

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES



INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

cicad

TWENTY-NINTH REGULAR SESSION
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FINAL REPORT

**TWENTY-NINTH 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 as may 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-seventh regular session, the Commission decided, in accordance with Article 20 of the Statute, to hold the twenty-ninth regular session in Washington, D.C.

II. PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-NINTH REGULAR SESSION

A. DECISIONS ADOPTED

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

The agenda (document CICAD/doc.1105/01) was adopted without amendment (Annex I). The schedule of activities (CICAD/doc.1106/01 rev. 3) was also adopted.

2. THIRD SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS: PROGRESS ON THE DRUG ISSUE

Mr. David Beall, Executive Secretary of CICAD advised the Commission that Secretary General Dr. César Gaviria, because of a concurrent meeting in Haiti, could not attend the twenty-ninth regular session of CICAD. Mr. Beall offered the Secretary General's regrets and made a brief presentation on the Summit of the Americas held in Quebec City, Canada in April 2001.

In his report, Mr. Beall underlined the comments made by the Heads of State and Government, recognizing the progress made in developing and implementing the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM). Mr. Beall also reviewed three Summit recommendations on the drug issue concerning alternative development, creating or strengthening Financial Intelligence Units (FIU), and the need to establish a system of data collection regarding the social and economic costs of drug abuse for use in program and policy development purposes.

During the general discussion that followed, several delegations reiterated their support for and commitment to the MEM process. The delegate of Mexico informed the Commission of his country's intention to seek the office of Vice Chair of CICAD during the next election.

3. REPORT BY THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP ON THE MEM INDICATORS AND PROCESS

The Chair informed the Commission that Mr. Paul Kennedy (Canada), the Chair of the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG), had been detained in Canada. In his place, Mr. Alvaro Ahumada (Chile), the Vice Chair, provided an overview of the work undertaken by the Seventh Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) meeting in April 2001. The object of the IWG's efforts

was to simplify the indicators, to make them easier to answer and to focus more on effectiveness, efficiency and results.

a. Consideration and approval of indicators for the second round of evaluation

The Questionnaire for the Second Evaluation Round (document CICAD/doc.1190/01), which had been revised and approved by the IWG in April 2001, was circulated among the delegates. The Commission decided on some revisions to a number of indicators, which appear in CICAD/doc.1109/01, and decided to retain all 82 indicators as amended. The full package of indicators was approved, with the exception of an indicator on displacement, which will be considered at the Thirtieth Regular session of CICAD for use in the Second Evaluation Round.

b. Consideration of the report of the intergovernmental working group on the MEM process

In terms of the MEM process, issues of organization, personnel, frequency and administration were considered by the delegates, and revised and adopted in document CICAD/doc.1108/01 rev. 2.

c. MEM Budget

The Executive Secretariat presented a budget estimate for the second round of evaluations, as was requested by the IWG in April. This budget reflected costs for regional training for MEM national coordinating entities.

4. ACTIONS TO FOLLOW UP ON MEM RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Secretary presented a proposed format to be used by countries in reporting progress in implementing MEM recommendations. The format is intended to provide a structure for uniform reporting to allow for an efficient review by the Governmental Experts Group (GEG). Further to a discussion by the Commission, the format was adopted with one addition. The form will be expanded to provide member states the opportunity to identify those recommendations that have not been implemented and the reasons for that situation.

The Executive Secretary provided an overview of schedule options for requesting and compiling reports on the implementation of recommendations. The Commission agreed on a hybrid of Alternative B in which the reports would be considered by the Commission at the thirtieth regular session of CICAD to be held in November 2001. The schedule will be amended to provide the opportunity for a second meeting of the GEG to take place prior to the thirtieth regular session to review the draft reports.

5. STATEMENTS BY PERMANENT OBSERVERS

The representative of Spain discussed his Government's continued close cooperation with CICAD member states and with the Executive Secretariat on several important projects. He expressed his satisfaction with the Institution Building Project and efforts to strengthen national drug observatories, and hoped to extend the project to the Andean countries. The representative of Spain reiterated Spain's support for CICAD and its interest in identifying other projects or initiatives for collaboration. One of the new projects that Spain proposes to support is the Ibero-American Online M.A. in Addictions Studies.

The representative of France offered congratulations to the Commission on the successful implementation of the MEM and underlined France's support for CICAD. She highlighted France's continuing financial support for the Inter-American Drug Control Telecommunications Network (RETCOD) and the on-going working relationship between CICAD and CIFAD, the French training center in Martinique. The representative advised the Commission that the training program at CIFAD is being expanded to also include components dealing with prevention and other elements of demand reduction.

The Head of the Russian Observer delegation made a presentation on their anti-drug efforts, and congratulated CICAD for the progress it has made with the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere and the MEM.

The Commission thanked the Permanent Observer countries for their support for CICAD programs.

6. REPORT BY THE SECOND MEETING OF THE CICAD GROUP OF COORDINATORS ON DISPLACEMENT

Dr. Mildred Camero, Vice Chair of CICAD and Chair of the CICAD Group of Coordinators on Displacement presented a report by the Second Meeting of Coordinators on Displacement. A resolution was prepared by the Group for CICAD's consideration and approval. The resolution included recommendations as to how the matter should be addressed regionally, including the continued development of a research protocol for the study, and a proposed indicator on displacement for inclusion in the MEM questionnaire.

After full discussion of the matter, the Commission confirmed the importance of the topic of displacement; recognized the need to introduce an indicator on displacement into the Second Round of Evaluation of the MEM, but that the design of the indicator requires more time; and decided that the indicator should be defined at the thirtieth regular session of CICAD to be held in Venezuela in November 2001, and should contain all the elements worked on earlier by the CICAD Group of Coordinators on Displacement, including domestic and external factors.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

The Peruvian delegation presented a report on activities carried out by the Andean Regional Anti-Drug Intelligence Center (ERCAID).

As part of the Brazilian delegation, the Council for the Control of Financial Activities (COAF) made a presentation on their mandate and operation as a financial investigation unit.

Status of implementation of the Inter-American Convention Against Illicit Production and Traffic of Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials

The Mexican delegation reported on the status of implementation of the Inter-American Convention Against Illicit Production and Traffic of Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials, through the model regulations of CICAD. Mexico announced that Brazil is interested in serving as the secretariat pro tempore for this Convention.

Remarks on the relation of CICAD with non-OAS entities in the Caribbean Basin

The Chairman of CICAD raised the issue of CICAD relations with non-OAS entities in the Caribbean Basin, and proposed that the Executive Secretariat establish closer working relations directly with institutions in those territories. After full discussion of the matter, the Commission asked the Secretariat to study the parameters of the proposal within the context of the OAS Charter, and to report back to the thirtieth regular session with a specific strategy for the participation of those entities.

Considerations concerning the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere of 1996

In light of dynamic changes in the drug problem in the region, the Executive Secretariat raised the possibility of revising the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere. The delegations expressed the importance and utility of the Strategy as a base for anti-drug efforts, and expressed their concern as to the cost and time involved in such a revision. The Commission decided that possible revision of the Strategy should be considered again after the results of the second round of MEM evaluations

8. PLACE AND DATE FOR THE THIRTIETH REGULAR SESSION OF CICAD

In accordance with Articles 20 and 21 of the Statute, the Commission decided to hold its thirtieth regular session in Caracas, Venezuela during the second half of November 2001. The exact date would be set as soon as possible in consultation with the host country and with the Executive Secretariat. .

B. PARTICIPANTS

1. CICAD MEMBERS

Attending the twenty-ninth regular session of the Commission were Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela.

2. PERMANENT OBSERVERS

Also attending the twenty-eighth regular session in their capacity as Permanent Observers to the Organization of American States (OAS) were representatives of the European Union/European Commission, Germany, France, Portugal, the Russian Federation, and Spain.

3. INTER-AMERICAN SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

Representatives attended from the Andean Community; the Caribbean Community (CARICOM); the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF); the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA); the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB); the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL); the United Nations International Drug Control Program (UNDCP); the Andean Parliament; and the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA).

The list of participants in this regular session is published separately as document

CICAD/doc.1107/01 rev. 3.