

INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE ON DRUGS (IACD) MEETING

*19 April 2007, 1:30pm – 4:30pm
Ministry of Health, Rooms 4.01 & 4.02, 1-3 The Terrace, Wellington*

MINUTES

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND INTRODUCTIONS

Attendees - IACD Agencies	
Ashley Bloomfield (Chair)	Claire Helliwell (Customs)
Chris Laurenson (Health)	Alison Stephens (Justice)
Bruce Atmore (Health)	Alex Travis (Justice)
Eden Green (Health)	Laurie Gabites (Local Government)
Frances Voykovich (Health)	Anna Mills (CYFS)
Jenny Wolf (Health)	Vanessa Schuster (PI Affairs)
Olivia Tuatoko (Health)	Helen Fielding (Transport)
Dave Potaka (NDIB)	Grant Guillosson (Social Development)
Robbie Galvin (TPK)	John Dermott (Education)
Amy Russell (Youth Development)	Ruth Richards (MSD)
Wendy Moore (ALAC)	Elisabeth Numan-Parsons (Justice)
Lesley Daly (Police)	

Apologies	
Susan Hunt (ACC)	David Negri (Customs)
Sara Bennett (ALAC)	Kirsty Ruddlesden (Corrections)

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting, in particular Matt Nice and Ian Axford fellow visiting from the United States currently working on the Market outcomes of methamphetamine and how they have changed through price and purity during specific points of time.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING 29 January 2007

Members agreed that the Minutes from the IACD meeting held on 29 January 2007 be approved subject to the following changes:

- In Item 6. Methamphetamine Action Plan, the last 13 words to be removed.
- In Item 13. Effective Interventions Projects, the words "Cabinet paper" is to be replaced with the words "Ministerial paper".

Authorisation was given for the minutes from the previous IACD meeting, as amended, and workshop to be placed on the NDP website.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING 29 January 2006.

3.1 Minute Item 4 *IACD Terms of Reference*

To be discussed at agenda item 4.1

3.2 Minute Item 6 *Methamphetamine Action Plan*

To be discussed at agenda item 8

3.3 Minute Item 7 *NDP Discretionary Grant Fund*

The invitation for submissions was requested on 23 March 2007, with the closing date of 3 May 2007.

The Chair requested interested members to volunteer for a subcommittee to review all proposals that come through. Those that may not be able to make the subcommittee were also asked for their comments.

Action:

Invitation to be sent out by the Secretariat to interested members from ALAC, Health, Youth Development and Police that would make up the subcommittee.

3.4 Minute Item 12 *Alcohol and Illicit Drugs in Prisons*

Action unresolved as Health was unsure of what kind of data Corrections was requiring. ALAC was also to help with any data required on Alcohol information.

Population data was required and will now be followed up by Health.

Action:

Health to forward Corrections the Population data they require.

3.5 Minute Item 14 *2007 Commission on Narcotic Drugs Meeting*

To be discussed at Item 12.ii

3.6 Minute Item 15 *NZ Arrestee Drug Monitoring System and Illicit Drug Monitoring System Annual Reports*

The internal Police process has not yet been finalised.

3.7 General Business Item 11.2 Proposed Change to NDP Discretionary Grant Fund Project.

Hon Anderton had approved the change in projects based on the advised changes to BZP. The study “Development of evidence-based information on legal party pills”, was replaced with another study which 20 GPs, 20 community pharmacists and 20 key experts are being interviewed in a qualitative manner about issues around prescription drug misuse and primary care. The studies “Prospective Study of Acute Toxicity from Piperazine Based Party Pills” and “Recreational Drug Using Behaviour and Legal Party Pills” have been put on hold, which was approved by the Chair of the MCDP.

4. STRENGTHENING AND IMPROVING THE IACD

The Chair outlined to the Committee that they, as an agency, have a great chance to bring drug/alcohol/tobacco issues to the table, to discuss amongst the wider government sector. Also to have policies that they feel passionate about to be read by their ministers and other ministers of the Ministerial Committee.

The Chair acknowledged that a first step towards achieving the goals of minimising harm as a Committee, and being able to strengthen and improve the Committee is to have an agreed Terms of Reference.

4.1 IACD TERMS OF REFERENCE

Chair thanked the members of the subcommittee for their work on the draft Terms of Reference, which has made an excellent basis to start the discussion.

The subcommittee gave an overview of the proposals emphasising the main differences were 1) limiting the amount of meetings held in the year 2) Emphasising the use of working groups 3) giving an option to introduce new people/agencies to the group and 4) increasing the seniority of the people at the table.

The Committee discussed the Draft Terms of Reference requesting that the Statement of Purpose be shortened. Members agreed that other government agencies may be useful at the table, such as, Occupational Safety and Health and SPARC. Committee members also agreed that responsibility for hosting the meetings could be shared among IACD agencies.

The Committee acknowledged the importance of Ministerial commitment as it will signal to CEO's and their agencies of the importance of these issues. This in turn placed a responsibility on the IACD members to provide advice to Ministers about to take the lead on drug policies agencies wished to implement to reduce harm.

The Committee noted that most meetings were scheduled to precede MCDP meetings, and that this may require more than two meetings per year. The

further in advance MCDP can plan its meetings, the easier for IACD meetings to be worked in around this.

From the discussion the committee agreed to clarify further the purpose of the committee – being:

- a) Implementation of NDP by
 - Identifying priority areas
 - Developing action plans for these areas
 - Allocating responsibility for these actions
 - Monitoring these actions
- b) Reporting to the MCDP on interagency activities on drugs
- c) Leading the strategic development of drug policy
- d) Providing a forum for information sharing between agencies involved in drug policy and implementation

The Committee agreed to arrange IACD meetings so that they are prior to the MCDP meetings in order to provide advice to the MCDP on issues of interagency drug policy and implementation. The Committee also agreed to adding other agencies to the membership list, establishing working parties on agreed issues requiring interagency collaboration, the continuance of Health to Chair the meetings, and for deadlines to be adhered to.

Action:

Working Group to finalise the draft IACD Terms of Reference with requested changes and seek final input from IACD members.

4.2 CHAIR'S REPORT BACK TO MCDP

The Chair will report back to the MCDP on how the IACD has made changes to strengthen and improve its workings.

5 ALCOHOL AND ILLEGAL DRUG ACTION PLAN

The Committee agreed that the title of this report will be the “National Drug Policy Monitoring Report” as confusion may be caused by referring to it as an Action Plan.

The Chair called for volunteers for a lead agency to carry on this work that Justice had previously. Justice agreed to continue this work, with the help of all agencies to identify key actions and how they can be achieved.

Action:

Justice agreed to continue as lead agency in developing the monitoring report.

Justice to convene a meeting with a working group to discuss the development of the monitoring report and the actions they should take. Secretariat will help coordinate.

6 IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW ON-LINE EVIDENCE SOURCE

The National Drug Policy 2007 – 2012 plan stated IACD will implement a new on-line evidence source. This work requires input from all IACD agencies.

Ideas of producing a service that may need a login so that only a specific few can access as well as information for all to access. Further progress on the implementation of this project can will await possible budget announcements.

7 REVISION OF THE NATIONAL ALCOHOL STRATEGY

The Committee agreed that ALAC would lead the setting up of the Working Group and that MSD and Local Government are to be members. ALAC will invite other agencies to join.

The Committee agreed to option two as the preferred approach for developing the National Alcohol Strategy.

The Committee agreed to a due date for the draft action plan is the 31 October 2007.

Action:

ALAC to send out proposal and invites to interested members who wish to be on the working group.

8 METHAMPHETAMINE ACTION PLAN

The Committee was updated on the methamphetamine action plan. A subcommittee has been established to coordinate updates of the Action Plan and discuss the possible development of a new one.

Matt Nice, commented on the paper outlining that he noticed there were no outcomes of actions noted on the paper. And in order to continue on with an action plan, results need to be shown. The Committee acknowledged his advice and will take it into consideration for the next action plan.

The Committee noted that replacing the Methamphetamine Action Plan with a new Amphetamine Type Substances Action Plan may be appropriate.

Action:

The Subcommittee group will meet again prior to the next MCDP meeting.

9 DEVELOPMENT OF A DRUG HARM INDEX

The MCDP Chair had raised the question, on why the drug harm index did not include tobacco and alcohol, at the MCDP meeting held on 14 March 2007. Police commented that with a lack of resources this is as far as they can take it.

It was also discussed amongst the Committee that a more useful approach would be to ensure that the on-line drug information database was structured to collect and present information on alcohol and drug related harm.

Action:

Committee agreed to rename the index the “Illegal Drug Harm Index.”

10 FASD STRATEGY

The Committee discussed the FASD Strategy agreeing that a cross-sectoral Action Plan will be developed to advance work in this area as part of the National Alcohol Strategy.

The working group derived from Health, Social Development, Education, and Corrections recommend that this is a priority, and that expert advice from outside government agencies can be gained.

Action:

ALAC to organise members from outside government agencies to be part of the working group.

Chair of IACD to ask Chair of MCDP if a presentation from the FASD National Advisory Group members can be made to MCDP at their next meeting.

11 VOLATILE SUBSTANCE ABUSE – BRIEF UPDATE

Committee noted the paper presented.

Action:

A further literature review by the New Zealand Drug Foundation will be distributed out of session.

12.i FINAL REPORT FROM 50th UNCND MEETING IN VIENNA 12–16 MARCH 07

The Chair attended this meeting and wanted to bring to attention the first recommendation, where New Zealand considers taking part in discussions between like-minded countries and the INCB regarding improving the transparency of its processes and communication.

Action:

A further report written by a Non Governmental Organisation that attended the meeting will be distributed out of session.

12.ii IGCD MEETING

Paper noted by Committee.

12.iii CONFERENCES RELATING TO DRUGS

Paper noted by Committee

12.iv REVIEW OF THE SALE AND SUPPLY OF LIQUOR TO MINORS

Justice gave an oral update on the Review of Sale and Supply of Liquor to Minors. The goals of the Review are to determine the harms caused by sale and supply of liquor to minors, evaluate the effectiveness of current restrictions and where necessary to develop proposals to address the causes of harms.

Media emphasis has been on minimum legal purchase age, the research shows the need to focus on a range of issues, particularly parental responsibility. The research also identifies a number of other key issues including the wider drinking culture, parental supervision and compliance by the law.

A briefing that outlines the key issues and preliminary options for responses will be provided to joint Ministers by end of April.

Members outlined other current problems including outlet density and the difficulty in distinguishing between dairies and grocery stores.

The Committee discussed the challenge to get licensee holders on side to minimise bad practices such as 4 hour long happy hours.

Justice noted that the evidence for the Review is based on information that is already available and in the public domain. The Review provides an opportunity to collate all of the relevant literature.

Once the review is finalised a report will be forwarded to joint Ministers to decide what action they want to take.

12.v REVIEW OF THE REGULATION OF ALCOHOL ADVERTISING

Report has now been completed and forwarded to Minister O'Connor. Embargoed hard copies were made available to IACD members.

13 GENERAL BUSINESS

- a. Customs has made another print run of their Drug Strategy and have publications available.
- b. Corrections has made available the booklet "What do people Think they know about substance dependence?" by World Health Organization.

- c. Transport is currently developing a discussion document concerning Substance Impairment in Aviation, Maritime and Rail. For the departmental consultation, Transport will send it to members of the IACD for comment.

14 NEXT MEETING

The next IACD meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday 24 July 2007, 1:30pm to 4:30pm, and will be hosted by Customs in 6th Floor Conference room, 17 – 21 Whitmore Street, Wellington.