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**REPORT FOLLOWED BY
RECOMMENDATIONS**

PUBLIC ACTION

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1996 JANUARY 22ND

REPORT FOLLOWED BY RECOMMENDATIONS : THE
NEED TO EVALUATE PUBLIC ACTION ON THE
PREVENTION OF HIV / AIDS

REPORT

See French version

RECOMMENDATIONS

In the light of its report, the National AIDS Council makes the following recommendations to the Government :

Implementation of an independent system of evaluation of the bodies engaged in the fight against AIDS, would, by assisting the decision-making process, make it more likely that action would match need, campaigns would be effectively coordinated with other strategies, such actions would be more swiftly corrected, public funds would be better employed, and there would be a guarantee of even-handed decision-making regarding confrontation on the moral issues besetting sexuality in a pluralist society. It would constitute a breakthrough in terms of public health in our country to have to hand regular indicators, overview summaries of actions undertaken and benchmarks for actions to come. It would encourage the development of research protocols enabling more rational international comparison of health policies.

However, the National AIDS Council wishes to observe that evaluation cannot guarantee successful prevention and that the only relevant indicator – in the long run – is the prevalence of HIV in our country.

Therefore, the National AIDS Council recommends to the Government :

1. that an authority for evaluating public action be created in the area of HIV prevention ;
2. that this independent authority, composed of a small number of experts, should be given the task of assessing the efficacy of public policies in terms of HIV prevention ;
3. that the objectives of such an evaluation body should involve the building of permanent and quantitative indicators of efficacy, analysis specifically of the processes involved in unfolding HIV campaigns, provision of guidance for public preventive action, drafting of overview summaries of current knowledge, determination of areas of uncertainty (methods, procedures or public messages) with a view to supporting the activities of all actors partnering public action in the area of prevention ;
4. that the budgets for such evaluation work should be defined alongside those for the prevention programmes.