



## EU-LAC, An unprecedented alliance, a bridge between two continents



EU-LAC participants in Santo Domingo. First Regional City Forum, April 2008

The EU-LAC City Partnerships to improve Drug Treatment is an initiative managed by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), Secretariat for Multidimensional Security of the Organization of American States, and funded by the European Commission. It brings cities in Latin America and the Caribbean together with cities in the European Union in a collaborative effort to develop better local policies and best practices in the treatment and rehabilitation of drug-dependent persons. Exchanges and cooperation among the more than forty cities that are participating in the project will contribute to:

1. developing local, city-level policies on drug treatment in Latin America, the Caribbean, and the European Union;
2. improving drug treatment services and enhancing inter-agency cooperation within municipal governments in order to deliver more effective treatment programs, and
3. promoting drug treatment as a court-supervised alternative to incarceration for drug-dependent offenders.

This initiative is the first of its kind among Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean in the drug treatment field. Since 2007 when the project began, we have, collectively, achieved some very concrete results, such as agreement on a common intake form for patients coming into drug treatment, to help cities keep better records on activity in their treatment programs. Our challenges have been many, but I firmly believe that over the last two years, we have laid the groundwork for long-term collaboration between Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean in this field. Participating cities have made significant commitments, and their central governments, through the National Drug Commissions, have given notable support to the initiative.

As José Miguel Insulza, Secretary General of the OAS, said in a recent letter to the President of the European

Commission, José Manuel Durão Barroso, we can show three concrete achievements so far in the initiative:

- **Improved dialogue** through information and software exchanges among cities, regions, and national organizations. In addition to the twelve cooperative agreements signed between cities, a total of 1,125 local and national delegates and experts have participated in our seven events. Cities, national drug commissions, ministries of health and justice, among others, have been represented at the highest level.
- **Consensus:** more than 30 cities on both sides of the Atlantic have agreed on the use of criteria for treatment intake data collection and city needs assessments, and we have developed two instruments for data collection by the cities. The European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) and CICAD's Inter-American Observatory on Drugs have provided critical technical advice on how best to collect information on patients in drug treatment.
- **Commitment:** Several agreements have been reached among cities on both sides of the Atlantic, in many cases with the support of their national governments, and as a result, the project has received from the cities additional cash and/or in-kind contributions amounting to more than 25% of the original budget.

Please visit the Web site of this initiative at [www.eulacdrugs.org](http://www.eulacdrugs.org). And if your city is not yet part of this project, please do not hesitate to contact us.

James F. Mack  
Executive Secretary, Inter-American Drug Abuse  
Control Commission (CICAD)

### Next EU-LAC Events:

§ Göteborg, Sweden.  
May 27 -30, 2009

§ Ghent, Belgium.  
June 24-27, 2009

§ San Miguel de Tucumán,  
Argentina.  
September 24 -25, 2009

§ Segovia, Spain.  
October 15-17, 2009

§ Coimbra, Portugal.  
December 10-11, 2009

§ Lugo, Spain.  
May 19-21, 2010

[www.eulacdrugs.org](http://www.eulacdrugs.org)



## The Organization of American States (OAS) opens a review of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere

The Organization of American States (OAS), through the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), opened a review of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere on May 6, following a proposal by the Secretary General of the hemispheric institution, José Miguel Insulza, that established reducing demand for drugs as a principal objective of drug policy.

"The time has come for us to start reviewing our instruments and bring them up to date with the realities imposed by the contemporary drugs phenomenon", Secretary General Insulza said at the opening of the 45th regular session of CICAD.

Secretary General Insulza also stressed the direction that the new strategy should take: "I am in favor of a much more comprehensive and balanced strategy, one that can pay keen attention to demand reduction as a major aim".

The OAS Secretary General highlighted the need for the reform to maintain and even improve interdiction policies, although he stressed especially the need to work on the demand side. "While there is a market for drugs, they will continue to flow. And demand reduction is only possible if much greater emphasis is placed on education, prevention and rehabilitation programs".

Among the principles upon which the new strategy should be based, Secretary General Insulza stressed that it should have a solid technical and scientific background, it should recognize "that a person with drug dependency is sick", and that "tackling the drugs problem is still a shared responsibility" for "all countries in the world, ours among them".

It is therefore necessary to "make a new effort to harmonize and, to the extent that we can, standardize our policies", he said, and "the success of each of our countries in this undertaking will depend on the success of the others, and that failures or delays in one could be a determining factor in setting back the efforts of all". Secretary General Insulza emphasized that the strategy will have guaranteed success if governments are fully aware of "the magnitude and importance of the problem". "If that awareness and that conviction exist, I have no doubt that our governments will be able to take the next step, which is to guarantee the resources necessary for those policies to be implemented".



*OAS Secretary General, José Miguel Insulza with the Chair of CICAD, María Teresa Chadwick, during CICAD 45.*

## Benita Ferrero-Waldner Commissioner's remarks at the EU-LAC Santo Domingo Forum, Dominican Republic (April 2008)



*Benita Ferrero Waldner  
European Commissioner for  
External Relations and European  
Neighbourhood Policy*

One of my major commitments as European Commissioner has been to more closely bind the relations between the European Union and the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, with whom we share so many affinities. I have tried to do that by completing a series of agreements with the Andean Community, Central America, and MERCOSUR, in order to strengthen our trade, political, and cooperation ties. But I have done that also by launching initiatives such as these partnerships between cities, which should allow closer connections between cities and their citizens. At the end of the day, these should be the ultimate beneficiaries of any political effort.

It is no coincidence that this partnership will be carried out in the area of the efforts against drugs. Their consumption and trafficking involve the most devastating effects on families, neighborhoods, and towns. It is no surprise that we turned to CICAD for this partnership. As part of the Organization of the American States OAS, CICAD always seeks efficiency and better

coordination of regional drug policies. We share with CICAD the belief that the design of drug policies must be realistic, and inspired in best practices and empirical evidence. This is the best way to reduce drug consumption, its harm, and its negative social and health consequences.

Confronting drugs is a shared responsibility across the entire international community. The European Union is firmly committed to its international cooperation. Sharing efforts, knowledge and experiences is the reason for the importance of the contacts and exchanges to be developed under this initiative. There is much to learn from both sides. The Commission is genuinely pleased to contribute to facilitating these exchanges.

*Benita Ferrero Waldner  
European Commissioner for External Relations and  
European Neighbourhood Policy  
European Commission*

*"Confronting drugs is a shared responsibility across the entire international community"*

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR OF THE EU-LAC PROJECT			EXPECTED RESULTS
SANTO DOMINGO FORUM, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. APRIL 2008			2008 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 44 cities selected</li> <li>• Web and platform created</li> <li>• Strategic plan for EU-LAC by activities and expected results</li> <li>• Work calendar</li> <li>• Commitments</li> </ul>
<b>GROUP 1</b> Improving drug treatment public policies and inter-agency cooperation	<b>GROUP 2</b> Improving drug treatment services in EU and LAC cities	<b>GROUP 3</b> Treatment alternatives to incarceration under judicial supervision for drug-dependent offenders	
	MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY DECEMBER 2009		
	MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA MARCH 2009	CHILE MARCH 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local diagnostic study (need assessment-map)</li> <li>• Patient data form</li> <li>• Bilateral agreements</li> </ul>
GÖTEBORG, SWEDEN MAY 2009		GHENT, BELGIUM JUNE 2009	2009 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow up/ needs assessment</li> <li>• Local strategic work plan</li> <li>• Inter-agency cooperation (models)</li> <li>• Treatment models</li> <li>• Indicators</li> <li>• Role of judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, social workers, treatment providers</li> <li>• Cooperation Justice-Health</li> <li>• Treatment protocols:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ High-risk populations</li> <li>○ Types of drugs</li> <li>○ Immigration.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Capacity-building</li> </ul>
	SAN MIGUEL DE TUCUMÁN, ARGENTINA SEPTEMBER 2009		
SEGOVIA, SPAIN OCTOBER 2009			
COIMBRA, PORTUGAL DECEMBER 2009			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inter-agency cooperation at the local, regional and national level</li> <li>• Publication review</li> <li>• Strategy plan review and follow up</li> </ul>
LUGO CITY FORUM, SPAIN MAY 2010			2010 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Results and future projects</li> </ul>

## José Clemente López Orozco

## CICAD 45: A Mayor's Perspective

We have many objectives, including a date set in Lugo, in May 2010, for the holding of the Second International Forum, which we hope you will all attend. For us, it is a privilege to be playing a leading role in efforts that pursue such ends of human

solidarity as people's health and wellbeing. We can and do feel privileged at being able to work together in a shared direction. It showcases the importance of international cooperation, of team work, of alliances among civilizations.

Experience is an element in unity and, in this CICAD working group, it is the nexus of

unity. Lugo does not want to teach anyone: we want to relate our experiences, contribute our grain of sand, and learn a lot from others. The successes and failures of others can help us in tackling each situation, each social reality. They can help us launch municipal policies in pursuit of objectives in the struggle against drug addiction. In the drug treatment area, our city can offer the others participating in this network its knowledge and experience, as we have been doing at each of the forums and meetings we have attended to date. We want to contribute to creating, encouraging, and promoting, in a shared environment, the involvement of those municipal officials responsible for public policies, together with their implementation of best practices and strategies with a view to better responding to the treatment needs of those members of the public with drug addiction problems.

We seek to train, inform, and raise the awareness of the individuals responsible for public policies so they can see prevention and treatment as one of the priorities of their work.

Attaining all those goals depends on us, on each municipality, on each region, on each nation, on the internal coordination of each country, and on the coordination and team work of the other countries involved in the project. At all times with the support of the families, the education system, the beneficiaries of these policies themselves, and all those organizations that aspire to a better society. Coordination, cooperation, team work: those are the essence of this international effort and the key to its success. And so, Lugo is proud to be a part of this initiative.

Lugo will receive all the cities of Europe and Latin America involved in the CICAD initiative to present its conclusions. Some of those conclusions will be nothing other than the principle of "good practices" in the treatment and prevention of drug addictions, which kill and destroy the lives of our young people, immigrants, women, families, and society in general.

We have to contribute, each one of us in accordance with our potential, to implementing policies for transfers of know-how and exchanges of experiences that could be of use in providing better treatment and rehabilitation services for drug users and drug addicts, paying particular attention to problems related to social exclusion and the protection of human rights.

The Municipal Government of Lugo, the General Subdirectorate of Mental Health and Drug Addictions, the Health Board of the Galicia Regional Government, and the Government Delegation of the National Drugs Plan of Spain are working together in a



constant search for measures that will help reduce the demand for drugs and assist in the treatment, prevention, and social reincorporation of individuals with problems relating to drug use. To date, the city of Lugo has signed bilateral agreements with cities including Mexicali (in Mexico), Montevideo (Uruguay), San Ramón (Costa Rica), and Colón (El Salvador), and it will

continue to do so in the future with any city interested in discovering our working methods, our resources, and our prevention, treatment, and social reincorporation programs.

In recent years, we have stepped up our efforts to prevent and reduce the demand for drugs among young people, through initiatives involving recreation, the arts, training, incorporation into society and into work, information – offering our young people real alternatives to using drugs during their free time. In Lugo we have around 18,000 young people, accounting for almost one fifth of the municipality's total population.

We have developed programs that take into account the educational triangle – school, family, and community – three essential mainstays that are coordinated and complement each other. To that we have added treatment programs that have proven to be a success, judging by the fall in drug use, particularly alcohol, in the city.

Coordinating and complementing these preventive programs with other efforts in the areas of social reincorporation and treatment have been the driving force behind our success. With awareness of the enormous role played by families and by schools. The aim is to ensure that the work being carried out more or less successfully by each municipality does not descend into isolation, exclusiveness, or, most importantly, silence. We want that work to be coordinated, a piece of the puzzle formed by all the cities participating in this ambitious project, pursuing common objectives with shared methods.

*José Clemente Lopez Orozco  
Mayor of the city of Lugo, Spain  
From his speech at CICAD 45*



*OAS Secretary General, José Miguel Insulza with the Mayor of Lugo, José Clemente López Orozco. CICAD 45*

## Montego Bay Technicial Forum, Jamaica

March 2009

Montego Bay, Jamaica's second city and a leading world tourism destination, hosted the recently concluded EU-LAC meeting. Under the theme "Local diagnostic studies and information systems in drug treatment", over fifty attendees from 15 invited cities participated.



The delegates, primarily drug treatment providers and senior officials from OAS/CICAD and CARICOM countries, engaged in productive discussions aimed at improving drug treatment and rehabilitation programs in their cities. Technical skills were boosted in the area of needs assessment, relevant information systems and best practices.

Executive Director of the National Council on Drug Abuse (NCDA) in Jamaica, Michael Tucker, was pleased that OAS/CICAD had given Jamaica the opportunity to host the event. Mayors of Jamaica's two cities, His Worship Charles

Sinclair Jnr. of Montego Bay and His Worship Senator Desmond McKenzie of Kingston welcomed delegates to Jamaica and reiterated the support of the Jamaica government for activities under the EU-LAC initiative.

The NCDA benefited from the spotlight shed on its exceptional 25-year record of coordinating Jamaica's anti-drug programs through the hosting of this high-level meeting. It is to be noted that during its 25 years of existence, the agency has received significant support from OAS/CICAD to implement many initiatives to impact the level of drug abuse. Arising from discussions held at the meeting, there is a proposal for the Mayor of Kingston and a Jamaican delegation to visit Sweden in the near future to discuss further collaboration in the area of drug treatment and rehabilitation.

*Michael Tucker  
Executive Director  
National Council on Drug Abuse*

## Montevideo Technical Forum, Uruguay

December 2008

At the end of 2007, thanks to the participation of Montevideo in the EU-LAC project, an inter-agency committee was created by the Drug National Council (JND), Ministry of Health – National Health Service Department (ASSE), Ministry of Social Development (MIDES), and the City of Montevideo (IMM).

This inter-agency committee, together with CICAD/OAS, organized the Second City Forum for Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean (local need assessment and treatment information systems), on December 4-6, 2008.

This forum included national representatives from Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Peru, and Uruguay, as well as regional delegates from Galicia and several municipalities in Uruguay, San Miguel de Tucumán-Argentina, Niteroi-Brazil, Conchalí and Peñalolén-Chile, Colón-El Salvador, San Ramón-Costa Rica, Barcelona and Lugo-Spain, Mexicali-Mexico, Masaya-Nicaragua, Lambayeque-Peru and Maracaibo-Venezuela.

This forum made significant advances in evaluating similarities and differences among several drug treatment systems, and was a very valuable exchange opportunity for the participating cities. We were able to create a form for assessment of patients in treatment, and agree on basic criteria that can be used by the participating cities.

This chance for face-to-face contacts allowed us to strengthen our institutional ties, and to exchange scientific information. The forum led to agreements among cities, like the one Montevideo signed with Barcelona, Conchalí, Lugo and Galicia.



*Lic. Milton Romani  
Secretary General of the  
National Drug Council of Uruguay*

## Chiclayo and the region of Lambayeque, Peru



As part of the decentralization process undertaken by the National Commission for Life and Development without Drugs (DEVIDA) under the umbrella of the National Strategy against

Drugs 2007-2011, we are working with local and regional governments to develop local policies on drug prevention and treatment. In 2008, the region of Lambayeque designed and approved the Regional Drug Prevention and Treatment Plan, which was based on the national high-school survey on drug use, with regional data and assessments broken out by region.

As a result, two first-level treatment services have been created, staffed by specialized professionals. The regional government, together with local governments, is also working with the education and health sectors on drug prevention and

health promotion activities. The work of coordination that the Region of Lambayeque is doing with the various sectors and local governments in the area of drug prevention and treatment is in response to the objectives of the National Strategy against Drugs 2007-2011, and coincides with the objectives of the EU-LAC Drug Treatment City Partnerships developed by CICAD/OAS.

One of the objectives for drug treatment in the Lambayeque region for 2009 is to implement a Regional Treatment Network. In preparation, a diagnostic study is being conducted of public and private treatment services in the region, and an instrument is being developed to assess the demand for second-level health care services, in order to build a well-coordinated network for referrals to treatment.

*Selene Barrantes  
National Commission for Life and Development without Drugs  
DEVIDA, Peru*

## Pilot project: implementation of a model drug treatment court in the State of Nuevo León, Mexico

At the EU-LAC Drug Treatment City Partnerships forum organized by CICAD in the Dominican Republic, one of the subjects addressed was treatment as an alternative to incarceration for drug-dependent offenders. As a result, it became important in Mexico to take specific actions in the area of drug demand reduction to complement the supply reduction strategy, where the Mexican government has achieved significant progress. Because Mexico has a federal government, with individual criminal legislations in the country's thirty-two states, an assessment had to be conducted of the judicial and technical conditions that might allow for setting up a mechanism similar to that of "drug courts". Since the Code of Criminal Procedure of the State of Nuevo León allows for SUSPENDING THE PROCEEDINGS IN A CASE and since oral court proceedings are now permitted, it was decided that such a program could be started as a pilot project in this northern State. The availability of drug treatment services in Nuevo Leon was also a factor in the decision.

This project represents an important example of inter-agency cooperation among the security, justice, and health departments. The participating institutions are:

- Office of the Attorney General of the Republic (PGR): Lead and coordinator
- Secretariat for Health. National Council on Drug Addictions (CONADIC): administers and certifies drug treatment instruments and policies
- Government of the State of Nuevo Leon: Attorney General's office, Superior Court of Justice, Secretariat for Public Security, Secretariat for Health, Office of the Public Prosecutor. Developing the mechanisms for implementation of the pilot project.

To support these efforts and learn of international experiences in the field, a Mexican team visited two drug courts in San Diego, California, with the support of the U.S. Government. The team attended two court sessions, and met professionals responsible for the programs. After that visit, the team had the opportunity to attend the EU-LAC forum organized by CICAD in Santiago de Chile. Several bilateral meetings also took place with Chilean authorities responsible for drug treatment courts, providing access to other international experiences and professionals in the area that significantly enriched the knowledge of the Mexican team.

The institutions and individuals involved in the project are going through an intensive capacity-building process, are developing methodological instruments and are adaptating internal guidelines. The federal institutions involved (CONADIC and PGR) are creating an overall reference document that will lay out the guidelines, specific procedures, mechanisms to evaluate the impact, and all the information that would enable this experience to be replicated in other federal entities in the future.

*Luz M. García Rivas*  
Executive Director for Demand Reduction  
National Center for Anti-Crime Planning, Analysis  
and Information  
Mexico

Antigua and Barbuda St. John's  
Argentina San Miguel de Tucumán  
Bahamas Nassau  
Barbados Bridgetown  
Bolivia Sucre  
Brazil Niteroi  
Chile Comuna de Conchali and Comuna de Peñalolén  
Colombia Bogotá  
Costa Rica San Ramón  
Dominica City of Roseau  
Dominican Republic Santo Domingo  
El Salvador Colón, Lourdes  
Guyana Georgetown  
Haiti Pétion Ville  
Jamaica Kingston  
Mexico Mexicali, and Nuevo León  
Nicaragua Masaya  
Paraguay Fernando de la Mora  
Peru District of Chiclayo, Region of Lambayeque  
St. Kitts and Nevis Basseterre  
St. Vincent and the Grenadines Kingstown  
Suriname Paramaribo  
Trinidad and Tobago Port of Spain  
Uruguay Montevideo  
Belgium Ghent  
Bulgaria Varna  
Czech Republic Prague  
Germany Frankfurt  
Greece Athens  
Ireland Dublin  
Italy Rome  
Latvia Riga  
Lithuania Vilnius  
Portugal Coimbra  
Romania Bucharest  
Slovak Republic Kosice  
Slovenia Ljubljana  
Spain  
Lugo  
Barcelona  
Elche  
Gijón  
Segovia  
Zamora  
Sweden Göteborg  
United Kingdom  
Liverpool  
Edinburgh

## Lindford Forbes a real therapeutic story

My name is Ford Forbes and I am a 24-year-old from Montego Bay, Jamaica. On June 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008 I was detained for three days for possession of marijuana. As this was my first offense, the court offered me extended bail under probation orders from the Drug Court Program.

The Drug Court Program has been a huge step towards facing life's challenges, sharpening my aim and desire for success, and building and replenishing a concentrated source of therapeutic healing. I never imagined that this program could turn life's tables for me, but somehow it happened, and now I understand the saying all things work together for good in its own purpose.

Since entering the program I have been able to respond to many complex situations independently, exercising honesty and enthusiasm in building my new foundations on



a firm mental ground. The program has allowed me to learn from my mistakes, instead of being resentful; balancing the causes of my problems, rather than compressing them by using and abusing drugs.

I would like to express gratitude to the professionally trained individuals of the psychiatric body of the Drug Court Program, especially to Mrs. Palmer, who has positively influenced the life of many through her effective communication skills. The successful therapeutic sessions of this project serve to encourage a healthy lifestyle by rehabilitating psychological problems encountered by today's youths.

*Lindford Forbes*  
Montego Bay, Jamaica

## The North Liverpool Community Justice Centre, a holistic approach to drug-addicted offenders

England and Wales generally have not tended to follow the international trend of establishing specialist Drug Treatment Courts. However in the city of Liverpool, the North Liverpool Community Justice Centre established in 2004 has at the heart of its operations the treatment of drug and alcohol addicted offenders. The Centre, which has a criminal court as a core component, is situated in an area immediately to the north of

Liverpool city centre with a population of around 80000 which scores very highly on all of the UK Government's indices of mass deprivation and has high levels of crime. The building is a converted primary school and it has within it a wide range of agencies both statutory and non-statutory accessible by and on behalf of not just those who are involved in criminal court proceedings but also by members of the wider north Liverpool community. The court's problem-solving approach is multi-agency and depends upon close cooperation between statutory and non statutory bodies working closely together assisted greatly by their co-location in the Centre. Consistency is a key element in the treatment of offenders with a single judge

and dedicated team of workers dealing with all matters. The ability to impose a drug rehabilitation or alcohol treatment requirement as a component element of a community-based non custodial sentence is enhanced by speedy access to services and excellent relationships with the City Council's drug treatment services and the local Health Care Trusts. Working in this collaborative way has ensured great success in the sentencing, treatment and rehabilitation of drug-addicted offenders and members of the wider community who have accessed services.

The EU-LAC initiative has proved to be a vital source of ideas, information and crucially support for the work of the Centre and its partner organizations in Liverpool, a city always at the forefront of innovation.

*David Fletcher  
Presiding Judge  
North Liverpool Community Justice Centre  
Liverpool, England, United Kingdom*

## Exploring the possibilities for drug treatment courts in Suriname

The Suriname National Anti-Drugs Council (NAR) is currently implementing a five year national drug master plan, which has been undersigned by the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Health as representatives of the government of Suriname. This plan which was co-financed by the European Union will expire at the end of the year 2010 and already preparations are being made for the formulation of a follow up five year plan.

One of the objectives of this plan is that alternatives to certain criminal prosecution and conviction related to drugs abuse had to be explored and where possible and necessary, relevant legislation had to be developed and approved by the legislators. In 2007, NAR proposed to the authorities the further exploration of the possibilities of the implementation of Drug Treatment Courts in Suriname.

When the EU-LAC Drug Treatment City Partnerships initiative was established, Suriname participated in this initiative

and formed a partnership with the city of Ghent, Belgium. Through the different international seminars on this initiative, Suriname gained more information and knowledge about drug treatment alternatives under judicial supervision. This became very interesting for Suriname, for its typification of convictions linked to small drug-related crimes.

In 2009, the Minister of Justice, as CICAD Commissioner, took the initiative of establishing a national commission on the exploration and potential establishment of drug treatment courts in Suriname. This commission consists amongst other representatives of the NAR, prosecution, judiciary, treatment and the National Organization of Lawyers.

In March 2009, a combined delegation of NAR and the commission took part in the international seminar on drug treatment alternatives in Santiago Chile. This seminar can be labeled as fruitful for Suriname because on this occasion the cooperation between Ghent and Paramaribo was discussed out to explore further possibilities on the establishment of drug treatment courts in Suriname. The City of Ghent will give support and assistance to Suriname in its effort to further detail and explore on this matter.

*Steven Alfaisi,  
Chairman  
National Anti- Drug Council  
Suriname*



*Delegates from Suriname and 17 other countries attended the Santiago (Chile) City Forum, March 2009 on treatment alternatives to incarceration under court supervision*

# Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission – CICAD

<http://www.cicad.oas.org/>

The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission was created in 1986 as the Western Hemisphere's policy forum on drugs. CICAD plays a vital role in providing technical assistance to the countries of the Americas to help them improve their capacity to deal with the drug problem. CICAD's technical staff work in close cooperation with the governments of the member states of the Organization of American States to develop and support policies and best practices in the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, the production of and trafficking in illicit drugs, and the control of money laundering. One of our objectives is to promote cooperation among countries and among regions. The EU-LAC City Alliances project is a good example of this, and an excellent means of achieving tangible results from exchanges among countries.



*“I am in favor of a much more comprehensive and balanced strategy, one that can pay keen attention to demand reduction as a major aim.”*

Secretary General of the OAS  
José Miguel Insulza

## EU-LAC current and upcoming events

EU-LAC DRUG TREATMENT CITY PARTNERSHIPS  
EU-LAC ALIANZA DE CIUDADES EN TRATAMIENTO DE DROGAS

**GÖTEBORG CITY FORUM**  
**FORO DE CIUDADES DE GOTENBURGO**

EUROPEAN, LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN CITY FORUM ON DRUG TREATMENT POLICIES AND INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION  
Gothenburg, Sweden May 28-30, 2009

FORO DE CIUDADES DE EUROPA, AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE EN POLÍTICAS PÚBLICAS Y COOPERACIÓN INTER-INSTITUCIONAL EN TRATAMIENTO DE DROGAS  
Gotemburgo, Suecia 28-30 de mayo de 2009

City of Göteborg VÄSTRA GÖTALANDSREGIONEN Kriminalvården LÄNSSTYRELSEN VÄSTRA GÖTALANDS LÄN

**GÖTEBORG CITY FORUM**  
**EUROPEAN, LATIN AMERICAN, AND**  
**CARIBBEAN CITIES ON DRUG**  
**TREATMENT POLICIES AND INTER-**  
**AGENCY COOPERATION**  
Göteborg, Sweden. May 27-30, 2009

**EU-LAC CITY OF GHENT TECHNICAL FORUM AND BEST PRACTICE EXCHANGES ON TREATMENT ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION UNDER JUDICIAL SUPERVISION FOR DRUG-DEPENDENT OFFENDERS. THE BELGIAN EXPERIENCE.**

Ghent, Belgium. June 24-26, 2009

EU-LAC DRUG TREATMENT CITY PARTNERSHIPS  
EU-LAC ALIANZA DE CIUDADES EN TRATAMIENTO DE DROGAS

Treatment Alternatives to Incarceration for Drug-Dependent Offenders, The Ghent experience  
Exchange visit - June 25-27, 2009 - Ghent, Belgium

IIRCP REA

Financed by the European Commission and organized by the City of Ghent and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Organization of American States (OAS), under the auspices of the EU-LAC Drug Treatment City Partnerships.