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Inter-American Council for Integral Development
Inter-American Committee on Ports



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ACTIVITIES REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG) ON
LOGISTICS, INNOVATION, AND COMPETITIVENESS

Activities Report, March 2012–July 2013

(Document presented by the Delegation of Mexico)

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TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG) ON LOGISTICS, INNOVATION, AND
COMPETITIVENESS

Activities Report, March 2012–July 2013

- I. Members: Chair: Mexico; Member states: Argentina, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Paraguay, Panama, Peru, United States, and Uruguay.

- II. Work Plan 2012 / 2013 and activities carried out:

Concerning the Work Program, the highlight of this period was the Regional Meeting on Modern Port Management, held in Los Cabos, Baja California, Mexico in July 2012 and organized in coordination with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the General Directorate of Ports of Mexico, under the auspices of the Baja California Sur Integrated Port Administration.

On this occasion, a group of experts from UNCTAD, Spain, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Chile Argentina, and Mexico gathered to discuss education and training on port-sector matters, with emphasis on logistics and competitiveness issues.

As a result of this meeting, the possibility of offering a joint course with UNCTAD to train trainers in a cascading scheme with far-reaching prospects is being explored.

A list, by specialty, of the names of experts and speakers who have given presentations at the various TAG meetings is being compiled for a directory in order to facilitate consultations by member countries and associate members.

We consider it extremely important to consolidate the information on logistics and competitiveness provided in technical presentations at previous meetings of the Technical

Advisory Group on Logistics and Competitiveness, as well as information considered important throughout the year, for the use of TAG members. Therefore, this TAG has taken on the task of studying and evaluating the presentations given by the speakers at the various meetings with a view to selecting those that deal with relevant issues.

In terms of developing a communication strategy with the associate members and member states of the Executive Board, an evaluation of various media and communication costs is being conducted to find ways of providing information to the member states and associate members of this TAG as quickly as possible to enable them to receive the information annotated in item one and provide any input that they consider useful.

Within the framework of this TAG, the International Seminar on Port Statistics and Indicators was held in November 2012, coordinated by the delegation of Peru. A working meeting was also held in Central America to move forward with the pilot program discussed at the Seminar in Lima. In this regard, the delegation of Peru is respectfully requested to provide all the content of the work.

One of the commitments of this TAG is to hold the Second Hemispheric Conference on Logistics and Competitiveness in 2013. The delegation of Mexico is working to hold it in November; the respective announcement will be made at the CIP plenary. As progress, it should be noted that an Ibero-American Conference on Port Innovation and Logistics is planned, whose purpose is to serve as a forum for sharing information on recent innovations in the port and maritime industries, including the logistical aspects; this will open up opportunities to develop projects that boost the competitiveness and enhance the effectiveness of ports in those countries.

III. Proposed 2014/2015 Work Plan:

- The priority activity in this period will be consolidation of the information on logistics, competitiveness, and innovation provided in the technical presentations

given at previous meetings and others considered useful for the members of this subcommittee.

- The available technical information will be uploaded to this subcommittee's web page, along with the link to the website of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP). This activity was proposed in previous programs but was not possible because of its incompatibility with administrative issues that will be addressed to avoid the problems of the recent past.

Articles 68 and 69 of the Rules of Procedure of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) state that the objectives of the Technical Advisory Groups include providing technical advice to the Committee on specific aspects of hemispheric port-sector development.

At the 2012 meeting in Lima, its new name was approved in resolution CIDI/CIP/RES. 77 (V-07), retaining its basic objectives, which include encouraging private-sector participation to strengthen hemispheric port-sector cooperation.

The structure of the Subcommittee on Logistics, Competitiveness, and Innovation is as follows:

Chair: Mexico.

Member countries: Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Peru, and Uruguay.

Since its last session in Lima, Peru, in March 2012, this TAG has had the following associate members:

- Asociación de Despachantes de Aduana (Uruguay),
- Asociación de Terminales y Operadores Portuarios A. C. (Mexico),
- Compañía Marítima del Pacífico (Mexico),
- Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company (United States),
- Halcrow, Inc. (United States),

- Instituto de Investigación y Desarrollo Marítimo- INDESMAR (Peru),
- Internacional de Contenedores Asociados de Veracruz- ICAVE (Mexico),
- OCUPA S. A. de C. V. (Mexico),
- Port of Miami (United States),
- Terminal Internacional del Sur S. A.-TISUR (Peru)

Concerning administration of the financial resources from the contributions of the associate members of this TAG, there has been a balance of approximately US\$50,000 since the last meeting.

Concerning the planning of activities, the periodic meetings of the Subcommittee on Logistics, Competitiveness, and Innovation, chaired by the delegation of Mexico, will adhere to the following guidelines when conducting its activities:

- Pursue the promotion of this Subcommittee, with the object of increasing the number of associate members, as well as payment of the respective quotas.
- Continue strengthening cooperation and coordination among the Chair of this Subcommittee, the member countries, and the associate members to meet the established goals.
- Update the database with information from the representatives of the member countries and associate members that indicates the experts in each specialty.
- Create a website to link both the member countries and associate members.
- Intensify activities to prepare an informative document for dissemination that includes objectives, achievements, and the Work Plan.

Thank you for your attention.