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INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

cicad

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FINAL REPORT

**THIRTY-THIRD 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 thirty-second regular session, the Commission decided, in accordance with Article 20 of the Statute, to hold the thirty-third regular session in Washington, D.C.

II. PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRTY-THIRD REGULAR SESSION

1. INAUGURAL SESSION

Opening remarks were made by Mr. Rafael Macedo de la Concha, Attorney General of the Republic of Mexico and Chair of CICAD, and by Mr. Paul Kennedy, Senior Assistant Deputy Solicitor General of Canada, Vice-Chair. Mr. Macedo de la Concha focused on the importance of looking into the links between organized crime and narcotics trafficking and of developing hemispheric actions in this area. Mr. Kennedy stressed the importance of improving inter-government communication to deal with this growing problem.

A. DECISIONS ADOPTED

1. Approval of the draft agenda (CICAD/doc.1217/03 rev.1) and the draft schedule of activities (CICAD/doc.1218/03 rev.3).

The Commission adopted the draft agenda and draft schedule of activities without amendment, noting that the Secretary General of the OAS had sent his regrets that he could not attend, given pressing duties in Caracas, Venezuela.

2. Report of the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) on the operations of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) (CICAD/doc.1237/03).

The report of the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) on the operations of the MEM was introduced by Ambassador Julio Balbuena of Peru, Chair of the IWG, and by Ms. Margarita Chavez of El Salvador, Vice Chair of the IWG. Ambassador Balbuena reported that at its eighth meeting held in March 2003, the IWG had fully discussed changes to the MEM indicators; the operational process of the MEM; on-site visits; the

solidarity fund; the form on the implementation by the countries of the MEM recommendations; procedure in the case of reiterated recommendations; the MEM schedule for 2003-2004, the budget, and the use of sources of information other than those provided by the member state. Each set of proposed changes is discussed in greater detail in the following paragraphs. Ambassador Balbuena noted that the IWG had agreed to recommend to the Commission at its thirty-third regular session that these changes be approved as a means of strengthening and clarifying the MEM.

a. Revised MEM indicators for the Third Evaluation Round.

Regarding the indicators, the Commission decided to consider the IWG's proposed revisions to the MEM questionnaire by sections. The Commission's decisions follow:

Optimization of a national anti-drug control Strategy: Approved

Demand Reduction: Approved

Supply Reduction: Approved

Control Measures: Approved with the following modification to Indicator 57A regarding exports of firearms. In the Definitions and Explanations section of the indicator, a footnote whose exact wording was agreed to after debate, was added stating that:

“Countries that have ratified any regional or international instrument that creates the obligation identified in this indicator, or that have a similar obligation under national law, should be in a position to fully respond to this indicator.

Other countries are encouraged to respond to the fullest extent possible or to make an appropriate observation in the comments section.”

Displacement: Approved.

Proposal to include new indicators on transnational organized crime to the MEM (Mexico) (CICAD/doc.1227/03 rev. 1).

Mexico proposed to add two new indicators to the MEM – one entitled “Combating Transnational Organized Crime”, and the other “Enforcement of laws against Transnational Organized Crime” to reflect the contents of paragraph 21 of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere and the changing dynamic of illicit drug trafficking and associated organized crime (CICAD/doc.1227/03 rev. 1).

In addition, Mexico offered to serve as the seat of an Inter-American technical meeting to identify the mechanisms needed to strengthen cooperation in the field of transnational organized crime (CICAD/doc./1230/03). Likewise, Mexico offered to bear the logistical and organizational expenses of this meeting.

In making these proposals, Mexico noted that drug trafficking had long been associated with, above all, weapons smuggling, money laundering and the diversion of chemical substances. However, current trends indicated that drug traffickers had devised other forms of criminal behavior to boost their illicit activities and create an infrastructure that allows them to operate at any level, under any circumstances, and in any State by establishing a network with enormous potential for corruption, with economic and technical underpinnings that are a match for many national governments. This phenomenon had to be addressed from a wider perspective, one capable of encompassing the different facets of transnational organized crime and forcing us to ponder the new challenges the Hemisphere faces.

After discussion, the Commission took the following decisions:

- i. In order to prepare for the meeting in Mexico, Member states should send to the Secretariat by June 30 their responses to the draft indicators proposed by Mexico which will be reviewed for that meeting. Based on the responses to those indicators, the Secretariat will prepare a report that provides substantive elements to the meeting and serves as a basis for discussion. The meeting in Mexico will be held in September to exchange experiences in the area of transnational organized crime and to analyze, within the framework of the OAS, new forms of hemispheric cooperation on that issue. Additionally, the attendees of the meeting will analyze the convenience of integrating into the MEM questionnaire some type of indicators on transnational organized crime.
- ii. The report on the results of the deliberations on transnational organized crime, as well as other documents or indicators that might result from the meeting, will be presented for consideration of the attendees at the thirty-fourth regular session of CICAD.

b. Revised operational process of the MEM (CICAD/doc.1220/03).

The additions and changes proposed by the IWG to the operating process of the MEM for the Third Evaluation Round are contained in CICAD/doc.1220/03. These include new sections on the Characteristics of the Experts; the Role of the National Coordinating Entity (NCE); Characteristics of *in situ* Visits During the Evaluation Process; and Characteristics of the Solidarity Fund of the MEM. Furthermore, the revised operating process provides for the GEG, when drafting the country evaluation reports, to consult official international and national sources of information other than those which are provided by the respective governments, such as the United Nations, World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, International Monetary Fund, GAFI, GAFIC, GAFISUD, among others, when drafting the country evaluations. Finally, the Commission approved the IWG proposal that MEM evaluation reports be presented to the OAS Permanent Council after their approval by CICAD. The Commission decided to approve document CICAD/doc.1220/03 without change.

The Delegate of the United States offered his country as a pilot for an on-site visit.

c. Form for evaluating progress on the implementation of recommendations from the Second Round (2002-2003) (CICAD/doc.1221/03).

The Commission decided to approve document CICAD/doc.1221/03, with a change in paragraph C.4, to clarify that the assistance might be financial, technical or other.

d. Actions to assist member states to fulfill reiterated recommendations (CICAD/doc.1222/03).

The Commission decided to approve the IWG document CICAD/doc.1222/03 without change, but noted the caution by the Delegation of Brazil that communications urging a member state to comply with recommendations that had been made more than once should emanate from the Commission, through the Executive Secretariat.

e. Promotion and dissemination of the MEM (CICAD/doc.1223/03).

The Commission approved the action document, with additional suggestions on promotion of the MEM and the work of CICAD, including development by the Executive Secretariat of frequently asked questions for the web site; briefings for members of parliament or congress of each country, regarding the evaluative process of the MEM; and publicity through the media in order to promote the MEM. This activity should be carried out prior to the regular session of the Commission, as well as to include information about the MEM in member states' celebrations of June 26, the International Day Against Drugs.

f. Sequence of MEM activities 2003-2004.

The Commission considered a proposal by the IWG for the sequence of MEM activities 2003-2004, which would deliver the Third Evaluation Round (2003-2004) reports to the public in May 2005. The Colombian delegation presented an alternative proposal that also would deliver the reports in May 2005, but that moved the time periods in order to allow countries to present complete statistics for the evaluation period in order to be available to the GEG.

The Commission requested that the Executive Secretariat produce a new version of the sequence of activities which makes best use of available time and resources. The delegation of Colombia pointed out that any proposal from the Secretariat should allow the countries sufficient time to be able to supply consolidated information for the evaluation period. After discussion, the Commission asked the Executive Secretariat to prepare a new version of the timetable. After further discussion, the Commission decided to maintain the sequence proposed by the Executive Secretariat, moving the third drafting session of the GEG to the first trimester of 2005.

g. Financial and budgetary matters of the MEM.

The Executive Secretary presented information on the direct costs to CICAD of the MEM, noting that those costs do not include expenses incurred by the member states. In 2002, the direct costs of executing the MEM were US\$861,488. Contributions to the MEM in the same year, from both the OAS Regular Fund and external sources, amounted to US\$1,169,187. Contributions to the MEM in 2003 as of March 31 totaled US\$1,100,544.

The Executive Secretary also discussed the relative costs of holding a MEM or GEG meeting in Washington, DC or elsewhere in the hemisphere. He explained, with an example, that the direct costs to CICAD varied little from location to location, while holding meetings in different member states carried the advantage of additional promotion of MEM objectives.

The Commission thanked the Executive Secretary for his clear presentation.

3. Technical and financial assistance related to priority projects in 14 countries to implement recommendations from the first MEM evaluation round (CICAD/doc. 1239/03).

The CICAD Executive Secretariat presented for the consideration of the Commission proposed priority MEM projects in 14 countries in the areas of Drug Abuse Prevention and Statistical Surveys on Drug Use. At the thirty-second regular session in Mexico City in December, 2002, the Commission had agreed that the Secretariat should give priority support to these projects, thereby linking its decision-making regarding projects and allocation of resources directly to requests by member states for assistance to implement recommendations contained in the First Round MEM national evaluation reports. This participatory approach had the effect of strengthening the MEM process itself.

In Mexico City, the Commission also had mandated that the Secretariat work with the 14 countries to develop these projects and to have them ready to present for consideration at the thirty-third regular session of CICAD. The Secretariat informed the Commission that it had met this mandate thanks to the active cooperation of the 14 member states. The Secretariat pointed out that while some of the projects had to be modified or reduced in scope in order to conform to the US\$ 1 million the United States had made available for all 14 countries, in every single case, the minimum requirements of the 14 member states had been met.

In the comment period following the presentation of the projects, the Executive Secretary noted his expectation that requests from member states for technical assistance from the MEM second round would be considered in the same manner as they had been in the first round. After numerous Commissioners spoke in favor of the

projects and the manner they were developed, the Commission unanimously approved them for execution.

In concluding this agenda item, the Chair announced that Jamaica had a voluntary contribution of US\$5000 to CICAD. The Chair thanked Jamaica for their generous contribution and support.

4. Alternative Development: Status, Models and Prospects (CICAD/doc.1238/03).

a. The delegation of Bolivia presented an overview of Bolivia's new strategy for 2003 – 2008 (Plan Bolivia – A New Commitment), through which the country proposes to build on the progress in drug control achieved in the preceding 15 years. Bolivia stressed its commitment to alternative development as a key component in its efforts to reduce coca cultivation and reiterated its candidacy for the vice chair of the Commission.

b. Peru commented on the similarities between its approach to alternative development and that of Bolivia. Peru also spoke to the importance of an integral approach, the need for markets for the products of alternative development efforts, and the requirement for a common regional approach to supply reduction.

c. The delegation from Ecuador briefed the Commission on its government's ongoing UDENOR (Unit for the Development of the North) project to accelerate development of the economic and physical infrastructure of the northern border region of Ecuador, link it to the rest of country, and make it less susceptible to the consequences of the spillover of drug production and violence from southern Colombia.

d. The delegation of Colombia made a presentation on the Alternative Development Program (ADP) of the Government of President Uribe. It was pointed out the ADP is a component of Plan Colombia and a fundamental strategy of the national anti-drug policy that complements drug control and drug crop eradication actions. It was pointed out that the program seeks to provide licit options and employment to communities which commit themselves to keep free of illicit crops those zones that have been the target of earlier eradication. Finally it was pointed out that the program is being carried out by means of two strategies -- the management of productive medium and long term agroforestry and agricultural projects, and economic support to forest ranger families, which taken together seek to tie some 77,000 farm families to 136,000 hectares in the intervention zones and keep them free of illicit crops.

e. The delegation of Honduras requested international assistance for its alternative development project for Gracias a Dios Department, a major transit point for drugs transiting the Caribbean.

f. In his historical review, the Executive Secretary noted that to date, alternative development programs in the three major coca producing countries had not yet substantially reduced overall regional coca production, but there had been substantial volatility of production within these countries. There were many reasons for this including low prices for some of the major alternative crops, such as coffee, although cacao might provide solid long-term opportunities. Clearly, the issue of alternative development (and it requires a better definition) was proving more complex than originally anticipated, leaving him to question whether CICAD can state that the hemisphere has yet found a long-term developmental solution to illicit drug cultivation.

The Executive Secretary also provided long-term trend information that suggested different images of progress that result from the objectives defined. Overall, the data available suggests that success in addressing illicit drug production has been limited and the Executive Secretary suggested that it is necessary for the Commission to look at alternative development in a different way.

Delegates congratulated the Executive Secretary on his informative and frank assessment of alternative development. Some delegates expressed their concern at the apparent lack of interest in Latin America narcotics issues by some European partners as revealed at the recent Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) meeting in Vienna; the problems of trade tariffs; and the need for preferential markets for products of alternative development efforts. Others spoke to the need for a clear analysis and a plan that brings all parties and all efforts together in a way that is coordinated and complimentary to other efforts.

Peru supported the Executive Secretary's suggestion to establish a small working group of experts on Alternative Development and offered Peru as the site to host an analytical workshop to be held before the end of 2003.

5. Report of the status of the CICAD Group of Experts on Demand Reduction.

The delegation of Argentina, which holds the Chair of the CICAD Experts Group on Demand Reduction presented its report, and announced that the fifth meeting of the Group would take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina in October 2003. The agenda would focus on aspects of the continuum of care in drug treatment, including diagnosis and referral, day hospitals, therapeutic communities, and dual diagnosis patients, in the context of the development of a CICAD manual on treatment models and modalities.

6. Presentation by the Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, Mr. John Walters.

Director Walters described Mexico's achievements in a very short time in combating organized crime as unparalleled. He also recounted the success of the US Government policy to contest each major state referendum initiative to legalize marijuana. Leniency, he pointed out, makes the drug problem worse by creating the expectation among youth that consumption is a trivial issue and an acceptable choice of

entertainment. Finally, he commended CICAD's efforts to harmonize the drug control institutions of the member states to prevent international drug traffickers from using international borders as a shield for their illicit activities.

**7. Chemical Control: National Database System (NDS)
Presentation by the Representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs
and Crime (UNODC) Phillip Kruss**

Mr. Phillip Kruss, UNODC representative, briefed the Commission on version 5.1 of the National Drug Control System (NDS). NDS has evolved from earlier versions to become a simple, secure and extremely versatile UN software package for automating the control and monitoring of chemical precursors and pharmaceuticals. He stressed that the UN was making it available free of charge to all countries, including on-site training and installation. The system can be adapted to the specific needs of each state. He cited the advantages of a single system in the hemisphere and commented that a number of countries, including Canada and Uruguay, already had adopted it.

A number of delegations including Uruguay, Canada, Mexico and El Salvador spoke to the utility and importance of this software, recommending that CICAD endorse the NDS software as the CICAD standard.

The Commission approved the proposal that CICAD adopt the NDS software as the hemispheric standard for the control of precursor chemicals and pharmaceuticals and encouraged all member states to adopt it. CICAD will host the server associated with this system.

8. Presentation on Organized Crime and Drug Trafficking (Mexico).

The Mexican delegation presented the latest developments in its fight against organized crime. In this regard, the Government of Mexico has carried out legal reform, and has undertaken initiatives in the operational area. (See 2 a i and ii for a further discussion of the Mexican presentation and proposal).

The Delegate of Trinidad & Tobago described advances achieved by the Caribbean countries in this type of criminality, and discussed the work of the CARICOM Regional Task Force on Crime and Security.

**9. Evaluation of the CICAD demand reduction project on Nursing Schools in Latin America, presented by Dr. Juan Alfaro (El Salvador)
(CICAD/doc.1241/03).**

Dr. Alfaro presented to the Commission his evaluation of the five year, three-stage project to introduce drug demand reduction and other drug –related topics into the curricula of nursing schools in 10 countries in Latin America; to establish international training and research programs with the cooperation of universities in Canada, the US

and Brazil; and to sponsor research and extension programs in the universities. During the project over 11,500 nursing students and 500 teachers benefited from the new curriculum. Dr. Alfaro recommended *inter alia* that CICAD systematize the capture of the best practices from this project; seek to monitor the impact of the students once they graduate from their nursing program and begin work; sponsor the establishment of an interuniversity network among participating institutions and work to upgrade the curriculum of nursing schools in Central America and the Caribbean.

The Commission accepted the evaluation report.

10. Report on the Mock Trial held in El Salvador: Introduction by the Executive Secretariat and presentation by Ms. Margarita Chavez of El Salvador.

The report noted that in recent years many Latin American countries were migrating from a trial system involving written submissions based on European procedural approaches to an oral accusatory system. As a tool for facilitating this change, a mock trial had originally been developed by Kristian Hoelge of the UNODC office in Bogotá, involving a case based on a real-life money laundering prosecution. The mock trial was carried out in El Salvador in cooperation with CICAD and with technical supervision by a senior Spanish judge and Colombian experts. The roles of the accused, witnesses, attorneys and judges were played by Salvadoran officials from the National Police Force, the Attorney-General's office and the judiciary. The delegate from El Salvador reported that the mock trial had proven to be an enormously successful teaching tool which she commended to other countries. She noted, however, that the event required significant preparation time and effort by the participants and that accordingly, a prior and coordinated commitment to the program was an important precondition by the highest levels of relevant government agencies such as, for example, the office of the President of the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General and the Interior Department.

The Commission accepted the report.

11. Community Policing: report on the implementation of the pilot project in the Dominican Republic. Presented by Staff Sgt. Normand Boucher, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and Lt. Col. Julio Gautreaux, Dominican Republic National Police. (CICAD/doc.1254/03).

Staff Sgt. Boucher and Lt. Col. Gautreaux reported to the Commission on the implementation of a pilot project in community policing. The project, initiated in February 2003, is taking place in Santo Domingo. The National Police of the Dominican Republic is executing this project with the assistance of the RCMP. The presenters noted that community policing is a philosophy of policing that focuses on problem solving in partnership with clients and communities to ensure continuous improvement in service delivery. It requires active consultation with and involvement of many organizations. During the rest of this year, the National Police will continue implementation of this project and undertake several formal evaluations. Organizers are also already

considering expansion of the project to other parts of Santo Domingo. The National Police and Community will join to provide the Commission with a status report during its XXXIV regular session. In the interim, the Executive Secretariat, with assistance from the National Police and RCMP, will assess the level of interest among member states regarding this initiative as they consider the future of the community policing initiative.

The Commission accepted the report.

12. Report on Maritime Cooperation. Presentation by the Executive Secretariat of CICAD (CICAD/doc.1224/03).

The Secretariat presented its report on Maritime Cooperation. Referring to the prior work accomplished on this issue at the Second Western Hemisphere Drug Policy Leadership Conference in Reston, Virginia, the Inter-American Counter-Drug Forum in Miami, and at the thirty-second regular session of CICAD in Mexico City, the report highlighted the challenges faced by member states attempting to identify and intercept illicit drugs and other related contraband transported by maritime means. Most of the cocaine produced leaves South America by sea. Countries must deal with large volumes of ship and container traffic moving through millions of square miles of water and hundreds of ports. The magnitude of the problem is so great that no one country has the capacity to confront this challenge alone. Enhanced international cooperation and coordination is essential with countries also learning from the experiences of others.

The Secretariat proposed the formation of a CICAD working group to prepare a study of trends and threats in maritime trafficking as well as national and regional capacities to respond to this challenge. The report also called for the formation of a group of experts to address other maritime issues.

Mexico acknowledged the Secretariat report and offered comments and alternate suggestions captured in CICAD/doc.1246/03. The proposal called on CICAD to establish a special group of government experts to develop a questionnaire and undertake a hemisphere-wide study of maritime narcotrafficking. The study would consider the current trends in maritime narcotrafficking, the routes and methods used, the problems encountered by member states in responding to these challenges, and the needs they have to overcome to do so. The comments paper outlined a proposed timeframe for this study.

Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Canada, Venezuela, El Salvador, and Honduras expressed their support of the Mexican proposal. Among the points of this proposal is that the study be hemispheric, not sub-regional, in character. In addition, to avoid duplication of efforts, the proposal suggested that the study examine information on this issue from other international organizations.

The Bahamas, joined by Trinidad and Tobago, the Dominican Republic and Antigua and Barbuda, supported the study but did not want it to delay the

implementation of the **Agreement on Cooperation to Combat Maritime and Air Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Cooperation in the Caribbean which will enter into force in mid-May**. Following a full exchange on this issue, the Commission accepted the proposal made by the delegation of Mexico and the work plan offered by the Executive Secretariat, a copy of which is contained in annex A.

13. Memoranda of Understanding between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the Permanent Observer countries of France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning the participation of their territories situated in the Caribbean Region in the activities of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD).

The Secretariat reported that France and the United Kingdom had informed that they anticipated no objections to signing the MOU but that the documents had not yet been returned. In the case of the U.K, there had been delays because prior to the document's acceptance, it needed to be consulted with officials of its Caribbean territories. In some cases the territories were having elections and the competent officials were not, for this reason, available for discussion. The Netherlands returned two separate agreements to CICAD, one for Aruba (CICAD/doc.1235/03) and the other for the Netherlands Antilles (CICAD/doc.1236/03). The delegation of Mexico expressed the view that there should be only one agreement. The Secretariat undertook to follow-up the Mexican observation with the corresponding legal officials in The Hague.

14. Report on the Agreement on Cooperation to Combat Maritime and Air Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in the Caribbean (Costa Rica).

Ms. Nelly M. Vargas Hernandez, Vice Minister of the Presidency of Costa Rica, presented the Maritime Cooperation Agreement in the Caribbean. After a brief review of the background issues, the Vice Minister informed the Commission that the Agreement on Cooperation to Combat Maritime and Air Trafficking in Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in the Caribbean had been signed in San Jose on April 10, 2003, by Costa Rica, the United States, France, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Haiti, Honduras, the Netherlands and the Dominican Republic. The Maritime Agreement will come into force 30 days after signature. The Maritime Agreement is oriented to increasing and strengthening international cooperation in order to reduce the trafficking of drugs.

15. Report by the chair of the CICAD Group of Experts on Firearms Control, Dr. Alfonso Sandino Camacho, Vice Minister of the Interior of Nicaragua. Presentation by Dr. Alfonso Camacho, Vice Minister of the Interior of Nicaragua (CICAD/doc.1242/03).

As Chair of the Group of Experts on Firearms, which met in Managua, Nicaragua, April 7-9, Dr. Alfonso Sandino Camacho presented two proposals recommended by the Experts Group on Firearms to amend CICAD's firearms model regulations. The first would add new provisions dealing with measures for the control of firearms brokers. The second would add "housekeeping" amendments to existing regulations.

Regarding adoption by CICAD of these amendments by the Commission and by the OAS General Assembly in June, Canada, Brazil, Chile, and Guatemala stated they needed more time to consider them.

The Chair (Mr. Kennedy) proposed that member states be given until May 9 (thirty days after the conclusion of the Expert Group meetings) to comment on the proposed regulations. If no substantive objections were raised by this date, that would be taken as acceptance by CICAD and the draft regulations would proceed to the General Assembly for adoption.

The Chair (Mr. Kennedy) also noted that if a member state indicated that it was not prepared to accept the amendments by May 9, 2003, these would be submitted to CICAD at the thirty-fourth regular session, and to the OAS General Assembly in 2004.

The Commission adopted the proposals as formulated by the Chair.

The delegation of Colombia proposed that the Expert Group work plan for 2003-2004 should include information exchange and technical cooperation measures for determining the amount of and destroying excess stockpiled weapons; strengthening controls at import, export and transit points; exchanging information on known arms traffickers and on techniques, practices and legislation to combat money laundering related to illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms. The delegation also indicated the need for increased cooperation and coordination between the Expert Group and the Consultative Committee established under the Inter-American Firearms Convention (CIFTA) currently chaired by Colombia. The Commission agreed to the proposals.

16. The SALSA Electronic system to implement the CICAD Model Regulations on Firearms: Introduction by the Executive Secretariat and presentation by CICAD consultant Mr. Richard Clark.

The Commission heard a presentation by CICAD consultant Mr. Richard Clark on a software program called the Small Arms and Light Weapons Administration (SALSA) to support the implementation of the OAS Model Regulations on Firearms. The SALSA system, which received some initial support from the RCMP, is sponsored by OAS/CICAD and UN-LiREC (the United Nations Lima Regional Center for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin American and the Caribbean) and is a response to the need by firearms officials in OAS member states to have a more efficient web-based communications tool. Although its prime function is efficient and

effective monitoring of commercial movements of light arms, SALSA also allows the user *inter alia* access to firearms legislation, regulations, and other relevant documents of participating OAS countries. SALSA will enable authorized users to exchange specific e-mail addresses and telephone numbers of officials authorized to approve registration of firearms. It will serve countries in identifying and recording exporters and importers and will be used in the approving of export, import and in-transit transactions. It also will give authorized officials a secure communications system for exchanging information among themselves on movement of firearms in which their countries are involved.

**17. Presentation by the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs (OID).
(CICAD/doc.1228/03, CICAD/doc.1245/03, CICAD/doc.1252/03,
CICAD/doc.1255/03).**

The Secretariat described the Observatory's mission as CICAD's information, statistics and research branch; its goal to help build a drug information network with and for the Americas; and its key role in underpinning the MEM process. In addition to its ongoing projects of assisting the creation and strengthening of national observatories, a program coordinated by the Institutional Strengthening section of CICAD that has received significant support from the Government of Spain, the Observatory has made some significant advances in the project to determine the economic and social costs of drugs. Also, during the past five months, the Observatory has launched new initiatives including an electronic quarterly, the creation of a "help" desk, the publication for the first time of SIDUC student drug use surveys, and has begun executing the long-term transnational digital government project to prove the feasibility of using several advanced communication technologies to share information across borders, even among countries who speak different languages.

Finally, the Secretariat committed to send to the member states for their comments, a specific proposal to create a Scientific Advisory Committee to help guide the work of the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs.

18. Presentations by the OAS Permanent Observers, Civil Society Organizations, and other Latin-American and International Organizations.

a. France:

The French delegate, Mr. Charley Causeret, outlined some of the policy lines to be followed by the French government during the next five years. They include (i) clear opposition to decriminalization of any drug use and (ii) the implementation of drug treatments which have proven to be successful. Furthermore, he underlined the actions of cooperation, which have been or will be soon developed between the CIFAD and CICAD through an MOU, which had been signed last year. He indicated that France was considering favorably signing the MOU with CICAD that aims at facilitating a closer CICAD relationship with the French Overseas Departments of Martinique, Guadeloupe and Guiana.

b. The Russian Federation:

The representative of the Russian Federation, Mr. Vladimir Solov, said that in the context of the special United Nations General Assembly of 1998, his country was exploring new approaches to the ever-changing problem of international drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and drug-financed terrorism. He proposed strengthening the machinery for international cooperation by, among other things, calling a meeting under UN auspices of regional drug control organizations like CICAD; setting up a central data bank on synthetic drugs, and developing universal standards for equipment for drug testing. He also called for more active cooperation on financial crimes and money laundering, including information exchange and training.

c. UNODC:

The representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Mr. Aldo Lale-Demoz, reiterated his organization's firm commitment to work closely with CICAD, particularly in helping to implement the MEM recommendations. He thanked the Commission for its decision to adopt the NDS chemical control software, and said that UNODC will provide technical and financial assistance to member states wishing to install it. UNODC welcomes CICAD's decision to hold a meeting on transnational organized crime, and offered such technical assistance as might be required. He concluded by saying that UNODC will continue to cooperate on matters such as institution-building, training, studies on the economic and social cost of the drug problem, and mock trials.

d. The Ibero-American Network of NGOs Working in Demand Reduction (RIOD):

The representative RIOD, Mr. Juan Raddames de la Rosa, outlined the structure and goals of RIOD, as an organization bringing together fifty-five non-governmental organizations in Spain and Latin America working in drug abuse prevention and treatment. RIOD has completed the requirements for official registration with the OAS as a cooperating civil society organization. He thanked the National Drug Plan of Spain and CICAD for their support, and offered RIOD member institutions as sites for the practicum phase of the M.A. on-line in addictions studies. He concluded by saying that RIOD supports a strong partnership between Governments and NGOs in the area of demand reduction.

19. Presentation of the work plan of the CICAD Group of Experts on Money Laundering Control, 2003-2004.

The Chair of the CICAD Group of Experts on Money Laundering Control, Ms. Mary Lee Warren, Deputy Assistant Attorney General of the US Department of Justice, outlined the Group's ambitious work plan, which will involve four meetings over the next two years, to address technical issues outlined in its working agenda 2003-2004. They

include *inter alia* the development of a model definition of terrorist financing; revisions to model regulations to make forfeiture more effective and to improve forfeiture cooperation; the review and possible revision of model regulations regarding advanced law enforcement techniques (wiretap, undercover, use of informants), and the review and possible revision of model regulations concerning conspiracy offenses. The Chair of CICAD thanked her for her presentation, and after discussion, the Commission approved the work plan.

20. Proposal on the generation of financial and technical cooperation for anti-drug programs in the hemisphere (CICAD/doc.1226/03).

Following up discussions in Mexico City at the thirty-second regular session of CICAD, the Delegate of Antigua and Barbuda outlined the proposal made by his country and by Suriname to increase the financial resources and technical cooperation needed to help strengthen the drug control programs of the Member States and of CICAD itself. The Delegates of Argentina, the Dominican Republic, the United States, El Salvador, Canada, Paraguay and Mexico congratulated the proponents, stated that they supported the proposal, and were in agreement with its objectives and methods. In addition, the Delegates of Canada and the United States suggested that CICAD convene periodic meetings of donors in order to coordinate their technical and financial assistance, and that the contracting of a fund-raising consultant be deferred until the Task Force had met and determined its work plan.

The Commission approved the proposal, with the additions and comments of Canada and the United States.

21. Amendment of Article 8 of the CICAD Regulations, proposed by Argentina.

The Delegate of Argentina advised that after consultations with other delegations, a general understanding had been reached that “the participation of dependent territories of Permanent Observers in the meetings and activities of CICAD is necessarily framed within the norms, principles and practices of the Organization of American States.” In light of this, the Delegate of Argentina stated that it was unnecessary to consider further the proposed amendment to Article 8 of the CICAD Regulations.

The Chair verified that such a general understanding existed, and asked that it be placed on record in this final report of the thirty-third regular session of CICAD.

22. Date and place for the thirty-fourth regular session of the Commission.

The Delegate of Canada confirmed his country’s offer to host the thirty-fourth regular session of the Commission in Canada, in November 2003. The exact dates would be set in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of CICAD and the Executive Secretariat.

23. Other business.

The Executive Secretariat reported on progress being made by the M.A. On-line in Addictions Studies, which had been launched in October 2002 with 127 students in 19 countries. The positive findings of the on-line student satisfaction survey were presented, and two students gave their personal testimony of the value of the course. The delegates said they strongly supported this program, and asked the Executive Secretariat to develop a similar program in English.

24. Closing session.

In his closing remarks, the Chair of CICAD highlighted some of the pioneering initiatives that had been approved in this thirty-third regular session: addressing the intertwined threats of transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism; the financial and technical assistance that will be provided to fourteen countries in the areas of statistics and demand reduction to help them comply more effectively with the recommendations of the MEM; the improvements made to various aspects of the MEM itself; the new approaches to alternative development; the increasingly technical work of CICAD's Expert Groups; and the creation of a Task Force on Resource Generation, and of a new working group that will carry out a study on Maritime Cooperation.

In closing, he thanked the Delegates for their constructive dialogue which had made for concrete progress and results to the benefit of the entire hemisphere, and there being no further business, adjourned the thirty-third regular session of CICAD.

B. PARTICIPANTS

1. CICAD MEMBERS

Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, 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, St. Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela attended the thirty-third regular session of the CICAD.

2. PERMANENT OBSERVERS

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

3. INTER-AMERICAN SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

Representatives attended from the Andean Community, the Andean Parliament; the

Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Central American Parliament; the Ibero-American Network of NGO's Working in Demand Reduction (RIOD), the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Note: The list of participants in this regular session is published separately as document CICAD/doc.1219/03 rev. 1.

ANNEX A

Updated Work Plan Maritime Study	
Target Date	Activities
On-going	Research existing studies and reports and compile for distribution to experts
On-going	Review papers, studies and other sources regarding trends, methods country problems and other related issues to supplement the reports
14-May	Prepare letter to selected countries inviting to participate and asking for contact information for the expert
16-May	Identify date and venue for meeting
16-May	Arrange for translation of letters
20-May	Send out letters to selected countries
20-May	Letter sent to Maj. Gen Bishop (SouthCom) requesting information
20-May	Make logistical arrangements for meeting room, interpretation, translation etc
23-May	Prepare the letter to working group nominees, the draft agenda, bulletin and related materials for the meeting
23-May	Consult with CICTE, OAS Ports and other organizations
30-May	Prepare a draft questionnaire and arrange for translation
30-May	Prepare a draft format for the hemispheric report
30-May	Prepare draft letter to accompany questionnaire
30-May	Arrange for translation of letter
1-June to 6-June	Follow-up with selected countries as required
9-June to 13-June	Distribute draft agenda, bulletin and draft questionnaire to country experts
9-Jun	Distribute draft questionnaire to country experts
30-Jun	Meeting of working group - select Chair (?) - review and finalize questionnaire - review and finalize report format - distribute and review papers, reports and other literature to be used for analysis - identify other papers etc that should be included in study
3-July to 10-July	Revise draft questionnaire further to meeting
11-Jul	Distribute questionnaire to all member states

Aug - Sept	Follow-up with member states regarding return of completed questionnaires
15-Sep	Receive questionnaires
15-Sep	Distribute papers, reports and other literature to be used for analysis (second group)
15-Sept to 10-Oct	Process questionnaires and prepare summary of information and synopsis
15-Sept to 10-Oct	Arrange for translation of summaries/synopsis reports
10-Oct	Distribute summaries/synopsis reports to experts
20-Oct	Second meeting of working group - draft report using results for questionnaires and research materials
31-Oct	Distribute hemispheric report to Commissioners
TBD	Work with Chair of working group to prepare for the report to the Commission
TBD	Present hemispheric report to the Commission