

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES



INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

cicad

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FINAL REPORT

THIRTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)

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-seventh regular session, the Commission decided, in accordance with Articles 20 and 21 of the Statute, that the thirty-eighth regular session would be held in Washington, D.C. in the week beginning December 5, 2005.

II. PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION

Inaugural Session

Opening remarks were made by the Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS), Dr. José Miguel Insulza, and the Chair of CICAD, Major General José Aníbal Sanz Jiminián.

In his speech, Dr. Insulza (CICAD/doc.1462/05) praised CICAD for its excellent reputation as an organization that has earned international respect due to its professional staff and the member states' commitment to constructive dialogue. He also referred to the recent mandates that emerged from the Summit of the Americas in Mar del Plata in November: the promotion of school-based prevention programs, the study to estimate the human, social and economic costs of the drug problem, and the support of alternative development. The Secretary General stressed the commitments of Chile and Brazil to increase their direct involvement in CICAD activities as examples of horizontal cooperation, an international principle that will form a cornerstone of his administration of the OAS. He urged the member states to increase their contributions in cash and in kind to CICAD so that the organization can continue and expand its activities. He also asked that they make CICAD an example of what other parts of the OAS can become during the coming years of transition for the OAS.

In an address that marked the end of the Dominican Republic's term as chair of CICAD, Gen. Sanz (CICAD/doc. 1448/05) said that there had been a concerted efforts to address the issue of substance abuse prevention, starting with the designation of 2005 as the Year of Substance Abuse Prevention. He reviewed the major milestones in the area of demand reduction. He thanked the CICAD staff for their support and his own government for the opportunity to preside the Commission.

III. DECISIONS ADOPTED

1. Approval of the Agenda and Schedule of Activities

The agenda (CICAD/doc.1438/05) and the schedule of activities (CICAD/doc.1439/05 rev.5) were adopted without amendment.

2. Election of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission

In accordance with Articles 22 and 23 of the Statute (CICAD/doc.1454/05), the Commission elected Bolivia, in the person of Mr. Javier Viscarra (CICAD/doc.1447/05, (CICAD/doc.1469/05)), as Chair of the Commission, and Brazil, in the person of General Paulo Roberto Yogo de Miranda Uchôa, as Vice-Chair (CICAD/doc.1464/05).

3. Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)

a. Report on the Preparatory Meeting of the Intergovernmental Working Group (Pre-IWG)

Mr. Barry Mackillop, Senior Director, National Strategies, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada, who served as Chair of the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), gave a report on the preparatory meeting of the IWG that took place in Washington, D.C. on October 6-9 (CICAD/doc.1466/05), whose recommendations will be presented to the IWG to be held February 21-24, 2006 in Washington, D.C. (CICAD/doc.1459/05).

The delegate from Honduras stated that the report was complete and that it correctly summarized the proceedings of the Pre-IWG meeting. Additionally, the delegate expressed the concern that the four days scheduled for the IWG meeting in February might be insufficient for the intense work that awaited that group and requested that the Executive Secretariat send all relevant documentation to the delegates well in advance of the meeting date to permit the thorough study of the material.

The delegation of Mexico proposed that the Commission authorize the IWG to forward the resulting products of the February meeting directly to the governments without prior approval of the Commission in April so that they could begin the work corresponding to the Fourth Round of Evaluations, 2005 – 2006. As a second option, the delegation of Mexico proposed that on the last day of the IWG meeting, a special session of the Commission could be held to approve the set of recommendations quickly. The delegation of Mexico said that it was not advisable to wait until the thirty-ninth session of CICAD in April 2006 to approve the IWG's recommendations because that delay would further set back the MEM's schedule of activities and would impede the completion of an annual product to be presented to the General Assembly of the OAS in June 2007. The delegate also supported the Honduran concern about the limited time scheduled for the meeting of the IWG. Argentina shared the concern voiced by Mexico and Honduras that CICAD produce an annual product for the General Assembly.

The delegation of Canada expressed its appreciation to the MEM Unit for all the

preparatory work that went into a successful pre-IWG meeting. The delegate also recommended that the delegations sent to the IWG meeting include the Governmental Expert Group (GEG) experts and the national coordinating entities (NCEs), who should attend with concrete suggestions in hand. The delegate stressed the importance of the Executive Secretariat receiving such suggestions before the meeting to be ready to share its assessment of their feasibility.

Finally, the delegation of Brazil supported the report and thanked the coordination work done by Canada. In reference to the proposal put forward by Mexico, the delegates' position on an accelerated approval track for IWG recommendation was that all decisions should be passed through the Commission at its May 2006 meeting.

The Commission accepted the report on the preparatory IWG, took note of the observations and concerns expressed by the delegations and added that, if necessary, the upcoming IWG meeting could be extended an extra day.

b. Report on MEM in-situ visit to Antigua and Barbuda

Mr. Alvaro Ahumada, Chief of the Area of Control of the National Drug Control Council (CONACE), Ministry of Interior of Chile and Principal Expert of the Governmental Expert Group (GEG), presented a summary of the visit that three GEG representatives and CICAD Secretariat staff made to Antigua and Barbuda (CICAD/doc.1463/05, (CICAD/doc.1466/05)). The visit took place on August 16-18, 2005 with the goal of supporting the country's reincorporation into the MEM process at the request of Antigua and Barbuda and approved at the thirty-seventh session of CICAD (April 26-29, Dominican Republic).

Following the oral report, the delegation of Antigua and Barbuda expressed appreciation to the Commission for authorizing this visit and to the visiting team for the conclusions developed that contributed to the success of the mission. The delegate also underscored the reality faced by small nation states that should not be ignored, including the need for help to strengthen institutional structures, develop strategies and train qualified staff. Additionally, the delegate emphasized the commitment of his country to following through on the findings of the report.

The Commission approved the report and its findings and congratulated Antigua and Barbuda for its reincorporation in the MEM process.

c. Recent Actions to Promote the MEM

The Executive Secretary of CICAD provided an overview of the implementation of a strategy to promote the MEM, in order to raise awareness of the MEM process, increase understanding of the MEM among the stakeholders in each country, and explain its importance as a tool in policy and decision making.

4. Report on CICAD-related decisions of the IV Summit of the Americas,

The Chair of CICAD highlighted the CICAD-related mandates that arose from the recent Mar del Plata Summit. They are:

- § Consolidate drug abuse prevention programs in member states by developing,

- implementing, and evaluating efforts.
- § Expand the program to estimate the economic costs of drug use beyond the participating countries of Barbados, Chile, Mexico, Uruguay, Argentina, Colombia and Peru.
 - § Support alternative development programs

5. Andean Countries' Cocoa Export Support Opportunity (ACCESO) Program

Mr. Marcelo Núñez, Executive Secretary of ACCESO, made a presentation (CICAD/doc.1467/05) on the ACCESO initiative, a joint venture of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the chocolate industry represented by the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), and CICAD. ACCESO will create an Andean Cacao Network to increase competitiveness and productivity of cacao producers in Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia. The initiative, which got underway in 2005, will initiate a pilot project in Peru in 2006 to set up farmer field schools to educate cacao growers and expand to other countries thereafter applying lessons learned from the pilot phase.

The delegation of Guatemala asked whether the objective of the program was to increase supply or crop substitution. Mr. Nunez responded that the program sought to increase production and was not meant as a crop substitute program per se. However, the delegates of Colombia, Peru and Bolivia stated that, in fact, cacao was a viable alternative to coca in their respective countries.

6. CICAD's Finances and Future: 2005 and Beyond

The Executive Secretary provided a status report on CICAD's current financial situation and looming financial challenges (CICAD/doc.1453/05). He offered suggestions on how project income declines could be offset to maintain the organization's ability to meet member states needs. He specifically cited horizontal cooperation as a cost-effective means for commitments by member states to share information and expertise, mentioning recent commitments by Chile to provide training and technical assistance in demand reduction prevention and by Brazil to assume responsibility to provide some university-based training in research methodology. He underscored that for CICAD to overcome its projected funding shortfall, all member states will have to increase their contributions, both in cash and in kind.

The delegates of Chile and Brazil (CICAD/doc.1473/05) explained their participation in horizontal cooperation initiatives under CICAD's auspices. During 2006-2008, Brazil, will contributed a total of US \$ 617,000 to implement three projects, including two initiatives for specialized online learning. Mexico announced that its government had decided to increase its yearly contributions to CICAD, from US\$50,000 to US\$75,000, and to the MEM process, from US\$50,000 to US\$70,000.

The delegation of Argentina offered to share the experience of its Secretariat for Planning of Drug Addiction Prevention and the Fight against Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR) regarding the registration of precursor chemicals with other countries as a part of a horizontal cooperation initiative, and suggested that each government explore the possibility of allocating some funds resulting from the seizure of assets related to drug trafficking to support international anti-narcotics cooperation, including CICAD. The delegation of the United States encouraged the Executive Secretariat to continue its coordination with the Narcotics Assistance

Sections of the US Department of State (NAS) in the member states to avoid duplication of efforts. The delegate of the United States also offered the facilities of a new law enforcement academy of the Americas to be inaugurated in El Salvador for future CICAD training programs in the region. The delegate also suggested that a challenge-fund approach by member states to fund-raising would stimulate contributions by outside donors.

7. Models of Collaboration for Professional Development in the Area of Drug Phenomenon

Dr. Gloria Wright, Coordinator of CICAD's Education Development and Research Unit, explained how the new Secretariat unit was contributing to drug-related capacity building in the Americas with academic and skills-based programs that CICAD has implemented from 2002-2005, as well as the cost of these programs and number of participants trained. She also emphasized that CICAD has been helping universities to add drug content to their undergraduate and graduate programs in the schools of Nursing, Medicine, Public Health and Education (CICAD/doc.1458/05).

The delegation of Barbados said that CICAD needs to do more to address the problem of inadequate training for national drug commissions and related institutions in the Caribbean.

8. Supply Reduction

a. Expert Group on Maritime Drug Trafficking

Mr. Guillermo Hernandez, Mexican co-chair of the Expert Group, presented the Group's report and recommendations from the October 25-27 2005 meeting in Mexico City (CICAD/doc.1443/05) for the Commission's consideration.

The delegation of Brazil said that its government has been developing an integrated database with data from Brazilian shipping agencies that could be shared with other member countries. The delegate also suggested that representatives from customs offices should also attend future Maritime Drug Trafficking Expert Group meetings because they could contribute their knowledge on shipping issues. The delegation of the United States reminded the Commission that the Expert Group had distributed a draft of hemispheric interdiction principles to which governments had to make comments by year-end.

The Commission accepted the Group's report and recommendations and decided that the Group should meet in 2006 as proposed to continue its work. Both Mexico and Brazil expressed interest in continuing as co-chairs.

b. Expert Group on Control of Chemical Substances

Mr. Gabriel Abboud, Technical Undersecretary for Planning and Control of Drug Trafficking of Argentina's SEDRONAR, served as the Chair of the Experts Group during its meeting in Buenos Aires in August. In reporting on this meeting (CICAD/doc.1441/05), Mr. Abboud provided a detailed review of the Group's discussions and work, as well as the recommendations contained in its report to the Commission. He also indicated Argentina's willingness to continue chairing the Group in 2006.

The Commission ratified the report and the Expert Group's continued work. The Commission accepted the Group's recommendations, work plan for 2006, and Argentina's offer to retain the presidency for this period.

c. Expert Group on Pharmaceutical Products

Mr. Gabriel Abboud also reported on the August Buenos Aires meeting of the CICAD Expert Group on Pharmaceutical Products (CICAD/doc.1442/05) in the absence of its Chair. He submitted recommendations, as well as Argentina's willingness to continue chairing the Group in 2006, for the Commission's consideration.

Delegates thanked the Group for its work and stressed the need for continued efforts in this area. The delegations of Mexico and the United States made particular note of the need to strengthen enforcement of the sale of ephedrine and pseudo-ephedrine products and expressed concerns regarding the lack of "pre-notification" in the shipments of these products between exporting and importing countries.

The Commission accepted the Group's report, recommendations and work plan for 2006, as well as Argentina's offer to retain the presidency for this period.

9. Firearms Control Activities

Mr. Michael Sullivan, chief of the CICAD's Legal Development section (CICAD/doc.1468/05), explained the activities over the past year in the area of firearms control, including the preparation of model legislation in compliance with the Inter-American Firearms Convention (CIFTA) and other initiatives to coordinate among regional governments about the sale and movement of firearms.

10. Alternative Development: The New Challenges

Julio Alvarado, a member of the Bolivian delegation, made a presentation on how Bolivia had met the challenge of holding down the production of coca through an integral approach that includes alternative development, interdiction and opening up new commercial export opportunities to compete with illicit activities. Following Bolivia's presentation, the delegations of Peru and Ecuador concurred that the member states should not lose sight of the need for alternative development as a preventive measure within the hemispheric counter-drug framework.

11. Inter-American Observatory On Drugs

a. Report on the Activities of the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs

The Commission considered a report (CICAD/doc.1444/05) on the activities and progress of the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs by Dr. Francisco Cumsille, Coordinator of the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs.

The delegation of Chile underscored the usefulness of surveys of the general population, but posed some doubts about the age range (12-64 years old). In addition, it expressed concern about difficulties that arise in household surveys in which survey personnel is not allowed entrance for questions related to drugs. The delegation of Brazil said that it too had encountered

resistance to drug-related questionnaires in at least two surveys. Dr. Cumsille responded that despite these problems, household surveys remain a valuable instrument for assessing drug use trends.

The delegation of Uruguay expressed a concern about obtaining accurate information on drug use by school dropouts and street children because only 50% of the Uruguayan student population stays in the system until graduation. Prison population was another under-reported group. The delegation of Brazil reported that it had started to integrate all national databases related to drugs (Health, Justice, Anti-drug Secretariat) into a single system to provide a global vision of Brazilian trends. Brazil would be sharing the knowledge gained from this exercise with other CICAD members. The delegations of Mexico and Peru also shared their own experiences in establishing drug observatories and carrying out surveys.

After full discussion, the chair thanked Dr. Cumsille for his report.

b. Report on the Activities of the Argentine Observatory on Drugs (OAD)

The Commission heard and accepted the report on the Argentine Observatory on Drugs (CICAD/doc.1456/05).

c. Report on the Final Results of the Pilot Program on the Human, Social and Economic Costs of Drugs in the Americas (Cost Program)

The Commission considered the report on the final results of the pilot study on the Human, Social and Economic Costs of Drugs in the Americas (Cost Program) by Dr. Augusto Perez, Lead researcher for the CICAD Cost Program and associate professor at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (CICAD/doc.1449/05).

The delegation of Chile echoed the statement by the presenter that although the methodology employed by the pilot countries is the same, comparisons between countries can only be made with precaution given the differences in country size, demographics, infrastructure and nature of the drug problem. The delegate went on to suggest that the countries should examine *how* the results from the study can now be used to influence policy. The delegation of Barbados stated that its participation in the pilot program was one of the most challenging undertakings that the national drug commission had ever attempted, testing the data collection capacity of the country on a variety of levels. The delegate noted, however, that the benefits far outweighed the obstacles, and they hope that Barbados' experience will serve as a model for other small countries. The delegation of Uruguay also noted, in a similar vein, how the country's participation had been challenging, but rewarded by the provocative character of the study. The delegation of Mexico suggested that supply reduction could be an area meriting further cost research. The delegation of Colombia expressed support for the continuation of the program and its wish to participate officially in the program during 2006. There was general consensus that the Cost Program should continue and endeavor to include more countries, as stated in the mandate from the Summit of the Americas in Mar de Plata, Argentina.

After full discussion, the chair thanked Dr. Perez for his presentation.

d. International Guidelines to Estimate Avoidable Costs

Ms. Louise Déry, Senior Strategic Science Advisor, Drug Strategy and Controlled

Substances Programme of Health Canada, gave a report on new international guidelines to estimate avoidable costs (CICAD/doc.1455/05). This draft methodology serves to determine where and how government intervention could achieve the biggest impact to reduce the costs of drug abuse. After brief comments by the Canadian delegation, the chair thanked Ms. Déry for her presentation.

The delegation of Canada encouraged the cost study participating countries to take the next step in applying the methodology to government policies and programs. The delegation expressed that Canada would support a pilot study that employed the avoidable costs methodology.

12. Institutional Development

a. Decentralization of Drug Policies in Andean Countries

Mr. Javier Sagredo, Project Manager, Executive Secretariat of CICAD, gave a presentation on the initiative to encourage the decentralization of drug control activities to local and municipal governments, a program underwritten by the Spanish International Cooperation Agency. The decentralization program is under way in five Andean countries: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

The delegation of the Dominican Republic stated that decentralization is key to a successful demand reduction program. Chile noted that CONACE's decentralization activities are similar to the CICAD program. The delegation of Ecuador said that its decentralization effort has expanded from an initial seven municipal governments, with 16 municipalities requesting affiliation to the project. The delegation of Peru said that there are currently 34 municipal drug committees functioning in the country. The delegation of Bolivia said that the country has 15 municipalities participating in the project. The delegation of Colombia said that the government had a regulatory framework through which departmental and municipal governments may participate in sectional antinarcotics councils. Argentina's delegate said that it has had success in its own decentralization working with five local governments in cooperation with the Argentine Federation of Municipalities.

b. Capacity Building in Electronic Government (e-Government)

The Commission received an informative presentation by Mr. Jorge Duran, Coordinator, Municipal Development and Capacity-Building, Executive Secretariat for Integral Development, Organization of American States (document CICAD/doc.1465/05). He explained how the OAS was carrying out online training on the use of the Internet as an instrument to provide better government. Mr. Duran raised the possibility of designing a course specifically for the needs of the national drug commissions. The Chair thanked Mr. Duran for his presentation.

13. Money Laundering Control

a. Report of the Expert Group on Money Laundering

The Commission considered and approved the reported presented by Dr. Maria Cristina Chirolla, Chair of the Expert Group on Money Laundering, on its meeting held in Bogotá, Colombia, November 16-18 (CICAD/doc.1452/05). She highlighted the work of the subgroups

working on international cooperation and asset seizures, underscoring that the latter's efforts had resulted in nine new articles being drafted for inclusion in the Model Regulations. Other aspects of the report included a United States government proposal to fund an extraordinary meeting on special investigation techniques to be held in early 2006. The agenda is being coordinated with the delegations of Argentina, Mexico and the United States.

b. Strategic Support Planning among Financial Intelligence Units

The Commission heard a panel discussion, moderated by Rafael Franzini, Chief of the Anti-Money Laundering Unit, Executive Secretariat of CICAD, on the role of financial intelligence units in the fight against drugs, specifically the cases of Brazil, Chile and Ecuador (CICAD/doc. 1476/05, CICAD/doc.1479/05, CICAD/doc. 1480/05). The participants were Marcelo Pontes, Financial Activities Control Commission (COAF), Brazil; Victor Ossa, Financial Intelligence Unit (UAF) Chile; and General Enrique Montalvo, Executive Secretary of the National Council for the Control of Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances (CONSEP), Ecuador.

All three panelists agreed that the increased use of financial investigation and analysis to detect illicit activities has a direct relationship with the international cooperation provided to them. The panelists also stated that the quality of analysis that these units provide had improved due to horizontal cooperation practices in training among the countries, as a result of the program for the creation and development of financial intelligence units in South America, financed by the Inter-American Development Bank and executed by CICAD. The panelists confirmed that this type of program is an example to be followed.

c. Brazil's Assets Seizure Fund

Dr. Ramón Fernando, Director of the Forfeited Assets and Management Office of the National Anti-Drug Fund, National Anti-drug Secretariat (SENAD) of Brazil, made a presentation on the creation and implementation of SENAD's system to manage confiscated assets involved in money laundering operations and drug trafficking (CICAD/doc.1477/05).

Both the delegations of Colombia and the Dominican Republic noted the adverse consequences of holding seized assets during a slow judicial process. The delegate of the Dominican Republic pointed out three specific problems: the incapacity of the judicial system, mainly the Attorney General's Office, to identify all the assets to be seized; the narrow focus of judges who fail to take into account all the seizures in the proceeding; and the need for greater international coordination since many assets are located outside the country where the trial is taking place. Both delegates agreed that all proceeds of drug trafficking should be confiscated, adding that they personally are working with judges and their respective judicial systems to improve the situation. The delegate of Colombia stated that the National Narcotics Directorate's experience handling seized assets is available to all members states advising on the drafting of best practices in this area.

The delegation of Bolivia stated that its government has averted the problem posed by warehousing seized assets by auctioning them off. Three-quarters of the resulting income is allocated to those institutions that work on drug issues (demand and supply reduction). The remaining 25 percent goes to the organization that manages this type of asset. He asked that CICAD explore with the member states how to cooperate more closely when assets are not confined to the particular country where judicial process is taking place. He also said that member states should consider reallocating some funds resulting from asset seizure and their disposal to CICAD.

14. Demand Reduction

a. CICAD's Five Year Demand Reduction Strategy: 2006-2010

Dr. Anna Chisman, Chief of CICAD's Demand Reduction Program, reported on CICAD's Five Year Demand Reduction Strategy: 2006-2010 (CICAD/doc.1460/05). The Chair thanked Dr. Chisman for her presentation and specifically for emphasizing that each country needs a national demand reduction plan and that treatment and prevention are a more cost effective response to substance abuse than law enforcement responses.

b. Report of the Expert Group on Demand Reduction

Ms. Beth Pieteron, Director General of the Drug Strategy and Controlled Substances Programmed of Health Canada and chair of the Expert Group, reported on the meeting of the Expert Group on Demand Reduction (CICAD/doc.1461/05). The Chair of the Commission expressed his appreciation for Ms. Pieteron's detailed report, and opened the floor to interventions by the delegates of Barbados, Argentina, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, and Honduras on issues such as the role of prevention in transit countries, the frequent problem of separation of substance abuse services from the national health system, and the need for differential treatment formats to address special populations such as the homeless and adolescents.

Given the importance of school-based prevention programs, the delegation of Mexico said that it would be useful to hold a seminar or workshop with the participation of representatives from both ministries of education and the national drug commissions to produce a more comprehensive vision. The delegation of Barbados also asked if it would be possible for the next Expert Group meeting to hear a presentation on a model demand reduction program from the Caribbean.

c. Treatment Policies for Substance-Related Disorders in the Mexican Health System

Dr. Cristóbal Ruíz Gaytán López, Technical Secretary of the National Council against Addictions (CONADIC), of the Mexican Health Secretariat, spoke on Treatment Policies for Substance-Related Disorders in the Mexican Health System (CICAD/doc.1445/05). The Chairman thanked Dr. Gaytán for offering this overview of Mexico's treatment programs and those clients involved.

d. Treatment Policy on Alcohol and Other Drugs in the Brazilian Public Health System

Dr. Denise Doneda, Technical Adviser for Mental Health Coordination in the Brazilian Ministry of Health, made a presentation on Treatment Policy on Alcohol and Other Drugs in the Brazilian Public Health System (CICAD/doc.1478/05).

e. Drug Dependency and Crime Prevention in the Mexican Social Context

Prof. Pedro José Peñaloza, Director General of Crime Prevention and Service to the Community, Office of the Attorney General of Mexico, spoke on the conceptual framework within which the Mexican public health system is working (CICAD/doc.1450/05).

15. Statements by Permanent Observer Countries to the OAS, International Organizations and Regional Organizations

- **France**

Noting the location in the Americas of French overseas territories of Martinique, Guadalupe, and Guiana, Mr. Raymond Quereilhac of France's Permanent Observer Mission to the OAS referred to the cooperation agreement between France and CICAD through which about 900 people in the Caribbean and Central America had been trained at France's Inter-Ministerial Anti-Drug Training Center (CIFAD) in Martinique.

- **Russian Federation**

Mr. Vladimir S. Koptev of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation congratulated CICAD on the improvement of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism and noted that Russia was aware of the financial problems that CICAD was undergoing, and stated that it was willing to contribute to improve the situation.

- **United Nations Office on Drugs and CRIME (UNODC)**

The head of the Latin American and Caribbean Section of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Ms. Cristina Albertin, gave a presentation (CICAD/doc.1356/04) on the programs that the UNODC is implementing in the hemisphere. She mentioned that the host governments were contributing significant amounts to UNODC projects in their countries, paralleling the CICAD approach to partnership in projects with the recipient member states. She also emphasized the UNODC-CICAD cooperation in carrying out epidemiological surveys in six South American countries.

- **International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)**

Mr. Patricio Rojas S., the Assistant Director for the Americas Sub-Directorate of INTERPOL, gave an overview of how his organization is working on the drug front and encouraged all the Commission delegates and their staff to visit the country offices of INTERPOL to become acquainted with the resources and services available to them in the fight against drug trafficking.

- **Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)**

Ms. Laura Krech, Technical Officer on Alcohol and Substance Abuse at PAHO, gave a brief summary of the recommendations that emanated from a PAHO conference in Brazil on alcohol policy.

16. Election of the Chairs of CICAD Expert Groups

The following member states were elected to chair the CICAD Expert Groups in 2006.

- **Demand Reduction**

Canada will continue as the Chair of the Expert Group on Demand Reduction based on

the decision made in the thirty-sixth regular session.

- **Money Laundering Control**

El Salvador was unanimously elected Chair (CICAD/doc.1472/05), and Chile was unanimously elected vice chair for one more year, following approval of a proposal to create the post for this Expert Group (CICAD/doc.1481/05).

- **Control of Pharmaceutical Products**
- **Control of Chemical Substances**

Argentina was elected unanimously Chair of both Expert Groups.

- **Maritime Drug Trafficking**

At the suggestion of the CICAD Chair, the Commission unanimously agreed that the Chair will be shared between Brazil, and Mexico.

17 Working Group for Drafting Recommendations to the General Assembly

On the first day of the session, a working group was established to consider a draft of the CICAD resolution, observations and recommendations to the June 2005 OAS General Assembly. The members of the working group included delegates from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, the United States and Trinidad and Tobago. The group met on the next two days to discuss options and wording.

In the closing session, the delegate from Ecuador, acting as Chair of the Working Group, informed the Commission Chair that because the early closure of the session on December 8, the Working Group had yet to complete the drafting the resolution. The Commission agreed that the working group should continue its work via email. A final version of the resolution will be distributed electronically to the Permanent Missions for final comments. The text will be presented to CICAD at its thirty-ninth regular session for approval.

17. Proposed Topics, Place and Date for the Thirty-Ninth Regular Session of CICAD

The Secretariat proposed a list of suggested topics for the agenda of the thirty-ninth regular session, namely:

- Review and approval of the MEM national and hemispheric reports on the implementation of Recommendations from the Third Evaluation Round
- Review and approval of the IWG recommendations to CICAD on the Fourth Evaluation Round of the MEM
- Report on the meeting of the Expert Group on Maritime Narcotrafficking
- Report on the Expert Group on Money Laundering
- Training programs for judges and prosecutors
- Comparative report on drug use in South America and the subregional project between the OID and the UNODC
- Report on national school prevention and offender treatment projects

- Topics in selective prevention

Speaking on behalf of the Mercosur member states, the delegation of Uruguay requested that the theme of marijuana be included in the agenda of the next meeting. This request was seconded by Argentina.

In accordance with Articles 20 and 21 of the Statute, the Chair's proposal that the thirty-ninth regular session be held in Washington, D.C. during the first week of May 2006 was unanimously approved.

19. Other Business

In his closing remarks, the Chair thanked the Delegates and the Executive Secretariat of CICAD for their hard work during the thirty-eight regular session and congratulated the many presenters for the useful information provided to the Commission throughout the meeting.

The Chair said that, based on discussions outside the formal deliberations of the meeting, he would recommend to the IWG Chair that the February meeting to determine MEM improvements should aim to streamline the instrument, make it more analytical, incorporate feedback from the participants more agilely, and maintain the annual frequency of the MEM products.

20. Participants

a. CICAD Member States

Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, the Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, and Uruguay attended the thirty-eighth regular session of CICAD.

b. Permanent Observers

Also attending the thirty-eighth regular session in their capacity as Permanent Observers to the Organization of American States were representatives of China, France, Italy, and the Russian Federation.

c. Inter-American Specialized Organizations and International Agencies

Representatives attended from the Andean Community (CAN); the Andean Parliament; the Central American Permanent Commission to Eradicate the Illicit Production of, Trafficking in and Use of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (CCP); European Monitoring Centre For Drugs And Drug Addiction (EMCDDA); the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA); Inter-American Defense Board (IADB); the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL); the Latin American Parliament; the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO); the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); and the World Bank.

d. Civil Society

Representatives from civil society attended from the Ibero-American Network of Non-governmental Organizations Working on Drug Dependency (RIOD) and the Mentor Foundation.

The list of participants in this regular session is published separately as document CICAD/doc.1440/05 rev.1.