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THE MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM
(MEM) SOLIDARITY FUND

P R O P O S E D
G E N E R A L I N F O R M A T I O N



THE MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM) SOLIDARITY FUND



P R O P O S E D G E N E R A L I N F O R M A T I O N

The following is a draft proposed text for the Solidarity Fund and is subject to consideration by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD):

I. THE SOLIDARITY FUND

- The Solidarity Fund aims to assist the participation of countries which, due to exceptional circumstances, are unable to finance the participation of their expert at the Planning Seminar (*April 10-14*) and at meetings/activities of the Governmental Experts' Group (GEG).
- The Solidarity Fund is a fund established, maintained and controlled by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD).
- The Fund is financed by donations.

2. APPLICATION: PLANNING SEMINAR

To apply for Solidarity Fund-money in order to attend the Planning Seminar at the headquarters of the Organization of American States in Washington, D.C., an applying country sends a letter of request to the CICAD Executive Secretariat, at least four weeks before the seminar, in which it explains the reason for its application. All letters will be considered confidential.

3. APPLICATION: GEG MEETINGS

To apply for Solidarity Fund-money in order to attend a GEG meeting, an applying country sends a letter of request to the CICAD Executive Secretariat, at least four weeks before the meeting(s), in which the country explains the reason for its application. All letters will be considered confidential.

CONSIDERATION OF SOLIDARITY FUND DISBURSEMENTS:

4. SELECTION COMMITTEE

A Selection Committee, consisting of a committee not to exceed seven members representing fund sources and the CICAD Executive Secretary, will be established to review and consider country applications for fund resources.

5. REVISION AND CONSIDERATION

The Selection Committee reviews all cases. The Committee follows a number of guidelines in order to consider the application. These guidelines are:

- i) The exceptional circumstance the country is facing (based on the letter);
- ii) The economic situation of the country/region; and
- iii) The current balance of the fund.

6. AREAS OF FUNDING

Taking the issues listed in point 5, the Selection Committee shall decide on the areas to be funded, depending on the outcome of its review. Areas considered are as follows:

- i) Travel for one principal expert
- ii) Accommodation for one principal expert

If the country's principal expert were unavailable, funding for the country's alternate would be considered.

7. APPROVAL

Once the application is approved, the country can expect either a full or partial funding of the travel and/or accommodation for its expert or alternate. The country will issue a check for x% of total travel, per diem and terminal costs for the event as determined by CICAD¹. The information on the amount of the fund money will be given at the time of the approval by fax. Disbursements will be made in accordance with OAS rules and procedures to take effect not less than one week before the event.

¹ This responds to the idea expressed in the Intergovernmental Working Group of a need for all countries to contribute in some way to the financing of their expert.

