

CARICOM/EUROPEAN UNION & LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES

The National Council on Drug Abuse facilitated a meeting in Jamaica, which was an initiative organized by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), Secretariat of Multi-dimensional Security, of the Organization of American States (OAS), and CARICOM, and was funded by the European Commission. This forum was held at the Iberostar Resort, Rose Hall from February 27 through to March 6, 2009, and was conducted in three segments.

February 27 – March 2, 2009

(TAB – Technical Advisory Body to CARICOM)

The Technical Advisory Body (TAB) for the Regional Drug Demand Reduction Strategy was established to provide oversight for the implementation and fast-tracking of the Regional Drug Demand Reduction Strategy. The Technical Advisory Body for Regional Drug Demand Reduction Strategy (RDDRS) includes Directors of National Drug Councils, representatives from regional institutions / other territories and NGOs in the field of demand reduction. TAB also seeks to extend technical support to the non – CARICOM countries in the interest and recognition of the implications of all Caribbean States and non- States and to advance the work to reduce illicit drugs in the region

March 3-4, 2009

(CARICOM Workshop, “Standards of Care for Treatment and Rehabilitation Facilities for Substance Abusers”)

The workshop sought to:-

- (a) Present to participants the current and emerging information on Standards of Care and Treatment for drug Rehabilitation facilities
- (b) Discuss and develop national and regional strategies for strengthening or establishing and implementing national treatment standards
- (c) Review WHO/PAHO standards of care
- (d) Plan for adoption of national standards of care
 - Standards of care applicable for all modalities
 - Standards of care specific for therapeutic communities
 - Standards of care specific for outpatient drug free counseling
 - Standards of care specific for medication aided drug treatment
 - Standards of care specific to detoxification programs
 - Standards of care specific to prison based treatment programs

The Country Status Report on Standards of Care/Services for Clients seen in Treatment and Rehabilitation was presented by Miss Sislyn Malcolm, Director, Field Services, National Council on Drug Abuse.

March 5-6, 2009

(EU-LAC/OAS, “*Local Diagnostic Studies and Information Systems in Drug Treatment*”)

The objective of the forum was to generate open discussion and exchange of practices regarding the application of methodological principles of how to evaluate the demand for drug treatment services at the city/municipal level.

Some topics covered were

(a) Treatment Information Systems (TIS), examples and best practices from participating cities. CICAD Treatment centre Intake Form, introduction to, indicators, designs, uses.

(b) Best practices and experiences in Europe and the Caribbean (local need assessments) CICAD, UE cities and Caribbean cities

Special invitees to the Opening Ceremony were Senator, His Worship, The Mayor, Desmond McKenzie, Mayor of Kingston and St. Andrew, His Worship the Mayor, Councilor Charles Sinclair Jr., Mayor of Montego Bay and Dr. Earl Wright, Chairman of the National Council on Drug Abuse.

Twenty (20) countries were represented with eighty five persons in attendance.