

TWENTY-SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION
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FINAL REPORT

**TWENTY-SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)
FINAL REPORT**

I. BACKGROUND

The Statute of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) provides in Article 21 that the Commission shall hold two regular sessions per year, one an ordinary session, the other to address specific technical topics determined by the Commission or such other matters that require its special attention. The Statute also provides that special sessions shall be held whenever the Commission so decides, or at the request of a majority of its member states. At its twenty-sixth regular session, the Commission decided, in accordance with Article 20 of the Statute, to hold the twenty-seventh regular session in Washington.

II. PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION

A. DECISIONS ADOPTED

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

The agenda (document CICAD/doc.1040/00) and the schedule of activities (CICAD/doc.1041/00 rev.3) were adopted without amendment.

2. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

Mr. Diogenes Checo, the Governmental Expert of the Dominican Republic informed the Commission on the current status of the MEM and summarized the activities and agreements that resulted from the Planning Seminar of the Governmental Experts Group (GEG) held in Washington, D.C. April 10-14, 2000. Mr. Checo highlighted that Dr. Alberto Scavarelli of Uruguay was elected Coordinator and Mr. Izben Williams of St. Kitts and Nevis as Alternate Coordinator of the GEG. He also informed that five thematic groups were formed reflecting the five goals defined in the questionnaire approved by the Commission, with all experts eventually reviewing all reports except the evaluation on their own country. Canada reaffirmed the productive nature of the first GEG meeting and stated its confidence that Experts will have effective and credible country reports and a Hemispheric report to present in April 2001 at the next Summit of the Americas in Quebec City. Colombia pointed out the importance of guaranteeing the integral and multilateral nature of the Mechanism through the procedure adopted by the GEG, a view echoed by Mr. Checo who stressed that the evaluation reports shall be objective with the individual reports being prepared collectively by 33 experts. Mexico and Argentina mentioned the importance of the backing of states for their experts so that the process will function successfully, while Mexico indicated that the MEM is a permanent exercise. Brazil stated its support for the MEM process and the difficult work to be carried out by the Experts, while reiterating the importance place on the process by the Brazilian government.

3. INTER-AMERICAN OBSERVATORY ON DRUGS (OID)

Pursuant to a request from the twenty-sixth regular session, the Executive Secretariat presented a report to the Commission (CICAD/doc.1043/00 corr.1) on the development and implementation of the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs (OID). Dr. Anna Chisman, Acting Administrator of the Observatory, informed the Commission on the work plan of the OID for the year 2000, which includes assisting countries in strengthening their national drug systems. Dr. Chisman pointed out the value of moving operations onto the Internet as the best way to reach out to the Commission and all working in drug control in the Hemisphere, and highlighted the importance of the OID as an instrument of support for countries in the process of multilateral evaluation, a view echoed by the interventions of Mexico and Canada. The Commission supported the establishment of the Observatory, Venezuela and Chile pointing out the significance of sharing statistical data and increased communication between countries. Venezuela also informed of its recently established national Observatory on Drugs that will strengthen cooperation. Canada informed of a related initiative, the Virtual Clearinghouse on Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs, being developed by the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse with the assistance of the Canadian government. The Clearing House will complement the work of the Inter-American Observatory in that it will provide an Internet-based library of material related to the control of drug abuse and will connect governmental and non-governmental organizations. The Clearinghouse can be accessed at www.atod.org.

- ANALYSIS OF TRENDS IN CONTROL AND DEMAND IN THE AMERICAS

Mr. Ricardo Zavaleta, Manager of the OID Drugs Statistics Services, presented an informative document on the Trends and Statistical Development recorded through the Uniform Statistical System of the Inter-American Observatory (CICAD/doc.1052/00). The presentation included a focus on the importance of statistical analysis as well as determinant factors for statistical improvement including national political backing, trained technical personnel and the availability of an integrated national statistics system.

- DRUG INFORMATION FOR THE AMERICAS

The Commission considered a presentation by Ms. Carmen Ortega on the OID web page currently under construction (CICAD/doc.1054/00) in order to tailor information to the needs of member states, for which the Executive Secretariat requested that the Commission provide it with information on what it feels the web page should contain. The Secretariat also asked those member states requiring technical assistance in designing their respective National Drug Commissions' webpage, to make their request known to the Secretariat. The United States highlighted the topic of decriminalization and legalization of drugs, which the Secretariat duly took note of for inclusion in the web page. As of June 2000, the Web Page will be operational in its initial configuration.

- COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF)

The Commission considered a presentation (CICAD/doc.1065/00) by Ms. Ruth Connolly, Manager of the OID Drug Information Services, on a pilot project funded by the United States National Science

Foundation (NSF) on the use of information technology against Drugs in the region. The project, presented at the twenty-sixth regular session in Montevideo, consists of two parts: the design of a translation machine for an indigenous language (for which Colombia designated the Yanacuna Indian community), and the establishment of Epidemic Prediction models. CICAD and the NSF will jointly sponsor Bilateral Information Technology Workshops in Chile and Argentina later this month.

4. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE EUROPEAN MONITORING CENTER FOR DRUGS AND DRUG ADDICTION (EMCDDA)

The Executive Secretariat circulated a proposed Memorandum of Understanding for Coordinating Joint Efforts to Improve Drug Data Collection and Analysis, to Develop and Promote Data Comparison Methods and To Intensify Information Dissemination between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA). The representative of the EMCDDA, Mr. Ignacio Vasquez informed that joint and/or complementary actions among international organizations is the current focus of the European Observatory which has signed or is in the process of signing agreements with principal international organizations, such as with CICAD, to look for better synergy regarding work undertaken in this field. Strengthened cooperation between CICAD and the Observatory responds to a request from Heads of State and Government who met in Rio de Janeiro last year to adopt an important document calling for greater cooperation and coordination between Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union. Mr. Vasquez indicated that it would be very valuable to have an agreement signed between the European Observatory and CICAD by the forthcoming meeting in Lisbon this month to initiate this mechanism of cooperation. The agreement with CICAD would concentrate on training activities, methods of programme evaluation, data exchange, and a search for complementarity between work undertaken by the European Observatory and CICAD.

Specifically, Mr. Vasquez indicated two CICAD projects of interest to the Observatory. Firstly, based on the experience of the multilateral evaluation mechanism, the identification of a series of simple indicators within the framework of the UN so as to have a better understanding of the situation of drug consumption throughout all UN member states. He indicated that both the European Observatory and CICAD play a fundamental role in negotiating with the UNDCP so as to arrive at a rapid adoption of the Consensus Document of Lisbon. Another area of interest is the assistance to prisoners who are drug addicts. Currently the European Observatory has joint activities with the WHO and feels that CICAD's experience in this area could make a very important contribution. Although a formal signing of the MOU was not possible at this stage, the EMCDDA expressed an interest in concluding formalities as soon as possible, proposing therefore an exchange of notes to enable work on priority actions to commence.

5. STATUS OF CONSULTATIVE AND DONOR GROUPS

Mr. Alberto Hart, Assistant Executive Secretary of CICAD, gave a presentation of the status of Consultative and Donor Groups to support anti-drug efforts in the Americas (CICAD/doc.11061/00), informing on the record of the Consultative Group of Peru with the support of the Inter American Development Bank and the European Commission, as well as the preparation of and interest in these groups by Ecuador, Paraguay, Central America and Jamaica. Argentina supported the continuation of these groups, and supported the success of Bolivia regarding illicit crop reduction and assistance in the area of alternative development. Peru congratulated the work of the Secretariat and informed

on the establishment of CONTRADROGAS as well as the background to the Peruvian Consultative Group and its achievements. Argentina also expressed concern over the movement of the drug problem through borders and requested that this phenomenon be closely analyzed by the Organization. Venezuela stressed its concern over displacement caused by drug activity in South America, especially in non-producing countries and asked if there was an IDB or CICAD strategy to address this problem. The Executive Secretariat informed the Commission that, given these interventions, the topic of displacement would be further examined for consideration at the twenty-eighth regular session of CICAD. Regarding the form of support the consultative groups offer to countries, Barbados asked whether they support in the form of loans and if so, would they be observing the normal World Bank and IDB conditions before countries can access the funding. The Executive Secretariat indicated that the IDB had shown a more open and positive approach than other institutions regarding loans.

6. REPORT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE GROUPS OF EXPERTS

The Commission considered a presentation by Dr. Rafael Franzini, Officer in charge of the Money Laundering Control Unit, on the Group of Experts to Control Money Laundering (CICAD/doc.1048/00). The presentation informed on the topics the Group, chaired by Argentina, would cover when it convenes in July as decided at the Commission's twenty-sixth regular session in Montevideo. This included typologies, training programs directed at bank staff and regulators, a report on the CICAD/IDB training program which has already commenced in Colombia, the establishment of Financial Intelligence Units and the possible creation of a South American FATF. Argentina, which presides the Group during this period, highlighted that it recently passed a new anti-money laundering bill to replace its existing legislation. It also informed that the Mercosur had met to analyze for the first time the drug situation, including the area of money laundering, reflecting the region's growing concern over the problem. Argentina also informed that it is currently an observer member of the FATF together with Brazil and Mexico, with all hoping to soon receive permanent status. Also, with cooperation from the Spanish Government, the idea of establishing a regional FATF in South America has progressed, headquartered in Argentina, which would support and be compatible with CICAD's efforts in this area.

With regards to the Group of Experts on Demand Reduction, Dr. Anna Chisman, Chief of the Demand Reduction Section, informed that possible themes for the Group's meeting might include the emergence of new drugs in the Hemisphere such as amphetamines, designer drugs, club drugs, and the increase of heroine production. Chile stressed the importance of prevention, and the need to have society be more aware of the drug problem, especially by means of media campaigns, as well as highlighting early prevention programmes and the availability of more rehabilitation spaces, especially for low-income sectors of society. As possible themes for the next meeting, Chile put forward the involvement of private and public sectors in the area of drug prevention and rehabilitation, as well as the establishment of university degrees for demand reduction educators. Colombia proposed that the Group of Experts include in its work plan the promotion of on-going prevention programs of licit and illicit psychoactive substance consumption in university curricula for education and communication professionals. Chile offered Santiago de Chile as host to the Experts' meeting in the second half of the year 2000.

7. ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Commission considered a presentation by Mr. Jorge Rios, Officer in Charge of the Alternative Development Unit, on the unit's activities (CICAD/doc.1058/00). The presentation included an overview of the GLEAM project, (a use of satellite and air imagery for land use mapping), and information on the Caribbean banana *sigatoka* disease mitigation project, together with the forthcoming workshop on 'Technologies for high value market oriented agriculture in the Caribbean'. St. Vincent and the Grenadines took the opportunity at a later intervention to thank the alternative development unit of the Secretariat for the development of the Caribbean banana *sigatoka* mitigation project which will seek to reverse the trend of abandoning legal for illegal production in the agriculture sector. St. Vincent and the Grenadines also pledged the fullest cooperation to the CICAD Secretariat to ensure the success of this project.

8. DEMAND REDUCTION TRAINING PROGRAM

The Commission heard presentations by Mrs. Maria Eugenia Perez, Dr. Gloria Wright, Ms. Heidi Rauch and Ms. Marya Hynes on various Demand Reduction projects (CICAD/doc.1062/00). Areas covered were post-graduate fellowships and M.A. programs on-line, Nursing School training program on drug abuse prevention and treatment, Programs for Youth at Risk, Prevention Activities with Youth and Parents, Drug Abuse Treatment Training in the Caribbean, and Women and Drugs – Research and Training. Canada thanked the Secretariat for its leadership in the drug demand reduction field. It suggested that the next phase of the Nursing School Program focus on facilitating collaboration and training between nurses and physicians and that CICAD may wish to consider working with the International Society of Addiction medicine to develop joint education programs. With respect to the project on women and drug abuse, Canada encouraged a close examination of the unique issues and obstacles faced by women such as drugs of choice, childcare, family violence and access to treatment. Brazil congratulated CICAD's Demand Reduction unit, while informing of the significant rise in Brazil's drug consumption figures. Brazil also highlighted the importance of training. Venezuela informed on the rise in drug consumption by street children between the ages of eight and twelve and has recently established a program for street children. The delegation also highlighted the neurobiofeedback therapy being used in the United States. This is currently being tried in Venezuela, with the first results expect in approximately 8-12 months. The United States also commended CICAD's demand reduction training program and suggested broadening the focus on high-risk youth to early childhood interventions. Barbados highlighted the interest on the part of the Caribbean region to access more training programs and recommended that a needs assessment be carried out for the region together with a strengthening in university education.

- PRESENTATION OF COMPUTER SOFTWARE TO MONITOR DEMAND REDUCTION PROJECTS

A presentation was made to the Commission by Dr. Juan Alfaro and Mr. Alfonso Abarco from FUNDASALVA, El Salvador, on computer software to monitor demand reduction projects, which generated much interest. The Executive Secretariat stated that the purpose of the presentation was to inform the Commission on the availability of the software, indicating that any interested member state may contact the Secretariat for further details. El Salvador and Peru have already adopted the software that is currently available in Spanish but could be easily translated.

9. PROGRAM FOR THE PLANNING/MODERNIZATION OF NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG STRATEGIES AND INSTITUTION BUILDING

Mr. Frankin Zambrano, Chief of Institution Building Section, and Mr. Javier Sagredo, Project Administrator, presented the status of programs on Institutional Strengthening of National Drug Councils in Central America, the preparation of National Anti-Drug Plans, and the Inter-American Telecommunications network for the control of drugs/National Drug Commissions (CICAD/doc.1050). There followed presentations by Ms. Eugenia Mata and Dr. Mrinal Debnath, national coordinators of Costa Rica and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, respectively, on the experiences of their programs in preparation of their national anti-drug plans. Ms. Mata described the strategic planning undertaken throughout 1999, with the participation of a number of Costa Rican institutions. Dr. Debnath informed on the multisectorial-working group formed to prepare the National Plan, highlighting the increase in the illegal consumption and cultivation of marijuana as well as cocaine facing the islands. The Dominican Republic and Belize thanked the Secretariat for the significant support for their national plans and requested the continuity of this support. Belize also stressed the importance of uniform regional formulation of strategies and together with St. Vincent and the Grenadines, underscored the necessity of including the English-speaking Caribbean countries in projects currently implemented in Spanish-speaking states.

10. INFORMATION ON SPECIALIZED MERCOSUR MEETING ON DRUG ISSUES

Dr. Lorenzo Cortese, representative of Argentina circulated a document on the specialized meeting of Mercosur (CICAD/doc.1056/00) which took place within the Southern Cone framework. Dr. Cortese informed that the meeting was held at the Secretariat of Programming for the Prevention of Drug Addiction and the fight Against Drug Trafficking of the Presidency, Buenos Aires, and that delegations from Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay as well as representatives of Bolivia and Chile participated in the meeting. The objective of the meeting was to establish a Mercosur forum so as to consider global drug-related problems, as well as the role that the State itself should play in the fight against drugs and related crimes in drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation. Dr. Cortese indicated that the meeting focussed on maximizing efforts of cooperation and collaboration through a coordinating mechanism among national entities, so as to cooperate in the exchange of information, technical training and assistance in the planning and implementation of related programs. The creation of four commissions was proposed to identify the four program areas of cooperation: chemical substance control, money laundering, demand reduction, and the harmonization of legislation. After a brief summary, Dr. Cortese hoped that this meeting might serve as a valuable contribution to the work that all countries are carrying out in confronting the drug problem.

11. ALTERNATIVES TO PRISON FOR DRUG-DEPENDENT OFFENDERS AND MINOR DRUG OFFENSES

The Executive Secretariat circulated a paper on experiences in different countries with alternatives to criminal sentences for minor drug offenses (CICAD/doc.1042/00), pursuant to a request at the twenty-sixth regular session in Montevideo. A panel was set up consisting of Judge Jeff Tauber, Director of the National Drug Court Institute (US), Judge Paul Bentley from the Toronto Pilot drug Treatment Court (Canada), Dr. Mildred Camero, Chairman of the National Commission Against the Illicit Use of Drugs (Venezuela), and Mr. John Marr, Specialist in Treatment (US). Judge Tauber and

Mr. Marr informed on the American experience of Drug Courts and their potential for South America and the Caribbean (CICAD/INF.2/00), while Judge Bentley explained the mechanisms of Drug Courts (CICAD/doc.1063/00), and Dr. Camero presented to the Commission alternative measures in Venezuela (CICAD/INF.4/00). Canada, which raised the request at the session in Montevideo, commended the panel and expressed that the presentations were a valuable way of exploring new strategies for drug dependent offenders. The question of cost of testing was raised by Argentina as well as allocation of resources, to which Judge Tauber informed that the Roche Company has drug-testing equipment, which could possibly be provided to developing countries. Mr. Marr also informed that testing is cheaper in the US as it is carried out on a group basis. The US pointed out that some American communities rely less on drug testing and more on family and community supervision which reduces cost, while the Dominican Republic voiced support for a strong judicial system, and pointed out the importance of having necessary resources available. Panama informed on its experience of sending addicts directly to drug treatment centers after judicial detention, which has notably reduced the number of prisoners and is a project that has worked successfully.

12. SUPPLY REDUCTION AND CONTROL ACTIVITIES

- CHEMICAL SUBSTANCE CONTROL

The Executive Secretariat made two presentations on projects currently being implemented on control of chemical substances. Mr. Ihor Malyniwsky, Chief of Supply Reduction, gave the first presentation on chemical control software being developed by Supply Reduction and Control that is currently in use in Peru. A technical meeting will be convened to further address the software with Panama expressing an interest in testing the project. Upon completion of the presentation, Panama informed the Commission on the various activities on chemical control it is carrying out, including legislation governing chemical control and the creation of a controlling body consisting of the Ministry of Health, Police and Customs under a regulation drafted and reviewed by CICAD, and requested the software. Venezuela indicated that it has also taken measures on chemical controls through the review and drafting of legislation by means of which traders and users will be easily identified. In this field, Venezuela has also asked CICAD for the software and training assistance. Ecuador requested from the Executive Secretariat the implementation of the software in their country. The Secretariat stated that it would follow up with Ecuador and Venezuela, subject to the experience in Panama, and would look into translation of the software into English.

Dr. Katia Tinajero-Montalvo gave a presentation on the progress of the Chemical Control Project in the Caribbean (Doc.1062/00), a project co-financed by the European Commission aimed at improving chemical control systems, promoting efficient legal and administrative framework and promoting communication, collaboration and cooperation between agencies. Dr. Tinajero-Montalvo also indicated that the intention of the project is to work with each individual country to address their issues and harmonize legislation through pre-existing regional entities such as CARICOM and the OECS.

- IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF REGIONAL SCHOOL OF THE ANDEAN ANTI-DRUG INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

Colonel José Vinuesa Jarrín of Ecuador made a presentation on the establishment of the Regional

School of Anti-Drug Intelligence of the Andean Community. Colonel Vinueza emphasized the multilateral character of the school. Canada commented on its strong support of the school, to which it has contributed financially, and underlined the importance of sharing intelligence and continuing education to develop new methodologies for the collection and analysis of information.

13. TRAINING PROGRAM FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION AND APPLICATION OF THE CICAD MODEL REGULATIONS FOR THE CONTROL OF THE INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT OF FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS, AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION

The Commission was unable, because of shortage of time, to address the agenda item on the project proposal for the implementation and application of the CICAD Model Regulations and Training Program (CICAD/doc.1044/00). The United States expressed interest in the report on the implementation of the model regulations on firearms and encouraged countries to comply with the Inter-American Convention on the Trafficking of Arms. The United States also urged the Commission to examine the issue of brokers and to perhaps develop model regulations on the matter so that this loophole could be closed.

14. OTHER INTERVENTIONS

General Barry McCaffrey, from the United States delegation, circulated a statement to the Commission (CICAD/doc.1067/00) on key points including the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) and the importance of cooperation and information sharing throughout the Hemisphere. The topics generated discussion such as the problem of displacement, the question of legalization of drugs and money laundering. Colombia referred to the Colombia Plan as a comprehensive strategy designed to achieve peace and consolidate social development in Colombia through 10 strategies, among them the fight against drugs. Likewise, Colombia emphasized that the Plan calls for the fundamental principles of shared responsibility and international cooperation in order to effectively tackle the global drug problem.

15. OBSERVER STATES

Mr. Eduardo Cuadra, Executive Secretary of the Permanent Central American Commission for the Eradication of Production, Traffic, Consumption and Illicit use of Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (CCP) informed on the work undertaken by the CCP of which Panama is currently the Chair pro tempore. Mr. Cuadra highlighted the cooperation between Central America and CICAD-OAS, UNCDP, and the CCP, together with the Central American judicial training body CEDEJU with specialized regional programs for judges and lawyers on monitoring drug activities, as well as the preparation of a sub-regional Central American plan supported by CICAD and UNDCP to present to the consultative group as part of anti-drug trafficking efforts. The Executive Secretariat of the CCP expressed its interest in receiving cooperation and support from CICAD in the future.

The Russian Federation presented a statement (CICAD/doc.1066/00) highlighting the drug problem facing Russia and work being undertaken to confront the issue, such as bilateral interaction and the development and strengthening of cooperation with foreign countries and international organizations, such as CICAD, and its member states.

The Government of Spain states its support for CICAD's activities, highlighting the Multilateral

Evaluation Mechanism, the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs, Strengthening of National Commissions, the establishment of on-line Masters' degrees, Demand Reduction programs and the Andean Anti-Drug Intelligence Training School. Spain offered an exchange of information and experiences as well as financial support as far as is possible. Spain also informed the Commission of the approval last December of the Spanish Anti-drug Strategy 2000-2008, which was made available in hard copy and can be seen on the webpage. Spain considers prevention as the first priority of the Spanish Government in the drug issue, and as far as international cooperation is concerned, Latin America is a focal point on both a bilateral and multilateral level. Lastly, Spain highlighted the upcoming high-level meeting in Lisbon of the cooperation and coordination mechanism between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean.

16. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Solidarity Fund of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)

The Commission considered a paper circulated on the Solidarity Fund of the MEM (CICAD/doc.1051/00). Noting that the MEM operates on the basis of each state supporting its participation, the Executive Secretary also referred to the creation of the Fund, which is meant to secure participation by countries in exceptional circumstances. The Executive Secretariat sought guidance from the Commission as to the selection and approval method for future applications of Fund use. Mexico recalled that during the Intergovernmental Working Group's negotiations on the MEM it was stressed that the Fund was to be used in very exceptional circumstances and that attention should be paid to this point. The delegation of Mexico also noted point 4 of the document relating to the Selection Committee, highlighting that the MEM is a collective process, and that the Fund should not only be in the hands of Solidarity Fund donors, but that the Selection Committee should also be open to those countries donating funds to the MEM. Trinidad and Tobago agreed with Mexico on the composition of the Selection Committee while Canada indicated the need for an uncomplicated structure. Brazil voiced its support for the MEM and guaranteed a contribution to the Solidarity Fund.

17. PLACE AND DATE OF TWENTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION

The Chair reiterated his government's offer to host the twenty-eighth regular session of CICAD in Port of Spain, Trinidad. The precise date would be set as soon as possible, but would fall in the second half of October 2000. The Commission thanked the Government of Trinidad and Tobago for its generous offer, and adopted the proposal.

B. PARTICIPANTS

1. CICAD MEMBERS

Attending the twenty-seventh regular session of the Commission were the delegates of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela.

2. PERMANENT OBSERVERS

Also attending the twenty-seventh regular session in their capacity as Permanent Observers to the Organization of American States (OAS) were representatives of the European Union/European Commission, the European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), France, Portugal, the Russian Federation, and Spain.

3. INTER-AMERICAN SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

Representatives attended from the Permanent Central American Commission (CCP), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation of Agriculture (IICA), the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB); and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). The list of participants in this regular session is published separately as document CICAD/doc.1045/00).

C. SESSIONS

1. INAUGURAL SESSION

The inaugural session was held at 9:35 a.m. on May 1, 2000, in the Hall of the Americas at the headquarters of the Organization in Washington D.C. Mr. Lancelot Selman, Principal Delegate of Trinidad and Tobago, took the chair in the absence of the Chair, Dr. Alberto Scavarelli. The Executive Secretary of CICAD, Mr. David R. Beall, made an opening statement Mr. Selman welcomed the delegates (CICAD/doc.1049/00), after which the Commission was addressed by Dr. Cesar Gaviria, Secretary General of the Organization of American States (CICAD/doc.1047/00).

2. PLENARY SESSIONS

The Commission held five plenary sessions. Presentations were made by representatives of Argentina, Costa Rica, El Salvador, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Venezuela all of whom expressed strong interest in continuing to work with CICAD on matters of common concern.

3. CLOSING SESSION

The closing session held on May 3, 2000 at 1:27 p.m. was addressed by the Executive Secretary of CICAD, Mr. David R. Beall, and by the Chair of CICAD, Mr. Lance Selman, who declared the proceedings closed.

