in starting consultations to assess the prospects of reaching consensus on a Caribbean regional agreement on maritime cooperation particularly as it relates to Article 17 of the 1988 Vienna Convention. Between March 27-28, 1998, the Ministry of Defense of the Kingdom of the Netherlands convened a meeting for informal consultations concerning this issue in Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles, in which the Executive Secretariat participated. The Government of the Netherlands presented a draft agreement for maritime cooperation for informal discussion. Further to the comments received the draft will be revised and circulated as part of a broader consultative process. The Executive Secretariat will continue to work with the Netherlands and the other countries and organizations involved in this initiative.



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Between March 27-28, 1998, the Ministry of Defense of the Kingdom of the Netherlands convened a meeting for informal consultations concerning this issue in Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles, in which the Executive Secretariat participated. The Government of the Netherlands presented a draft agreement for maritime cooperation for informal discussion. Further to the comments received the draft will be revised and circulated as part of a broader consultative process. The Executive Secretariat will continue to work with the Netherlands and the other countries and organizations involved in this initiative.

The Executive Secretariat has prepared a directory of international maritime training activities and a paper concerning maritime drug trafficking routes. Both of these were

finalized and distributed during CICAD's Twenty-fourth Regular Session in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

#### 4. Free Trade Zones

During the Regional Conference on Chemical Diversion Control in Santiago, Chile (June 2-5, 1998), participants identified problems in the control of chemicals routed through or destined to free trade zones. The recommendations of the group in Santiago called upon the Executive Secretariat and the DEA to examine this issue and develop initiatives to assist countries in dealing with the problems that these economic zones present for the control of drugs and chemicals. The Executive Secretariat is currently exploring alternatives. One approach being considered is to work on a pilot basis with a member state in which such an area exists to develop specific approaches that might be applied in other countries. One method that might be explored is how to more actively involve the private port authorities and companies transacting business in these areas in the control of illicit drugs and chemicals.

#### V. RESOURCES NEEDED IN 1999 – PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES, INFORMATION AND STATISTICS RELATED TO CONTROL MEASURES.

Activity/Project	Estimated Cost
Control of Precursors and other Chemicals	
Chemical control	
- RETCOD: Network expansion (Ecuador, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Peru, Venezuela)	\$3,350,000
- Network expansion to Southern Cone (Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay)	\$1,600,000
Internet service costs for Amazonia, Orinoco and South Andes regional components	\$22,000
Training	
- CICAD-RCMP Drug Control Workshop	\$55,000
- Chemical Control Workshops	
- Central America	\$55,000
- South America	\$65,000
- CICAD-INCB	\$55,000
Information	
Product development/Identification-Expansion of access to control information	\$10,000
Legal Development	\$508,000
Money Laundering Control	\$175,000
Product development/Identification-Expansion of access to legislation information	\$20,000
Control and Interdiction	
Customs and Maritime cooperation	
- Free Trade Zone conference	\$50,000
- Customs workshops	

- Central America	\$55,000
- South America	\$65,000
- Caribbean	\$85,000
- Port Security workshop (South America)	\$70,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,240,000</b>

## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### I. National Drug Control Commissions

- 22. *Assist with institutional strengthening in member states to promote collaboration (integration) among agencies, ministries and other entities responsible for the various aspects of the country's response to the drug problem.*

CICAD has confirmed the need for and importance of strengthening the national drug control commissions (NDCs) of member states. This serves to improve their organizational and functional capacity to more efficiently combat all illicit traffic and use of psychotropic substances and chemical products. When requested to do so and based on the availability of resources, the Executive Secretariat provides technical assistance to the NDCs, to improve their legal, administrative and operational systems.

Within the Plan of Action framework, the Executive Secretariat has carried out the following activities to help with this institutional strengthening:

#### 1. Institutional development seminars

A workshop on strategic planning was held in Panama in July 1998, coordinated and directed by the National Commission for the Study and Prevention of Drug Related crimes (CONAPRED). Twenty-eight (28) delegates from governmental and non-governmental institutions in Panama participated. The methodology applied facilitated the identification of strategies as well as the skills and abilities required which will be institutionally developed and on which the institution strengthening process will be based.

Similarly, technical and financial support was provided by the Executive Secretariat to hold two meetings for the analysis and adoption, by consensus, of the drafting of new national drug control legislation (#12 plan of action). (September 1998).

#### ***Workshops for Institution Building***

The first meeting was held *in Nicaragua in November 1997* with officials from the public and private sectors involved in the prevention of illegal drug use and illicit trafficking of narcotic, psychotropic and chemical substances, and related activities in attendance. These included representatives from the National Assembly and Supreme Court of Justice. Draft Bill 285 "Law of Reform and additions to Law 177" is at present passing through the stages of parliamentary procedure at the Nicaraguan Congress

The second meeting was held *in Guatemala in June 1998*. Participants included representatives from the areas of drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, control, investigation, the judicial sector, from the National Assembly, the Supreme Court of Justice, as well from SECCATID. During the meeting, delegates discussed and approved topics which will be included in the final bill to be prepared within two months by a drafting commission integrated by a number of the participating technicians, and under the coordination of SECCATID

## **2. Technical Assistance**

In 1998, technical assistance was offered to NDCs as well as to national offices in charge of the control of the trade of chemical substances in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic. The focus of this assistance was to strengthen the national systems of administrative control and prepare operational inter-institutional regulations for the development of control mechanisms for these substances.

The Executive Secretariat collaborated on organizing specialized workshops in Ecuador (May 1998), Panama (August 1998) and Peru (October 1998). The objectives of the workshop were to prepare and implement control regulations for drug addicts' assistance centers and provide training for administrators of these centers.

## **3. Compilation of regulations**

The Executive Secretariat has compiled regulations in various specific areas, based on current laws in various countries of the Hemisphere. The regulations relate to national commissions, seizures, forfeiture and administration of assets linked to drug trafficking, control of chemical substances, and on the consumption of controlled substances and the treatment of drug abusers. This compilation is available and updated periodically on the CICAD Web Page.

## **4. Information – Inter-American Drug Information System (CICAD/IADIS)**

### **4.1. RETCOD/ National Drug Commissions (NDC's)**

In March 1996, the CICAD Executive Secretariat established a telecommunications system operating through the Internet for the use of National Drug Commissions (NDC's) in member states. This system serves as a tool to improve the capacity of NDC's to communicate among themselves, with the institutions they coordinate, and with other international organizations. In this way they achieve the maximum use of the existing telecommunication services in the hemisphere, which is an important factor in improving coordination. Since the implementation of this system, the Executive Secretariat provides both technical and financial support in maintaining its operation.

The Executive Secretariat has provided each NDC with computer equipment and is covering the monthly Internet server charges until October 1999. After this date, each National Commission or central contact point of SITCOD/NDC in the country will cover these costs.

### **4.2 National Plans**

The Executive Secretariat has collected and cataloged fourteen national plans and strategies for the combat of illicit drugs. The next step will be the scanning and posting of this information on CICAD's web page.

**II. RESOURCES NEEDED IN 1999 – PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES, INFORMATION AND STATISTICS RELATED TO INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING.**

<b>Activity/Project</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Institutional Strengthening / Caribbean NDCs. 24 months.	\$1,150,000
Institutional Strengthening / Central American NDCs. 12 months.	\$ 515,000
Institutional Strengthening / South American NDCs. 12 months.	\$200,000
Information services	
Product development/ Identification/expansion of access to information contributing to strengthening national drug commissions	\$ 20,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,885,000</b>