



ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

cicad

THIRTY-SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION
April 26-29, 2005
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

OEA/Ser.L/XIV.37.
CICAD/doc.1437/05
29 July 2005
Original: Spanish

FINAL REPORT

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

I. BACKGROUND

Article 21 of the Statute of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) provides that the Commission shall hold two regular sessions per year: one regular session and the other to address the specific technical issues that the Commission determines or such other matters as may require its special attention. The Statute also provides that special sessions may be held whenever the Commission so decides, or at the request of a majority of its member states.

Pursuant to Articles 20 and 21 of the Commission's Statute, at its thirty-sixth regular session the Commission decided that its thirty-seventh regular session would be held in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, the week of April 26 through 29, 2005.

II. PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRTY-SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION

INAUGURAL SESSION

Dr. Rafael Albuquerque, Vice President of the Dominican Republic, Major General José Aníbal Sanz Jiminián, Chairman of CICAD (CICAD/doc.1424/05), and Mr. James Mack, Executive Secretary of CICAD (CICAD/doc.1425/05) delivered opening remarks at the inaugural of CICAD's thirty-seventh regular session. Dominican Vice President Albuquerque highlighted the importance of collective action in combating the drug problem, while CICAD's Chairman underscored the need for a balanced and multidimensional approach to the problem. Mr. Mack, for his part, discussed the complexity of the drug problem, the extent to which the international system to combat the drug problem had developed, and CICAD's financial condition, which had become so strained that the Executive Secretariat would be forced to cut back on the assistance it provided to the member states. The Executive Secretary called upon the member states to ensure that CICAD had the means to continue to carry out its mandates.

III. DECISIONS ADOPTED

1. Approval of the agenda and the schedule of activities

The draft agenda (CICAD/doc.1367/05 rev.1) and the draft schedule of activities (CICAD/doc.1366/05 rev.2) were adopted. The only change introduced had to do with the dates for consideration of the MEM hemispheric report.

2. Assessing the impact that the glyphosate aerial spraying program for coca and poppy control in Colombia is having on the environment and human health

Dr. Keith R. Solomon, director of the scientific assessment team, presented the report entitled "Environmental and Human Health Assessment of the Aerial Spray Program for Coca and Poppy Control (PECIG) in Colombia". Dr. Solomon discussed the properties of glyphosate, its use in agriculture and the findings of the study. The study had concluded

that the glyphosate-Cosmo-Flux ® formula used in the aerial spraying program did not pose a significant risk to human health, although it did recommend that additional data on the subject be gathered. The complete text of the report can be found on CICAD's Web page at <http://www.cicad.oas.org/en/glifosateFinalReport.pdf>.

The member states accepted the report and decided to disseminate it. CICAD took note of Colombia's proposal that a study be conducted on the environmental impact of the production of illicit drugs.

3. Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)

Dr. Darling López, General Coordinator of the Governmental Experts Group (GEG), gave the Commission an overview of what the GEG had done to prepare the MEM country reports and the hemispheric report. Dr. López noted that the third round changes made to the number and content of the indicators had increased the GEG's workload. As a result, the country reports prepared by the experts were now double in size and included more recommendations. The Coordinator underscored how valuable these recommendations were when formulating national policies to combat drugs.

Of the recommendations reiterated from the first MEM evaluation round (1999 – 2000), the GEG found 49 in which measures were still pending. Most involved ratification of conventions and establishment of standards of care in the treatment of drug addiction. In keeping with CICAD/doc.1222/03, which urged compliance with reiterated recommendations, the GEG requested that the Chair of CICAD send communications to the authorities of each country to impress upon them the need to comply with the recommendations and to offer whatever assistance possible.

In the case of Antigua and Barbuda, the GEG Coordinator acknowledged its participation in the previous MEM evaluation rounds. She expressed regret that the GEG had been unable to evaluate that country for the 2003-2004 period because official data were not supplied within the established timeframes, and asked CICAD to take the necessary steps to help Antigua and Barbuda again become part of the MEM process.

Dr. López concluded by underscoring the need for the Intergovernmental Working Group to review the evaluation process prior to the Fourth Round, and to adapt it to reflect the complex and ever-changing drug problem.

4. Consideration and approval of the draft MEM country reports

The Plenary reviewed and approved the thirty-three draft MEM country reports corresponding to the third evaluation round 2003-2004. As each report was introduced for discussion, the respective member state made observations on its country report. Some delegations –among them the Bahamas and Canada- renewed their commitment to the MEM process. The Commission members acknowledged the work done by the experts in the GEG and the MEM Unit.

The delegate of Antigua and Barbuda said again that his country remained fully committed to the Mechanism's goals and explained that a shortage of human resources and institutional changes had made it impossible for the country to participate in the third evaluation round. To demonstrate Antigua and Barbuda's commitment, the delegate

requested that preparations be made for an on-site evaluation in the country, which would be helpful to the experts and the national authorities alike. The visit would be instrumental in building national capacities and would also help the country re-establish itself as a member of the hemispheric effort in this field. The Chair of CICAD approved the on-site visit to Antigua and Barbuda, which would be the first of its kind conducted as part of the MEM process.

The decision made was that the member states had until May 10 to forward to the Executive Secretariat any observations and/or updated or additional information they might want to provide in order to correct factual errors or to clarify text contained in the country reports. The Executive Secretariat would consider any such information supplied by that date and include it either in the body of the report or as a footnote. It was also decided that the Executive Secretariat would not introduce changes in the paragraphs of the evaluation or in any recommendation or conclusion, and would not make any substantive changes to the text of the country report itself. The Plenary also discussed the possibility of including an addendum to the country reports, which would only be used as a measure of last resort. The countries agreed that any additional text eventually proposed ought not to weaken the process in any way, should be respectful of the GEG's efforts and be consistent with the spirit of the MEM.

5. Consideration and approval of the MEM hemispheric report

The GEG began preparing the draft MEM hemispheric report in December 2004. The draft was reviewed at the most recent meeting of the GEG, which was in February 2005, and put in final form electronically by the experts from Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Mexico and the United States. At the Commission's request, a working group was formed to review the draft during CICAD's regular session. Chaired by Argentina, another 10 countries (Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Haiti, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States) also served on this group, which produced a revised version of the draft hemispheric report. The Vice Coordinator of the GEG, Dr. Mariana Souto, then presented that revised version to the Commission for review and approval, chapter by chapter.

The report was approved after changes suggested by the delegations of Bolivia, Haiti, Jamaica, Suriname and the United States were introduced.

The delegate of Mexico said how pleased his country was with the work accomplished by the Secretariat, the MEM Unit and the GEG. He made the point that the hemispheric report was one of the best documents the OAS had produced and therefore deserved to be approved at that session. This statement was seconded by the delegations of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Jamaica, Paraguay and Peru, which stated that the document presented an objective overview of the anti-drug situation in the hemisphere and that the drafting process had been transparent and multilateral. The delegation of Venezuela said that in future, documents should be sent to the members of the Commission sufficiently in advance to enable them to read them before the meeting.

6. Timing of upcoming MEM-related meetings

Follow-up of recommendations from the third round: The Executive Secretary of CICAD reported that the GEG's first and second meetings related to follow-up on the recommendations from the MEM's third round of evaluation (2003-2004) were to be held in November 2005 and March 2006, respectively. He also noted that the recommendation follow-up reports will be approved during thirty-ninth regular session in April/May 2006, and then presented to the OAS General Assembly in June 2006.

Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG): In keeping with a decision taken at CICAD's thirty-sixth regular session, namely to convene the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG), the delegate of Canada said that her country would be interested in chairing the group and offered to host the meeting in Ottawa, Canada, in February 2006. Canada pledged to conduct an in-depth review designed to strengthen the MEM process and to make certain that the necessary advance consultations were conducted by next February. The delegations of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Suriname said how gratified they were by Canada's request and supported it.

The delegate of Mexico observed that the forthcoming meeting of the IWG should have technical input from the CICAD Executive Secretariat, and offered a number of suggestions, such as the following: before the indicators are reviewed and reformulated, the specialized areas of CICAD's Executive Secretariat ought to identify the problems the countries encounter in their efforts to respond to the current indicators and then recommend a solution; there ought to be a political commitment on the part of the countries to disseminate the approved reports among their mass media and the legislative branches of government; and nonpunitive procedures ought to be introduced to deal with cases involving recommendations that, although reiterated, go unheeded.

The delegate of Bolivia proposed that a working group be formed in preparation for the IWG. The working group, he suggested, could meet in Washington, D.C. in October 2005, so that the product of the working group could be presented to the IWG at its February 2006 meeting. He also suggested that the results of the preparatory meeting be presented at the next regular session of CICAD, to be held in November 2005.

The Commission approved by consensus Canada's proposal that it chair the IWG and play host to the Group's meeting in Ottawa in February 2006. It also approved the proposal that a preparatory meeting of the IWG be held in Washington, D.C. in October 2005.

7. MEM promotional strategy

The Coordinator of the MEM Unit, Ms. Angela Crowdy, introduced the Executive Secretariat's proposal to implement a MEM promotional strategy, as the Commission had requested at its thirty-sixth regular session. The strategy had a number of objectives: to make the MEM a basic diagnostic tool used to design and carry out anti-drug programs and policies in each country and at the international level, to communicate the transparency and multilateral nature of the MEM and thereby underscore its unique nature and distinguish it from other evaluation processes. To achieve these objectives, Ms. Crowdy indicated that

the main activities conducted as part of this strategy should be geared toward institutional promotion on a national level within each member state, and ought not to be isolated activities, but rather continuous so that promotion becomes an ongoing and sustainable strategy within the MEM process itself.

The delegate of Paraguay described for the Commission what her country's experience had been in its attempts to promote the MEM. The delegate of Mexico made specific reference to one of the Strategy's proposals, underscoring the importance of bringing the MEM's results to the attention of the United Nations' Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its sessions in Vienna. This, the delegate suggested, would promote the Mechanism at the international level.

The delegate of El Salvador told the Commission of the success her country had by using the training workshops organized by the National Drug Commission and the Salvadoran Drug Observatory, and by engaging the mass media –including radio and television- in the promotional effort. Haiti concurred with the Secretariat's idea that one of the great advantages of the MEM was that it provides tools with which to design anti-drug policies. The delegate of the United States made the point that the Commission members should "guide" the promotional activities in each country and see to it that the MEM reports reach the legislative bodies in each country. The delegations of Peru, Panama, Costa Rica, Suriname and Guatemala all congratulated the Secretariat on its presentation and expressed their appreciation.

8. Status of MEM assistance projects

Dr. Francisco Cumsille, coordinator of the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs (OID), presented a report on the current status of assistance projects. He reported that of the fourteen projects from the first round, totaling US\$826,000, nine had been completed; the reports on two others were being written; two were still in progress and were within the established timeframe; the last of the fourteen projects was underway but behind schedule.

A total of seventeen projects were approved for the second round, involving in excess of US\$800,000. As of April 2005, nine of those projects were underway; six were about to begin; one was being prepared, and the last one would not be able to be executed. Significant progress had been made in the assistance to carry out the recommendations of the second round, compared with December 2004.

9. Building evaluation capacity in the area of demand reduction

Ms. Colleen Ryan, Manager, CDS Evaluation, Risk Management and Reporting, Office of the Drug Strategy Secretariat and Strategic Policy, Health Canada, defended the importance of evaluating prevention programs and singled out the evaluation challenges.

Speaking on behalf of the Government of Canada, Ms. Ryan said that the Government was offering to host a training workshop targeted at evaluation professionals and structured to be responsive to the various member states' needs and to the MEM's recommendations. The workshop would be conducted in cooperation with the Executive Secretariat.

10. Evaluation of CICAD projects

a. Issuance of land titles in the North Yungas of La Paz, Bolivia

Pursuant to the Commission's request that CICAD projects continue to be evaluated, Mr. William Brooner presented an evaluation of the project Issuance of Land Titles in the North Yungas of La Paz, Bolivia. The findings of the evaluation were that none of the project's objectives had been achieved, that the National Agrarian Reform Institute (INRA) was behind schedule and inefficient in its execution and supervision of the project, that staff contracting had been seriously flawed, that INRA had failed to report problems to CICAD, and that its financial reporting and accountability were inadequate. Mr. Brooner recommended that INRA give CICAD a full accounting of project expenditures, that it provide CICAD with the information it needs to pay the contract technicians associated with the project, that the President of Bolivia should sign the first 219 completed titles, that the remaining 1155 titles should be sent to him for signature, and that CICAD should refrain from providing INRA with any further support until the latter corrected its problems.

The delegate of Bolivia informed the Commission that 218 of the 219 initial titles had been approved and that the next step was for the President to sign each one. The Commission requested a report on the project's progress at its next regular session.

b. International On-Line M.A. in Drug Addiction Studies

The outside consultant contracted by CICAD, Mr. Juan Alfaro, presented the evaluation report. He said that the purpose of this project is to provide training for specialized personnel of national drug commissions, nongovernmental organizations, and state and private institutions engaged in drug-addiction areas of work and for such diverse professions as attorneys, economists, psychologists, physicians, social workers, and so on.

The project began in 2000, at a cost of US\$400,000, shared between CICAD and Spain's National Drug Plan. Enrollment for the 2002-2004 class was 127, with students from 19 countries and 52 cities; the 2004-2006 has a total of 82 students enrolled, from 21 countries and 75 cities. Registration is now open for the third class, which will begin in March 2006.

The evaluation was a positive one, in that Mr. Alfaro reported that the project has successfully offered a new professional training alternative that meets students' academic expectations. An agreement had been reached with the Ibero-American Network of NGOs working in Drug Addiction (RIOD), which affords access to institutions where students can complete a practicum as part of their broader training. Inter alia, it was recommended that CICAD harness the positive results yielded by this M.A. to extend coverage to the Caribbean and other countries with an English-language program (see document CICAD/doc.1416/05).

c. Andean Regional Counter-Drug Intelligence School (ERCAIAD).

Ms. Angélica Tapia Chávez presented the evaluation of the ERCAIAD project for the period 1999 -- 2004 (CICAD/doc.1414/05).

The evaluation found that the ERCAIAD initiative has been a constructive one; that the institution is well organized and has served to build the member States' capacity to combat drug trafficking. The regional school has trained 468 participants from 18 Latin American countries. Of these 468 students, 175 had taken the intelligence analysis course, another 120 took the operational intelligence courses, and another 173 were enrolled in various seminars.

The evaluation recommended that ERCAIAD be given the means to prepare manuals, to train personnel continuously, and to conduct a diagnostic study of training needs and create a web page and virtual library.

The Chair of the Commission invited donors to continue to support the ERCAIAD.

d. National Drug Control Strategies and Plans

The Chair reported that the Executive Secretariat would present the evaluation of the project on "National Drug Control Strategies and Plans" in two parts. At the thirty-seventh regular session of CICAD, Dr. Franklin Zambrano, Chief of the Institution-Building Unit, would present a general overview of the project. The report of the external consultant retained to do the evaluation would be presented to CICAD at its thirty-eighth regular session.

Based on the report contained in CICAD/doc.1411/05, Dr. Zambrano noted that the program had been conducted in 27 countries, as a result of which the member states had developed anti-drug strategies, had built up an institutional framework to carry out and coordinate efforts, had adopted evaluation mechanisms, trained personnel and helped to decentralize decision-making on matters related to the drug problem. CICAD's contribution to this effort, between January 1999 and March 2005, totaled US\$2,336,000, contributed by the following: the United States (US\$1,276,000); Spain's international cooperation agency/AECI (US\$600,000); and the OAS Regular Fund/CICAD (US\$460,000).

Dr. Zambrano concluded his remarks by appealing to the member states to support their National Drug Commissions.

A number of delegations expressed their appreciation for the work done by the Executive Secretariat and agreed that the National Drug Commissions need to be strengthened.

11. CICAD initiatives in demand reduction

The report, which was introduced by Mrs. María Eugenia Pérez, Chief of the Executive Secretariat's Demand Reduction Program, concerned CICAD's activities in the area of demand reduction between 2005 and 2007, specifically in school-based prevention, workplace prevention of alcohol and substance abuse, standards of care in order to regulate drug treatment in the region, evaluation of programs so as to measure the medium- and long-term impact of prevention-related interventions, and international cooperation or sharing of successful experiences.

Mrs. Pérez introduced the publication--in both English and Spanish-- entitled ***CICAD Hemispheric Guidelines for School-based Prevention***. She also announced that an agreement had been signed to cooperate with Lions Club International to expand school-

based prevention programs in Latin America and the Caribbean, and that the next meeting of the Group of Experts in Demand Reduction would be held in Ottawa, Canada, in September, to introduce and discuss a document on guidelines for evaluating prevention programs. She concluded her presentation by reporting on the progress made in implementing standards of care.

Some delegates made reference to best practices in demand reduction as vehicles for strengthening horizontal cooperation. Mrs. María Teresa Chadwick, Executive Secretary of Chile's National Council for Drug Control (CONACE), explained that at CICAD's thirty-sixth regular session, CONACE had offered horizontal cooperation in demand reduction. The governments of Paraguay and Argentina had asked the Chilean government to conduct a traineeship program at CONACE, so as to provide training in school-based prevention and life skills. With financial support from CICAD and the United States Embassy in Argentina, this traineeship was conducted in March 2005.

The delegation of Argentina offered its cooperation on the subject of treatment in prisons, while Venezuela offered technical cooperation in workplace prevention.

12. Panel discussion on drug treatment and rehabilitation for offenders

Moderator: Ms. Colleen Ryan of Canada

Panel members:

Mr. Marco Antonio Garavito Fernández, Director, Guatemalan Mental Health League

Dr. José Luis Peña Vega, Manager of Prevention and Rehabilitation, DEVIDA, Peru

Dr. Myo Oo, Psychiatrist in Residence, Bellevue Hospital, Jamaica

Mr. Eric Rodríguez, Superintendent, Her Majesty's Prison, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

The panel looked at the costs/benefits of offering drug treatment programs in prisons. The conclusion was that while this is a complex issue, all the evidence seems to support the premise that proper treatment is good for the institution, the community, safety and security concerns and the individuals themselves.

Once the panelists had concluded their remarks, a number of delegations took the floor to suggest that clear guidelines and policies in this regard should be developed to facilitate the work of updating the laws and finding treatment alternatives; that mutual assistance should be established between and among experts, enabling them to share their experiences; that the socioeconomic circumstances of the inmates should be a consideration in the programs, as their families are, as a rule, very poor; and that assistance was needed to enable the kind of comprehensive study that could help determine which lines of action the programs should pursue.

13. Statements made by countries that have Permanent Observer status in the OAS and by international and regional organizations

Spain

Ms. Montserrat González, Counsellor at the Spanish Embassy in the Dominican Republic, recalled that Spain's partnership with CICAD began in 1997, when it provided technical and

financial support to the On-line M.A. in Drug Addiction Studies; that partnership continued into 1999 with the project to strengthen the national drug commissions of the Andean countries, Central America and the Dominican Republic, under the project on decentralization of national drug policies and creation of national observatories on drugs.

France

The delegate of France described his country's bilateral and multilateral cooperation with the region, and highlighted its partnership with CICAD. The latter resulted in training programs, the creation of observatories in six Caribbean countries, and training to combat money laundering and to combat drug trafficking in international zones.

The French delegate announced that France's future cooperative activities will be based on CICAD's own proposals, and said that the French Government planned to participate in activities associated with efforts to combat money laundering, to reduce demand and to create a typologies database to combat money laundering.

Russian Federation

The Russian delegate emphasized the need for a multilateral approach to the drug program, the changes in drug-trafficking operations, and the increase in drug use in certain European countries despite efforts to reduce both supply and demand. It reaffirmed its intention to step up cooperation with Canada, the United States, member countries of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, and CICAD, particularly in money laundering and institution-building.

United Nations Regional Center for Peace and Disarmament in Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-LIREC)

Mr. Carlos Tambini Ávila, a UN-LiREC Program Assistant, reported on UNLi-REC's program involving a region-wide training and exchange of information on firearms, ammunition and explosives, and on integrated weapons control systems and databases to help law enforcement manage their stockpiles of weaponry, including imports and materials in transit. CICAD collaborates with UNLi-REC and is an active participant in a number of its training and information activities.

UN-LiREC also provides technical assistance to member states of Latin America and the Caribbean, in how to destroy arms, ammunition and explosives and enhance the security of stockpiles. Mr. Tambini also circulated a briefing paper on the laws and legal instruments in the region relating to firearms, ammunition and explosives co-authored by CICAD.

Permanent Central American Commission for the Eradication of the Production, Trafficking, Use and Abuse of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (CCP)

Dr. Raul G. Batres, Executive Secretary of the CCP, said that Central America's priority was to protect children. Accordingly, he said, the countries of the region had conducted the assigned projects and missions, including the Drug Abuse Treatment and Social Rehabilitation Network H-90, youth coalitions to find jobs for at-risk young people, a

framework agreement for witness protection in drug-trafficking cases, development of a web page and a Central American observatory on drugs.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

The delegate from the UNODC, Mrs. Cristina Albertin, presented a summary of UNODC's cooperation program in Latin America and the Caribbean for 2005. The program involved 44 projects on drugs and organized crime, with a budget of US\$160.6 million. These projects were to be carried out in Bolivia (6), Brazil (10), Colombia (8), and through the Regional Offices in the Caribbean (8), Mexico and Central America (3) and Peru/Ecuador (9).

International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)

The delegates from INTERPOL, Mr. Saúl Hernández and Mr. Salvatore La Barbera, spoke about document CICAD/doc.1431/05 and summarized the main functions and the statistics on the global communication service (REDES), the database (ICIS) and operational support (OS).

They also discussed the program of activities in Central and South America to combat organized crime, drug trafficking and related activities, and concluded with a number of suggestions on how to increase the flow of information.

Caribbean Community Secretariat

The Regional Coordinator of Drug and Crime Control at the CARICOM Secretariat, Col. Fairbairn Liverpool, stated that the fight against illegal drugs was one of CARICOM's highest priorities, because they had such terrible consequences in so many areas. He reported that security objectives had been established; recommendations were made to fit with the subregional situation; and a committee was formed to make more efficient use of the member states' resources in security-related matters. Finally, he spoke of the CARICOM/United Kingdom cooperation plan, changes to the regional management framework for crime and security, and preparation of a regional crime and security strategy.

14. Money laundering control: the report of the CICAD Group of Experts

The Chair of the CICAD Group on Experts to Control Money Laundering, Dr. María Cristina Chirolla, presented the final report of the meeting held in Washington, D.C., March 16--18, 2005. There, the Group of Experts had reviewed the 2005 – 2006 Work Plan, which was then submitted to the full membership of CICAD for consideration.

The report, with the matters discussed and the aforementioned Work Plan, includes an account of a special meeting held on Special Investigative Techniques and the creation of four working subgroups that will consider, in order of priority, issues relating to a) predicate offenses; b) forfeiture; c) international cooperation, and d) organized crime related to money laundering. When the Chair put the report and the plan for consideration by the Commission, they were approved by the plenary.

Dr. Alejandro Montesdeoca, Executive Secretary of the South American Financial Action Task Force (GAFISUD), underscored the importance that his organization attached to

coordination with CICAD's Anti-Money Laundering Unit. Dr. Montesdeoca noted that CICAD has a special role vis-à-vis GAFISUD, in the sense that CICAD is an advisory member of GAFISUD. He suggested to the Commission that GAFISUD and CICAD might conduct a joint seminar on Special Investigative Techniques, to be held in Asunción, Paraguay, in May 2005. The Commission agreed to that proposal.

15. CICAD's financial and budgetary situation

The Executive Secretary of CICAD, Mr. James F. Mack, explained that in real terms, the funds that the Regular Fund of the Organization of American States provides to CICAD were dwindling by the day (US\$2,089,629 or 15.05% of the total contributions received in 2004). He noted further that these changes had taken a serious toll on CICAD since 2002 and that the financial predicament had necessitated cutbacks in technical assistance and training programs and in promotion of international cooperation.

The Executive Secretary went on to explain that the Executive Secretariat of CICAD had managed to continue to conduct projects and programs largely because of the external funds received and that now represented over 80% of CICAD's resources (US\$11,799,213 or 84.95% of the total in 2004). These external funds, he said, posed a very special challenge inasmuch as most (over 80%) came from the United States. This, he noted, had created a dependency that was neither healthy nor sustainable for CICAD. Mr. Mack also pointed out that the United States had advised that starting in 2005, its contributions to CICAD would be cut by over 50%, which meant that CICAD would have to find new resources to enable it to continue its hemispheric efforts to combat the drug problem.

The Executive Secretary invited the member states to act as CICAD's partners, to increase their contributions, and to take the initiative in formulating and financing projects. In conclusion, Mr. Mack pledged to continue to work to make CICAD a more efficient, competent, and financially austere entity.

A number of delegations thanked Mr. Mack for his frank and open presentation and underscored how important it was to support CICAD to enable it to fulfill its mandate. They also voiced their intention to continue to contribute financially to CICAD.

16. The Neuroscience of Psychoactive Substance Use and Dependence (World Health Organization publication, 2004)

Ms. Laura Krech, MPH, Technical Advisor on Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Pan American Health Organization, presented a book entitled *Neuroscience of Psychoactive Substance Abuse and Dependence* (CICAD/doc.1419/05). The book is targeted at drug councils, specialists in substance abuse and researchers. It focuses on the complex social factors that contribute to substance abuse and the harm that drug use –by addicts and non-addicts alike- does to society.

17. National Drug Control System –NDS- Project in Central America.

Through the Chief of the Supply Reduction Program, the Executive Secretariat presented a report on the management information system that UNODC developed for national and international drug control. The system automates day-to-day drug control activities, which

makes it easier to enforce agreements on narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and chemical precursors, improves the possibilities of electronically sharing data and information and allows for system inter-operability.

In a joint effort with the UNODC Office in Mexico, CICAD is facilitating application of this system and supporting a project in the Central American countries on controlling chemicals. UNODC installs the equipment and programs and provides technical support. The member state is responsible for the system's maintenance and Internet costs.

18. The Fourth Summit of the Americas

The Chair of the Commission recalled that CICAD had received from previous Summits mandates to design and implement the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), to study the economic and social costs of drugs, and to strengthen the financial intelligence units in the member states.

Dr. Luis Alberto Rodríguez, Director of the OAS Summits of the Americas Secretariat, spoke of the architecture of the Summit process and the work being done in preparation for the Fourth Summit, to be held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, November 4 and 5, 2005. He also pointed out the most relevant mechanisms, processes and accomplishments of the three previous Summits and of the Special Summit held in Monterrey (January 2004), and the role of the Summits of the Americas Secretariat. This information appears in document CICAD/doc.1410/05.

19. Human Rights in the Context of the Effort to Combat Drugs

This presentation was given by Ambassador Jorge Gumucio Granier, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bolivia and Vice Chair of CICAD. Ambassador Gumucio Granier explained that the axis around which Bolivia's anti-drug strategy turned was the protection of human rights. The Bolivian strategy, he said, spanned every dimension of the complex problem of drugs, including alternative development, demand reduction, eradication and international cooperation. The Ambassador called upon the member states to establish coordination mechanisms to combat the international organized crime associated with drug trafficking.

20. Findings of the national studies on the economic and social costs of drugs to society

The presentation on the program to estimate the human, social and economic costs of drugs in the Americas was made by Dr. Augusto Pérez, the project's lead researcher. He explained document CICAD/doc.1423/05 and discussed the progress made thus far by the countries participating in the program (Mexico, Costa Rica, Barbados, Uruguay, Chile and El Salvador), some concrete results obtained based on estimated costs, and the implications and usefulness of the program for now and for the future.

The Commission approved the follow-up to the costs program and the strategy aimed at expanding and consolidating it in the hemisphere. The new findings will be presented at the next Summit of the Americas.

21. Overview of drug use in the hemisphere

Dr. Cumsille, head of the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs, presented an overview of the use of illicit drugs globally and in the Americas. He also described what the trend had been in those countries that had a series of surveys on the subject. Also presented were the findings on alcohol use and its potential correlation to the use of illicit drugs. The assistance that the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs was providing to the member countries during the 2003-2005 period was also described: 49 projects involving a total of US\$1,750,000. Mention was also made of the Observatory's partnership with the UNODC office in Peru to jointly carry out research projects in six countries of the region.

He identified some of the challenges that the Inter-American Observatory faces: the need for the countries to shoulder a greater share of the financing required for their projects, and the importance of strengthening the staffing of the national observatories on drugs.

22. Maritime drug trafficking and the report of the group of experts

Mr. Ziggy Malyniwsky, Chief of Supply Reduction in CICAD's Executive Secretariat, gave a summary of document CICAD/doc.1404/05 and of the report of the Group of Experts, including the recommendations submitted to the Commission for consideration and approval. He also reported that a full account of the information produced by the Group of Experts on Maritime Narcotrafficking was available on CICAD's Web page.

A number of delegations expressed their interest in monitoring small boats and the impact of speedboats, the need to standardize detection systems, and the establishment of bases of operations and vessel registries.

The United States delegate supported the recommendations made by the Group of Experts and made a commitment that his country would participate. He noted that 90% of drugs that enter United States territory do so over water and that the information reported was very interesting for purposes of organizing maritime interdiction and multilateral cooperation. Canada proposed that the plan be approved.

The Commission approved the report and recalled that the group of experts would be holding its next meeting in October-November 2005.

23. Decentralization and civil society's participation in realigning Brazil's national drug policy

The principal delegate of Brazil, General Paulo Roberto Yog de Miranda Uchoa, National Anti-drug Secretary, summarized document CICAD/doc.1407/05, which concerned the development of Brazil's national anti-drug policy in the area of demand reduction. Decentralization and civil society's active participation figured prominently among Brazil's policy objectives.

24. Consideration of CICAD's recommendations to the General Assembly

The representative of Colombia reported that in Washington, D.C., his country was chairing the working group that was about to complete CICAD's annual report to the General Assembly and two draft resolutions for the General Assembly: one on the annual report and

the other on the MEM CICAD/doc.1415/05 and CICAD/doc.1413/05). He also reported that the working group would be meeting shortly after the present regular session of CICAD, in order to finalize its work.

25. Brazil's citizen security program

Ms. Euridice Vidigal from Brazil's National Public Safety Secretariat summarized her country's public safety and security program. She noted that the new legal framework on this subject promoted a combination of preventive and repressive measures to combat violence and fostered coordination between government and civil society.

26. Place and date for CICAD's thirty-eighth regular session

In keeping with Articles 20 and 21 of the Statute of CICAD, the Vice Chair offered Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, as the site of CICAD's thirty-eighth regular session, slated for late November 2005. The Chair expressed the Commission's appreciation and, on its behalf, accepted the invitation and reiterated Bolivia's candidacy for the Chair of CICAD (CICAD/doc.1418/05) in the elections planned for the thirty-eighth regular session. The Brazilian delegation placed Brazil's candidacy for the office of Vice Chair of CICAD (CICAD/doc.1426/05).

27. Other business

The delegate of Paraguay underscored the magnitude of drug use, particularly the use of marijuana in the region.

The delegate of Ecuador formally offered the use of the canine training center in Quito for a training project conducted in conjunction with CICAD. He said that his Government would shortly be submitting a cooperation project on the matter to the Executive Secretariat for consideration. The Chair took note of the offer, thanked the delegation of Ecuador for its initiative, and asked the Executive Secretariat to give the proposal careful consideration when it is received.

The delegate of Argentina announced that a meeting on control of chemicals and pharmaceuticals would shortly be convened.

The delegate of Antigua and Barbuda said that his country had been unable to present the MEM report and asked the Executive Secretariat to set a date for the on-site visit provided for in the GEG's operational guidelines. He conveyed the wish of the Prime Minister to continue to cooperate in the MEM process.

CLOSING SESSION

In his closing remarks, General Sanz thanked the delegates and CICAD's Executive Secretariat for their work at the Commission's thirty-seventh regular session and congratulated the many speakers for the invaluable information they had provided to the Commission at this session. The Chair made specific mention of the new challenges that CICAD now faces, such as transnational organized crime, corruption, money laundering, the

trafficking in persons and terrorism. In closing, the Chair pledged to press forward with the Commission's work and urged that the Commission's declared "2005 – Year of Substance Abuse Prevention" be vigorously promoted and pursued.

PARTICIPANTS

A. Member states of CICAD

In attendance at the thirty-seventh regular session of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission were representatives of the following member states: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, the Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States, Uruguay and Venezuela.

B. Permanent Observers

Also present for the thirty-seventh regular session, in their capacity as Permanent Observers to the OAS, were the representatives of Spain, France, Italy, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

C. Specialized inter-American organizations and international agencies

Attending the thirty-seventh session were representatives of the Andean Community of Nations (CAN); the Andean Parliament; the Secretariat of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM); the Central American Parliament; the Permanent Central American Commission for the Eradication of the Production, Trafficking, Use and Abuse of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (CCP); the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA); the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO); the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); the Pan American Development Foundation; the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL); the Latin American Parliament; the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), and the Mentor Foundation.

The list of those who participated in this regular session is published under separate cover, as document CICAD/doc.1368/05.