

Regional Initiatives: Counternarcotics

QUESTION

What is Canada doing to further the fight against drugs in the hemisphere?

SUGGESTED REPLY

- OAS member states adopted a Hemispheric Anti-Drug Strategy developed by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) in December 1996.
- Canada played a constructive role to ensure that the Strategy reflected our balanced approach to the drug problem, i.e. equal emphasis on supply and demand reduction. The Strategy also recognizes our shared responsibility and the need for strengthening international cooperation.
- There is widespread acceptance in the hemisphere that the only way to combat the scourge of drugs is to work together multilaterally, and without confrontation.
- Canada is therefore fully supportive of the new initiative to create a multilateral monitoring mechanism for national anti-drug performance, which is likely to get the full support of leaders at the Santiago Summit.