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STATEMENT
BY BARRY R. Mc.CAFFREY

DIRECTOR'S POINTS
**27th REGULAR SESSION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE
CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)**
OAS HEADQUARTERS, WASHINGTON, D.C.
MAY 3, 2000

INTRODUCTION/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to speak.
 - Pleased to see that **Lance Selman**, my good friend from Trinidad & Tobago, and soon to be CICAD Chairman (he is currently Vice Chairman and will become Chairman in the Fall)
- Let me offer my best wishes to both the old friends here today and the many new Heads of Delegation that are attending their first CICAD meeting.
 - **Paul Kennedy**, Canada, Senior Assistant Deputy Solicitor General
 - **Maria Teresa Chadwick**, Chile, CONACE Executive Secretary.
 - **Manuel de Jesus Flores**, Guatemala, Viceministro de Robles.
 - **Rogrigo Carvajal**, Costa Rica, Viceministro de la Presidencia.
 - **Lorenzo Juan Cortese**, Argentina, SEDRONAR Secretary
- Also welcome Observers from: **Spain, France, Portugal, EU, and Russia.**
- Let me recognize my colleague, **Rand Beers**, Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement, Head of the U.S. Delegation.
- **Bob Brown**, my Deputy Director for Supply Reduction at ONDCP.
- **David Beall**, CICAD Executive Secretary; and
- **Alberto Hart**, Assistant Executive Secretary and their outstanding staff.

FOUR KEY POINTS

1. CRITICAL ROLE PLAYED BY CICAD IN OUR HEMISPHERIC EFFORTS AGAINST DRUGS.

- CICAD, which has become the central organization for our important hemispheric CD efforts, has only existed since 1986.
- Through the hard work of Commission Members, OAS Missions, and the Executive Secretariat, an extremely able body has been developed.
- When, during the 2nd Summit of the Americas in Chile, our Heads of State look for an organization they could trust to transform an idea to a working initiative, they turned to CICAD.
- Only CICAD had the experience, the leadership, and the staff to take us to the next level and create the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism.

2. MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM IS A CRITICAL BREAKTHROUGH.

- To those of us long involved in counter-drug efforts it has become obvious that a series of bilateral relationships is insufficient to get our work done.
- We are enormously pleased at the efficiency demonstrated by the Inter-Governmental Working Group on the MEM, chaired by Canada and Chile, in the negotiation of the MEM.
- In little more than one year, the first ever counter-drug hemispheric performance measurement system was negotiated and signed—In Montevideo, Uruguay, October 6, 1999.
- From all accounts, the first meeting of the Government Experts Groups, last month, went extremely well.

- We know that many challenges remain, but expect that by the time of the Third Summit of the Americas in Quebec City, Canada in April 2001, national reports and a Hemispheric Report will be completed, approved and published by the CICAD Commission.
- In 2001 even greater progress is expected, as all 82 Indicators are used for the first time.
- The MEM will provide us with what we all need to build strong national programs—objective, reliable data.

3. CHALLENGES IN COLOMBIA IMPACT US ALL

- Much has been written about challenges in Colombia and proposed U.S. financial support for Plan Colombia.
- Our Government has proposed a \$1.3 billion multi-faceted program to help Colombia implement its Plan Colombia. A portion of this assistance will go to Colombia's neighbors—Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador.
- We believe that President Pastrana is deserving of support from all of us.
- 90% of the world's cocaine and most of the heroin used in this hemisphere is produced in or passes through Colombia.
- FARC activities in border regions threaten Colombian neighbors.
- Nonetheless, my government is committed to working with our partners throughout the hemisphere in addressing drug problem.

4. COOPERATION, INFORMATION SHARING THROUGHOUT HEMISPHERE IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR COMMON GOALS

- The spirit of regional cooperation manifests itself at the Joint Interagency Task Force -East (JIATF-E) in Key West, Florida, where the U.S. conducts regional CD operations with the valued support of representatives from 8 different South American countries and 3 NATO allies.

- We have worked to develop “Forward Operating Locations” in Manta, Ecuador; Curacao, Aruba and San Salvador, El Salvador.
- These FOLs enable the USG to supply vital intelligence information on trafficker activities to nations throughout the hemisphere. All of these surveillance flights are conducted with host-nation riders and with utmost respect for national sovereignty of each nation.
- In the Caribbean one example of growing regional cooperation is Operation Columbus. This operation was a highly successful joint effort of fifteen nations and their respective law enforcement agencies.
- Also in the Caribbean, significant progress has been achieved through cooperative maritime law-enforcement efforts, ratification of a number of mutual legal assistance and extradition treaties, and the strengthening of regional security forces through technical assistance and the donation of equipment by the USG.
- And of course, the United States Government will continue to provide financial support to the vital initiatives of CICAD.
- One promising new CICAD program—and the topic for the next speaker—is the Regional School of the Andean Community for Anti-Drug Intelligence based in Lima, Peru.
- The school will provide training in anti-drug intelligence for law enforcement agencies in the Andean region. It will also promote information sharing throughout the region. We look forward to hearing more about this initiative.
- Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you.