

# ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES



INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

cicad

**SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**  
**January 18-20, 2002**  
**Washington, D.C.**

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## FINAL REPORT

## **INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)**

### **FINAL REPORT**

#### **I. BACKGROUND**

The Statute of the Inter American Drug Abuse Control Commission 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 thirtieth regular session, the Commission decided, in accordance with Article 20 of the Statute, to hold the second special session in Washington, D.C. on January 18-20, 2002. The purpose of the special session was to consider and approve the draft National and Hemispheric Reports of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) on Implementation of Recommendations from the First Evaluation Round 1999-2000.

#### **II. PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**

##### **A. DECISIONS ADOPTED**

###### **1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES**

The agenda (document CICAD/doc.46/02 rev. 1) and the schedule of activities (CICAD/doc.45/02 rev. 1) were adopted without amendment.

###### **2. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE PROVISIONAL NATIONAL REPORTS OF THE MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FIRST EVALUATION ROUND 1999-2000**

The Commission considered the provisional MEM reports on each country and offered the delegations of all member states the opportunity to comment on the report on their respective country. The Commission decided to maintain the procedure adopted during the First Special Session of CICAD (December 11-15, 2000) in Washington. Factual errors identified by a country would be corrected directly in the report.

Member States reviewed and adopted the national reports and then considered the draft Hemispheric Report by the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism on Implementation of Recommendations from the First Evaluation Round 1999-2000. Using the same methodology applied to the national reports, the plenary reviewed and approved the draft report.

##### **B. PARTICIPANTS**

###### **1. CICAD MEMBERS**

Attending the second special session of the Commission were the delegates of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela (The participant list is published as document CICAD/doc.47/02).

## **2. PERMANENT OBSERVERS**

Also attending the second special session in their capacity as Permanent Observers to the Organization of American States were representatives of the European Union/European Commission, France, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Russian Federation.

### **C. SESSIONS**

#### **1. INAUGURAL SESSION**

The inaugural session was held at 9:20 am on January 18 in the Hilton Washington Embassy Row Hotel in Washington, D.C. The Chair of CICAD, Dr. Mildred Camero of Venezuela, offered welcoming remarks to the delegates and made an opening statement. Ambassador Luigi Einaudi, Assistant Secretary General of the OAS, addressed the plenary, placing the work of CICAD within the overall context of OAS responsibilities and highlighting the important progress made by the Commission with the MEM process. He noted that the MEM process is being studied and used as a guide for the activities of other entities.

#### **2. WORKING SESSIONS**

The Commission held four closed working sessions during which member States considered and adopted the 2000-2001 National Reports and Hemispheric Report of the MEM.

##### **a) National Reports**

The first working session began at 10:00 am on January 18, 2002 in the Hilton Hotel to consider the National Reports. Mr. David Beall, CICAD Executive Secretary, spoke on organizational and administrative matters related to work plan. Mrs. Serena Joseph-Harris, Governmental Expert Group (GEG) Coordinator and Principal Representative of Trinidad and Tobago, made a formal presentation of the draft national reports of the MEM to the Commission.

In opening remarks by delegations, Mexico highlighted the need for the evaluations to be objective, constructive and critical, stressing the importance of the introductory documents submitted by countries as well as recognition of obstacles encountered and limitations on national measures to combat drug trafficking. Mexico also reiterated the MEM's main objective to consolidate cooperation among the countries in the Hemisphere. Canada stressed the importance of prioritizing recommendations, and the need for substantive analysis and constructive criticism, while highlighting that the reports will be used by countries to make informed decisions and to seek financial support. The United States declared the importance of continued full participation by all member States and the need to be continually evaluating the MEM itself to ensure that the substance and quality of the system continue to improve. Antigua and Barbuda voiced its full commitment to the MEM process, observing that there are still problems in the system which need to be addressed. Antigua and Barbuda also pointed out that many countries are unable to make meaningful progress due to serious technical and financial problems.

The 33 draft national reports were duly addressed country-by-country and adopted by the Commission with the indicated amendments.

**b) Cooperation in Suppressing Illicit Maritime and Aeronautical drug Trafficking in the Caribbean**

Following approval of the national reports, the Commission received a presentation on Cooperation in Suppressing Illicit Maritime and Aeronautical Drug Trafficking in the Caribbean by Jorge A. Ballesterio Quesada of the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Costa Rica. Mr. Ballesterio provided member states with an update on discussions held in Costa Rica (November 4-8, 2001) regarding the proposed regional agreement on maritime cooperation in the Caribbean. This initiative originated with the Barbados Plan of Action (1996) and is coordinated by the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Mr. Ballesterio provided an overview of the major provisions of the proposed agreement. He further reported that a diplomatic meeting would take place during the first semester of 2002 to address remaining issues.

With regard to the previous presentation, the representative of Mexico stated that the aforementioned draft agreement “violated state sovereignty; failed to provide the parties with legal certainty; transgressed the provisions of various international treaties and national laws when referring to such aspects as jurisdiction, the boarding of suspicious vessels, and the use of force; signified the extraterritoriality, in the Caribbean area, of laws against illicit drug trafficking in force in the States Parties to the Convention; and established measures not provided for in the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.”

**c) Hemispheric Report**

Following an introduction by the CICAD Executive Secretary, member States considered the draft Hemispheric Report of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism on Implementation of Recommendations from the First Evaluation Round 1999-2000. Following a full discussion of the proposed draft, the amended report was adopted.

During their consideration of the draft Hemispheric Report, member States gave particular focus to the issue of requests for assistance. The Commissioners took note of member States’ mentions of assistance need (financial, technical support, supply of specialized equipment) in virtually all areas of functional concern. While countries are generally aware of the primary national responsibility, most require outside cooperation as well. However, the information contained in the recommendation responses also was insufficient to satisfy key criteria which the Commission must have before a systematic solution can be started.

The Commission directed the Executive Secretariat to gather information from member States regarding their requirements for assistance related to the MEM process and its evaluations in the near term. The new information, including relative priorities, assessment of cost, time for implementation and other basic considerations, will be compiled by the Executive Secretariat and presented to the Commission at its thirty-first regular session in April of 2002.

**d) Other matters**

The Commission, closing the first evaluation round of the MEM, considered the use of data accumulated and directed that it be provided to the Inter-American Observatory for use in its time series studies.

Mr. David Beall, CICAD Executive Secretary, highlighted to the Commission that the MEM reports would be made public on January 30<sup>th</sup> by a group of CICAD representatives to a select panel of press. The Commission was also reminded of the forthcoming regional training seminars for National Coordinating Entities for the second round of the MEM, to be held in February in Costa Rica, Trinidad and Tobago, and Peru.

Parallel to the plenary sessions, the Drafting Group responsible for preparing the CICAD Annual Report 2001-2002 concluded its work. Canada, as Chair of the Drafting Group, informed the Commission that the report would be circulated to member States for comments prior to transmission to the Permanent Council.

### **3. CLOSING SESSION**

The closing session was held on January 19 at 6:00 pm. Dr. Mildred Camero, Chair of CICAD and Dr. Eduardo Ibarrola Nicolás, Principal Representative of Mexico and Vice Chair of CICAD made final remarks.