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INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE  
CONTROL COMMISSION

**CICAD**

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

**FIFTY-FOURTH REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 11-13, 2013**  
**Bogota, Colombia**

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**FINAL REPORT**

## I. BACKGROUND

Article 21 of the Statute of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) establishes that the Commission shall hold two regular sessions per year: one to deal with general matters and the other to address specific technical topics determined by the Commission or such other matters that require its special attention. The Statute also establishes that the Commission shall hold special sessions whenever it so decides or at the request of a majority of its member states.

Pursuant to Articles 20 and 21 of the Statute, it was decided that the fifty-fourth regular session would be held on December 11-13, 2013, in Bogota, Colombia.

This report provides a summary of the presentations made during the session, including the reference numbers of specific documents, and includes a summary of the most relevant points made by delegations during the deliberations.

## II. PROCEEDINGS

### 1. Opening Remarks

#### Presenters:

- a. Dr. Celso Gamboa, Vice Minister of the Interior, Police, and Public Security of Costa Rica and Chair of CICAD

As outgoing Chair of CICAD, Dr. Gamboa made the opening remarks at the fifty-fourth regular session of CICAD. He expressed his appreciation for the support received by the Costa Rican Chair during a year filled with challenges and demands. He first highlighted the implementation of the new methodology for the Sixth Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) and expressed his appreciation for the fundamental support provided by the MEM's Governmental Expert Group (GEG) during this process. He also drew attention to the development and handover of the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas, which presented new approaches to this problem in member states, and noted the leading role of CICAD. Finally, he talked about the results obtained from the implementation of pilot plans for Drug Treatment Courts in some countries of the hemisphere.

- b. Dr. Francisco Becerra Posada, Assistant Director (AD) of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

Dr. Becerra explained that the PAHO Directing Council in 2010 approved the regional Strategy on Substance Use and Public Health and in 2011, its respective Plan of Action—documents that provide a political and strategic frame of reference for the region's health sector. He added that psychoactive substance use and the disorders arising from it are a significant cause of illness, death, and disability, worldwide and in the Americas.

He emphasized the need for member states to identify substance use as a public health priority, with its many social determinants, and then develop appropriate plans. He also talked about the importance of investing in the human resources needed to respond to the health needs that arise from drug use, through systematic training and continuing education programs. Finally, he emphasized the cooperative relationship that has been established with CICAD in the context of the Memorandum of Understanding both organizations signed in 2012, based on which the two organizations are working together on an action plan for the 2014-2015 period.

- c. Ambassador Paul Simons, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States (OAS)

Ambassador Simons pointed to CICAD's strength and effectiveness 27 years after its creation, underscoring its most noteworthy results: three hemispheric drug strategies agreed upon by the member countries; an innovative process of multilateral evaluations; and significant progress in policy development, institutional development, and capacity development. More recently, the "Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas" was prepared, which serves as an instrument to carefully examine a number of concepts that emphasize a more "human" perspective, by placing the individual at the center of the member states' shared agenda.

The Executive Secretary also made special mention of PAHO's participation to strengthen future cooperation and structure programs and policies.

He noted that one of the main challenges is to approach the drug problem from a public health perspective. This requires improving processes for collecting and analyzing information; carefully evaluating the development of alternatives to incarceration for drug-dependent offenders; and exploring ways to expand efforts on issues involving health, money laundering, and the appearance of new psychoactive substances (NPS).

- d. Vice Minister of Multilateral Affairs, Ambassador Carlos Arturo Morales López, Colombia (Vice Chair of CICAD)

Dr. Morales welcomed the delegates to Colombia and noted that the meeting's agenda responds to the mandate of the Declaration of Antigua which, taking into consideration the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas, initiated a consultation process at the national, subregional, and hemispheric level concerning the world drug problem.

He stated that the discussions during this CICAD session would particularly address the issue of drug use as a public health concern with a focus on human rights, one that regards the addict as someone with a chronic disease and not as a criminal. He stressed that strategies and policies should be examined with a view to making them more effective and producing better results, since the drug problem continues to pose a threat to security, democracy, public health, and the integral development of states.

## **2. Adoption of the Draft Agenda and Draft Schedule of Activities**

The Commission approved the Draft Agenda (CICAD/doc.2039/13) and the Draft Schedule of Activities (CICAD/doc.2040/13 rev.2 corr.1).

## **Comments from the Delegations and the Chair**

**Representative of Peru:** Expressed the hope that additional time could be set aside in the formal session to discuss the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas, since devoting only an hour to it would make it difficult to have productive discussions.

**Chair:** Indicated that the situation had been considered and that he would try to satisfy the request.

## **3. Election of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission**

Pursuant to Articles 22 and 23 of its Statute, the Commission unanimously elected the Republic of Colombia as Chair of CICAD for the current period, and Guatemala as Vice Chair.

a. Remarks by the Chair

Dr. Alfonso Gómez Méndez, Minister of Justice and Law of Colombia, welcomed the delegates and expressed his appreciation to the outgoing Chair of CICAD for his outstanding work. He stressed the importance of this session in the context of the region, and said Colombia is going through a special time as it seeks to bring to a close the armed conflict, which has been influenced by the phenomenon of the illegal drug trade. He said the repositioning of drug policy as a public health problem linked to the issue of human rights and associated with the Colombian peace process gives this session special meaning.

#### 4. The Importance of Public Policy for Prevention and Treatment Programs

**Moderator:** Ms. Francisca Florenzano, Director of the National Service for Prevention and Rehabilitation of Drug and Alcohol Use (SENDA), Chile

**Intervention by Mexico:** Mr. Robert Campa Cifrian, Assistant Secretary of Prevention and Citizen Participation of the Ministry of Interior, Mexico.

Indicated that Mexico is a committed actor in the international arena which favors the common and shared responsibility with other States and the international cooperation to better understand this phenomenon. Emphasized that the implemented policies during the past few years need to be evaluated to first determine the level of effectiveness against new challenges being presented. The objective should be the well-being in all aspects of society. Underscored that the national program of social prevention of violence and crime does not only target reducing consumption but to prevent the negative effects to society.

**Panelists:**

a. Dr. Fernando Cano Valle, National Commissioner of the National Council against Addictions (CONADIC), Mexico

Dr. Cano Valle stated that Mexico's demand reduction strategy suggests that it is important to have the state's participation, as well as strong coordination across sectors. Drug policy should consider evidence-based prevention and treatment, and not criminalization or legalization. Prevention and harm reduction are essential to CONADIC. Addiction care has been absent in many health systems in the hemisphere. The panelist said the structure of public health systems must be equipped to take in individuals who are engaged in drug use. Health systems must also take into account the population that does not use drugs, through health-promotion and prevention measures.

b. Dr. Vitore Maximiano, National Secretary for Drug Policy of the National Secretariat for Drug Policy (SENAD), Brazil

Dr. Maximiano indicated that prevention and treatment services are very important to Brazil. The biggest challenge Brazil faces is ensuring that health services are equipped to handle the problem of drug use with efficiency and quality. He presented the results of the National Study on Crack Use in Brazil and the prevalence of use in different cities of the country. He added that 80% of crack users use the drug in public places and the average age of use is 30 years old. In addition, it is clear that crack users are exposed to greater social exclusion and vulnerability than users of other drugs. Among this population, the prevalence of AIDS, hepatitis C, and tuberculosis is above the national average. He stressed the importance of providing more access to health-care services for these populations; 80% of users interviewed expressed their willingness to receive treatment. Dr. Maximiano talked about the federal

program based on health-care supply and the program to provide distance and in-person training for health workers and social organizations.

- c. Father Gabriel Antonio Mejía Montoy, Latin American Federation of Therapeutic Communities (FLACT), Colombia

The panelist stated that FLACT is a United Nations consultative organization with representation in every country of the hemisphere, and explained its characteristics. He said that much could be accomplished through the exchange of experiences in these types of forums, along with the careful consideration of these matters between states and NGOs, and talked about the importance of working on public policy with a public health approach. He stressed his organization's determination to professionalize addiction-care services, stating that many organizations are carrying out serious efforts with positive results by implementing good practices, which deserves recognition. He stressed that not all therapeutic communities are the same and that care should be taken not to generalize or legislate using foreign models, since the specific situation of each country should be considered from an inclusive perspective.

### **Comments by the Delegations**

**Representative of the United States:** Indicated that all states have an obligation to address the drug problem through approval of shared strategies and evaluation of policies. Along these lines, the representative noted that important lessons had been learned:

1. Much remains to be done to reduce the demand for illicit drugs.
2. Efforts should be comprehensive, sustained, and sustainable in the long term. Short-term results cannot be measured or expected.
3. There should be a focus on criminal organizations. He called for using CICAD as a hemispheric forum to address the drug program comprehensively in the hemisphere.

**Representative of Panama:** Asked: What would be our response to decriminalization of drug use? What does legalizing drugs mean for the non-user population? The Delegation added that Panama has support of the Ministers with regards to prevention and treatment. The problem related to the consumption of different substances, including new substances, has increased.

**Representative of Peru:** Considered the problem of drug use must be addressed from a public health perspective, and areas involving demand reduction should be strengthened without neglecting supply control and alternative development. The representative emphasized Peru's efforts in prevention and treatment, recognizing that these are still limited, and stated that the country's main challenge is to broaden treatment availability in the public and private systems.

**Representative of the Dominican Republic:** Inquired if the crack study provides information on the age of first use, and if users reported on whether they had used other drugs before starting on crack.

**Representative of Canada:** Expressed the importance of the public policies highlighted in United Nations conventions as well as in the CICAD Hemispheric Drug Strategy and the Regional Strategy of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). The delegation added that the public health approach is not new, although not everything is in place for it to be implemented, and that Canada's strategy complements that of the United Nations and CICAD. The delegation asked that prevention and treatment initiatives be implemented and that training be expanded for counselors, as well as explaining Canada's demand reduction approach.

**Representative of Paraguay:** Stated how Paraguay understands the need for a comprehensive approach to address the problem and noted that 80% of the treatment services are sustained by the private sector and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). However, indicated that these service providers are not officially authorized in accordance with the minimum standards, considering these are in the process of being implemented and expressed concern over the quality of services.

**Representative of Barbados:** Talked about the need to undertake comprehensive assessments of all agencies that provide services, as well as to distribute resources rationally and recognize the benefits of a public health approach vis-à-vis a punitive approach. In addition, the delegation asked that CICAD assistance continue to be available for the development of comprehensive approaches and policies on drugs.

**Representative of Guatemala:** The delegation reported on the creation of a vice-ministry devoted exclusively to anti-drug matters, and laid out the challenges Guatemala is facing due to precursor chemicals. The representative also indicated that Guatemala has been working on the implementation of the Antigua Declaration, as well as on a public health approach and harm reduction. He suggested that a commission be established to implement prevention and treatment measures in the area of public health. He also talked about existing weaknesses in the country and the enormous responsibility Guatemala faces as it assumes the Vice Chairmanship of CICAD.

**Representative of Chile:** Indicated that prevention is always better than a cure, and that prevention should focus on children and young people, adding that an emphasis on prevention should take into account specialized measures geared toward more vulnerable populations. The delegate also stated that the challenge of the drug problem is not the exclusive responsibility of the health sector, but also of other types of institutions that have an effect on social determinants. The representative pointed to the need to understand the countries' real capacity to offer treatment, and underscored the role of NGOs and civil society, since in most cases they are the ones who are actually responding to the problem. In addition, the delegate welcomed the report presented by Brazil.

### **The Chair's Thoughts and Suggestions**

1. A public health approach focused on prevention and treatment. Legalization is not supported by empirical evidence.
2. Prevention and treatment must be included in social services. These services must also include effective treatment interventions, and the historical role of NGOs must be recognized.
3. Under the auspices of the CICAD Executive Secretariat, the important tasks that have been undertaken should be continued, and the Chair pledges his complete support. Additionally, the Chair suggested a meeting of all Ministers of Justice to lay out concrete proposals.
4. The Chair suggested putting together successful experiences that have led to more efficient ways to prevent and treat drug dependency, through the development of a Best Practices Manual.

### **5. The Public Health Approach to Address the Drug Problem in the Americas: Meanings and Implications**

**Moderator:** Mr. Michael Botticelli, Deputy Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), United States

#### **Presenters:**

- a. Dr. Francisco Becerra Posada, Assistant Director (AD), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

Dr. Becerra gave an epidemiological presentation on the use of psychoactive substances around the world and in the Americas, and covered issues such as poly drug use; the misuse of tranquilizers; new substances; the use of injection drugs and how that is related to AIDS; and the lack of treatment for problem users. In addition, he remarked that the response of health-care systems is limited in many countries and that there is a wide disparity in terms of availability and accessibility of services. He suggested establishing a regional ATLAS to assess countries' institutional capacity to address the problem. Finally, he presented the regional program being carried out jointly by CICAD/OAS and PAHO, and urged that actions be prioritized to provide better technical assistance to the countries.

b. Dr. Alejandro Gaviria, Minister of Health, Colombia

Dr. Gaviria talked about the change in discourse and public policy in Colombia, since until only recently people talked about reducing supply without making any reference to reducing demand. The presenter offered a look back at the development of public policy in Colombia and added that in 2011, for the first time, a change in attitude became apparent and the problem began to be treated from a public health standpoint. He also talked about challenges in the area of treatment, in tackling drug supply; highlighted the lack of accredited institutions; and, stressed that good public policies on harm reduction should be designed, put into practice, and evaluated.

**Comments by the Delegations, the Moderator, and the Executive Secretariat**

**Representative of Chile:** Praised the work being done jointly by the OAS and PAHO, and mentioned the importance of putting good intentions into practice. The delegate called for reflection on how to build a national treatment system, since even primary care systems have weaknesses. The representative made reference to the national treatment system in England, which operates outside the National Health Service, with its own resources.

**Representative of Argentina:** Explained the situation in Argentina with regard to addressing treatment of addictions as a right of citizens, by means of a public policy approach of social inclusion.

**Representative of Panama:** Considered it was important for states to have public health strategies. He commented on the initiatives his country is carrying out in terms of drug treatment courts and training for providers of treatment services.

**Representative of Peru:** Talked about the importance of controlling supply and, at the same time, fostering a comprehensive approach. The delegate said that decriminalizing drug use facilitates including other areas in addition to health, such as education and social integration, and that there are various problems in implementing certain aspects of policies, especially in the area of treatment, given the cost involved.

**Representative of Canada:** Stressed that the implementation of public health policies should be emphasized in the context of existing international agreements, and expressed Canada's support for the work being carried out jointly by the OAS and PAHO.

**Representative of Barbados:** Noted that the challenge in Barbados lies in training personnel from the public health system and in decentralizing services to be able to provide care to the population free of charge.

**Representative of Suriname:** Highlighted the lack of access to health services and said the government is committed to increasing access.

**CICAD Executive Secretariat:** Ambassador Simons noted that the political support and institutional capacity shown by Colombia, Brazil, and Mexico had been very beneficial for the work being undertaken with PAHO. Concrete actions should be carried out and work should continue on an agenda geared toward improving public health. He also stressed the importance of strengthening ties with NGOs, whose treatment centers are beginning to be accredited, via regional mechanisms, indicating that CICAD will work on this issue with PAHO.

**Dr. Becerra:** Indicated that efforts are underway to strengthen collaboration; that the regional work plan will include holding a regional workshop on accreditation of treatment centers; and that PAHO will join in this process.

**Dr. Alejandro Gaviria:** Praised the initiative of treatment centers' accreditation.

### Thoughts from the Moderator

1. It is clear that more resources are needed (in addition to traditional resources from the national health system) to encourage national treatment systems.
2. As Peru noted, a balanced strategy is needed.
3. All countries have stipulated health as a fundamental right.
4. To address the existing critical point in terms of developing and implementing good practices in public health, consideration must be given as to how to integrate these strategies and bring about positive changes.

### 6. Panel 2: The Importance and Role of Research, Information, and Early Warning Systems to Develop, Monitor, and Evaluate Evidence-Based Drug Policy

**Moderator:** Dr. Francisco Cumsille, Chief of the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs, CICAD

#### Panelists:

- a. Mr. Julián David Wilches Guzmán, Director of Drug Policy and Related Activities, Ministry of Justice and Law, Colombia (CICAD/doc.2057/13)

Mr. Wilches stressed the importance of research and evidence in his presentation, and provided three examples of how Colombia applies them as part of its drug control efforts. He provided details about the Early Warning System, the System for Monitoring Crops, and the Simulation Model Program, and talked about how these information-based systems support drug control efforts in Colombia.

- b. Dr. Ken Garfield Douglas, Consultant, OID/CICAD (CICAD/doc.2047/13)

Dr. Douglas presented basic concepts on the development of evidence-based policies and the role of research. In addition, he talked about the importance of evaluation and its use in the development of drug policy, and presented a synopsis of the situation in the Caribbean with regard to drug-related research.

- c. Dr. Eric Brown, University of Washington Seattle (CICAD/doc.2053/13)

Dr. Brown presented some specific examples of the benefit of having scientific research to support policy development. He provided examples of scientific risk factors that are determinants among certain populations; examples of programs that were evaluated and have proved to be successful or unsuccessful; and examples of the usefulness of data on prevalence as well as other data.



## Comments by the Delegations, the Moderator, and the Panelists

**Representative of Trinidad and Tobago:** Reported on steps the country has taken in this area and talked about the need to improve continuing evaluations. The delegation concluded by commenting that any support for the country toward that end would be appreciated.

**Representative of Canada:** The delegation provided examples of evaluations, national surveys, information systems, and activities carried out by the national observatory that show the country's commitment to evidence-based policies. Canada believes that all countries should benefit from evidence-based policy. The delegation called for recognition of the MEM process to help explain the national and regional drug situation, and invited the panelists to comment on how the MEM could be used to develop drug policies and programs. Finally, the delegation invited the member states to use the information tools provided by international organizations.

**Representative of Paraguay:** Pointed to the serious problems the country is facing as a marijuana producer and despite the government's efforts in the financing of the interdiction, this strategy has prevented finding a solution to this situation. The delegation indicated the country's aim to establish a "Regional Investigation Center on Cannabis," which will allow confronting the problem with an evidence-based science and invited the member states with experience in this area to provide support.

**Representative of Grenada:** Pointed to the critical progress the country has made in research and information on drugs, and indicated that at this time Grenada does not see any benefit in decriminalizing or legalizing marijuana or any other drug.

**Representative of Panama:** Indicated that no regional information exists on individuals seeking treatment, and said this situation needs to be remedied. Panama has a national observatory, but would like to see a regional network set up.

**Representative of Guatemala:** The delegation indicated that Guatemala intends to close the gap between research and policy through inter-institutional efforts and the exchange of analysis with the academic sector and civil society. The delegation urged the member states to begin local consultations on drug policies and urged CICAD to support these efforts so that evidence provides the foundation for policy.

**Representative of Chile:** Based on the assumption that information is lacking on the drug problem, the representative asked what can be done to come up with an appropriate baseline that sheds light on the phenomenon; whether using an exploratory methodology is the best way to generate information; and, finally, what is the estimated time frame for adequately understanding the drug phenomenon.

**Representative of Brazil:** Reiterated the importance of early warning systems and research, and indicated that Brazil is in the process of developing such a system, taking into account the challenges posed by the proliferation of new psychoactive substances and the sale of drugs over the Internet. The delegation called for prevention policies to be developed based on scientific evidence and offered to share the results of the evaluation of its programs with other member states.

**Representative of Barbados:** Reported to the plenary on the challenges her country faces in disseminating research results. The delegation also recognized the efforts of the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs (OID), but recommended increasing the exchange of information among the countries.

**Representative of Peru:** Reiterated the importance of evidence-based policy and reported that Peru has an observatory responsible for collecting and updating drug-related information from different sources.

The delegation explained that the Peruvian drug strategy and drug policy are based on objective information. The representative indicated that it is important for regional partners to exchange information, and suggested that CICAD facilitate this information exchange.

**Mr. Julián David Wilches Guzmán:** In response to Chile's question, he indicated that Colombia's experience has shown that it is important to gather the most relevant information, primarily because of the lack of resources, and explained how the coca eradication campaign in Colombia has evolved thanks to new information.

**Dr. Francisco Cumsille:** He presented a summary of the panelists' presentations and the questions and observations made during the plenary session. He also indicated that while national observatories have improved over time, there is still the need to allocate more resources and to work with other interested parties such as universities. In addition, he informed the Commission that in 2014 the OID will publish its second report on drugs in the Americas.

### **Conclusions of the Chair:**

The Commission Chair presented three conclusions from the panel: there is a need to collect information on drugs and on evaluation so as to standardize such information; mechanisms for the exchange of information among the countries need to be strengthened; and scientific information should form the basis for public policy.

## **7. Panel 3: Human Rights Approach and Social Integration to Address the Drug Problem in the Americas**

**Moderator:** Mr. Rodrigo Vélez, Executive Secretary, CONSEP, Ecuador

Mr. Vélez pointed to Articles 18 and 19 of the Declaration of Antigua, which are relevant for addressing the social phenomenon of drugs based on a human rights approach.

### **Panelists:**

a. **The Relevance of a Human Rights Approach to Drugs:** Mr. Rodrigo Uprimny, Director of DEJUSTICIA (Colombia)

The presentation drew attention to the ethical, political, and legal reasons it is important, and legally binding, for the states to take a human rights approach to drug policy. The speaker added that respect for basic human rights has been considered a standard of international law that prevails over other international obligations, and therefore states' obligations with respect to drugs should be interpreted in a way that is compatible with international human rights obligations, and not the other way around.

In terms of incorporating human rights into drug policy, he indicated that it is important for states to adopt the guiding principles behind the guarantee of such rights and make a commitment to give priority to the principle of participation and nondiscrimination, with differentiated approaches and a system of indicators that would make it possible to view progress and setbacks in this area. The possibility currently exists for innovation based on experience so that the Declaration of Antigua becomes something that truly implies profound changes in drug policy in the region.

b. **An Opportunity for Empowered Participation:** Ms. Raquel Barros, Director, Lua Nova (Brazil)

In her presentation, Ms. Barros explained the process the participants in Lua Nova undergo to be able to reintegrate themselves into society and obtain work opportunities to rebuild their lives. She specified that it is necessary to integrate women who are on the street and are rejected, as well as to invest in this population instead of sending them to jail, so as to break the cycle of violence.

c. **To Include or Exclude Someone Else is to Include or Exclude Myself:** Mr. Joaquín Delbosque, Director of Hogar Integral de Juventud (Mexico)

Mr. Delbosque said public policy must include drug dependence as a differential variant in the area of public health; thus, the drug-dependent person must be viewed as someone who is a human being like everyone else, but in a different situation. He emphasized society's shared responsibility with respect to the issue of drug use. In addition, the presenter talked about a human rights approach to this social phenomenon, the predominance of human rights over drug policy, and the need to use quantitative and qualitative indicators.

### **Comments by the Delegations**

**Representative of Bolivia:** Expressed agreement with the Declaration of Antigua and with the trend, by both the public sector and civil society, to place more emphasis on anti-drug approaches based on comprehensiveness, social cohesion, and human rights. The delegate stated that preventive policies should take priority, and explained Bolivia's situation. Finally, the representative highlighted the importance of combating the drug problem with an approach that is participatory, comprehensive, and based on shared responsibility.

**Representative of Trinidad and Tobago:** Talked about the long-term relationship between NGOs and the state on the issue of drugs. The delegation explained the efforts undertaken to incorporate a human rights approach, along with approaches based on public health.

**Representative of Chile:** Highlighted several points from Raquel Barros' presentation as a good option for work that CICAD should take on, as it is necessary to work with women who are under age, pregnant, and drug users, especially users of smokable cocaine, since treatment centers for this vulnerable sector are scarce. The delegate added that it is necessary to provide a good start for babies, and thus it is incumbent to have a strategic alliance with PAHO. The representative also indicated that work should be done to enable those with ties to drug trafficking to have different life opportunities, since society has failed in different areas and it is necessary to move forward.

**Representative of Peru:** Noted Peru's adherence to the principle of human rights and social integration, which is part of the hemispheric strategy and action plan. The delegation explained how it takes into account respect for human rights in its crop eradication policies. The delegation expressed respect for the international conventions, emphasizing that Peru is not considering legalization of any type of drug. The representative referred to a study carried out by an NGO indicating that 95% of Peru's population is against legalization. Finally, the delegation provided details on the implementation status of a drug court.

**Representative of Nicaragua:** The delegation detailed the country's progress on issues involving drug-use prevention, rehabilitation, efforts to combat micro-trafficking, and the focus on human rights and public health. The representative also stressed that he does not agree with legalizing more drugs than those that have already been legalized.

**Representative of the United States:** Reaffirmed support for the Hemispheric Drug Strategy and complete respect for human rights and for prison reforms and court reforms, taking a holistic approach that should not infringe or violate human rights. The representative added that the United States has worked successfully to reduce crack use and integrate users into society, and thus would be able to share different experiences in that regard.

**Representative of Colombia:** Expressed appreciation for the participation of civil society, saying that it enriches the discussions and offers very specific lessons on the value and importance of combining multi-sectoral policies for social rehabilitation from a comprehensive standpoint. The delegate also proposed maintaining a dialogue between the commissioners and civil society in future CICAD meetings.

**Representative of Brazil:** Took note of the importance of the change of approach and the promotion of human rights as a framework for all drug policies. However, he indicated that the elimination of mandatory treatment policies that result in deprivation of liberty is something that should be discussed. In this regard, he pointed to the important work of Lua Nova and so many NGOs that have worked to raise awareness and promote social integration, as models for action that produce the effects we would all like to see.

**Representative of the Dominican Republic:** Suggested that the next CICAD session address the issue of culpability in the criminal context and how it relates to the view of the addict or drug user as someone who is ill.

#### **Chair's Conclusions and Suggestions:**

It is necessary to understand what leads to drug use and also to see that drug use is something that causes future problems. Taking into account these conclusions, the Chair proposed that future meetings take into account the importance of a drug policy based on human rights, especially the rights of users and producers, and that priority be given to a gender perspective in order to help women involved in micro-trafficking.

#### **8. Panel 4: New Approaches and Alternative Models to Incarceration**

**Moderator:** Luciana Boiteaux, Federal University, R o de Janeiro (UFRL)

##### **Panelists:**

- a. Judge Saulo Ysabel, Sentencing Judge for the National District, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Judge Ysabel indicated that the concept of alternatives is related to social coexistence and the resolution of social conflicts, and explained how, in the case of the Dominican Republic, policy and law converge in the application of a new code (2004). The presenter described how the Drug Treatment Court model came to the Dominican Republic, promoted by CICAD, and reported that this experience has been very gratifying for everyone on the country's Judicial Oversight Court (TSJ).

- b. Mr. Michael Botticelli, Deputy Director, ONDCP

Mr. Botticelli laid out the Obama administration's strategy and approach regarding alternatives to incarceration, beginning with a reflection on human rights and the need to analyze the social and economic impact of previous strategies. Mr. Botticelli recognized that the criminal justice system should

try out alternatives to incarceration when it comes to treating non-violent offenders and pay special attention to underlying causes, such as substance abuse.

The presentation introduced the Obama administration's approach, which is to "see addiction as a disease, a health issue and a criminal justice issue" and which involves three main courses of action: first, bringing about a change in criminal policies and guidelines for imposing minimum sentences; second, promoting alternatives to incarceration; and third, focusing efforts on the convicted offender's reentry into society after incarceration. In this regard, Mr. Botticelli presented an approach that seeks alternatives to prison and calls to mind that treatment should not stop at the prison door. Finally, he said the United States is interested in looking for alternatives that would lead to lower recidivism in crime and drug use, and in collaboration between justice systems and other parties involved, such as communities.

c. Mr. Nuno Capaz, Vice President of the Dissuasion Commission of Lisbon, Ministry of Health, Portugal

Mr. Nuno Capaz talked about how, in 2001, Portugal saw an increase in drug use, specifically in heroin use, and in incidences of AIDS. This led to a process of reflection and a search for statistical data so as to adopt new strategies that would make it possible to change social policies, including starting a process to decriminalize drug use. This new approach was not limited to eliminating penalties; rather, a parallel effort was undertaken to integrate a health support network for people who have problems with drug use. According to Nuno Capaz, the Portuguese model is different than that of Drug Treatment Courts, since there is no judicial participation in the process.

**Ms. Luciana Boiteaux:** The moderator encouraged the countries to make their decisions based on respect for human rights, taking into account each person's circumstances and developing policies based on evidence.

### Comments by the Delegations

**Representative of Panama:** Stressed the importance of the Drug Treatment Court (DTC) model and reported that on December 13, the Supreme Court, the Attorney General's Office, and the security, interior, and health sectors, among others, signed an inter-institutional agreement to create the DTC model in Panama. Highlighted that most recently Panama is working on different programs linked to no incarceration for minor crimes and not be recidivists of drug consumption, and it is considered an advancement as a country.

**Representative of Trinidad and Tobago:** Expressed satisfaction over having included the DTC model, which was implemented based on existing legislation, and emphasized that the model enables collaboration among different parties involved (such as prosecutors and ombudspersons). The delegate encouraged the Commission to recognize the important role of these courts in finding solutions to situations that otherwise would have ended up with someone in prison. The representative underscored the dynamics of this model when it comes time for people from different institutions to work together in areas where there is no history of collaboration, and encouraged the rest of the countries to consider this alternative as well as others that are also effective.

**Representative of Mexico:** Thanked CICAD for promoting alternative-to-incarceration models. Mexico is evaluating a pilot Drug Treatment Court in Guadalupe, Monterrey where domestic violence and alcohol use lead to situations that might viably be resolved in the framework of this model. The delegate added, however, that much work still remains to be done and that Mexico will definitely try to expand this model.

**Representative of Barbados:** Reported that Barbados joined CICAD’s Drug Treatment Court program in 2010 and that the first pilot model is expected to be inaugurated in early 2014, with a view to helping to reduce the prison population and cases of recidivism, both in terms of crime and drug use.

### Conclusions of the Chair

The Chair concluded that repressive measures do not make for an efficient or effective plan of action. Therefore, he talked about the need to: find alternative measures and improve treatment services in prisons through approaches that include the social reintegration of individuals; reduce sentences and consider alternatives that do not incarcerate people and that make a distinction between problem and non-problem users; and ensure that any action taken is grounded in evidence-based models.

The Vice Minister and Chair of CICAD suggested that a working group be created, headed by Colombia and supported by the CICAD Executive Secretariat, to provide the Ministers of Justice from member states with an analysis of the various alternatives to incarceration and to the traditional prison approach for drug-dependent offenders. He also encouraged efforts that include a gender perspective for micro-traffickers, as well as alternatives that take into account drug users and producers.

### 9. Discussion of the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas and the Declaration of Antigua “For a Comprehensive Policy against the World Drug Problem in the Americas”

**Presenter:** Dr. José Miguel Insulza, OAS Secretary General

The Secretary General informed the Commission how in the last year and a half, has participated in the different regional and international forums as well as at the national level with Heads of State and high ranking officials within the Hemisphere, generating discussion related to the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas. Similarly, highlighted the interest from multiple Heads of States over the thematic areas of the Drug Study, the Declaration of Antigua and on the next United Nations Extraordinary Assembly on Drugs. Underlined are four issues of interest to debate with the authorities who daily implement drug policies in the Hemisphere. These issues are: how to propose and promote new security models for the region to confront violence, corruption, and impunity; the opening of a debate on alternatives to incarceration for drug offenders and revising the penalties for offenses linked to drugs (analysis of the proportionality of sentences, decriminalization, and alternative penalties); applying the public health focus in drug policies and using evidence in formulating, monitoring and evaluation; and the economy of trafficking and the possibilities of strengthening the regional judicial cooperation, both in money laundering as well as in the management of confiscated assets.

### Comments by the Delegations

**Representative of the Dominican Republic:** Highlighted the human side of the drug problem, based on the importance of family, and underscored the importance of evaluation and the exchange of information on money laundering.

**Representative of Colombia:** Noted that each country has been able to identify its specific problems along with solutions, and so the member states should now look at how they can improve. The delegate said Colombia will continue the debate with the help of an advisory committee on drugs, and will hold national consultations in 2014.

**Representative of the United States:** Expressed agreement with the content of the report that defines addiction as a treatable and preventable disease. The delegate urged the member states to consider policies to reduce drug demand; toward that end, the delegate suggested that the Hemispheric Drug Strategy and its Action Plan should be taken into account, since they are consensus documents, and stated the need to respect international conventions. The delegate stated that his country was totally against legalizing drugs, but willing to be part of the debate.

**Representative of Mexico:** Indicated that the drug problem goes beyond national borders and that violence is part of the issue. Consequently, added that the problem should generate a greater joint reflection and in concrete decisions. If from the onset we look at it from a long term view, that places at the center the well-being of the individual and their rights as citizens and even though the documents are a first step toward dialogue, and that the drug problem should not be separated from the problem of arms trafficking. The representative closed by adding that the debate and evaluation of drug policies should be not be separate and different from the processes carried out by the bodies of the United Nations, but should be considered complimentary and capture the regional experiences to raise the evaluation to a global level.

**Representative of Canada:** Recalled how in Cartagena, the hemisphere's leaders were concerned about the issue of violence and urged that the drug study look at all the drivers of the drug problem. The delegate noted that the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas concluded that the issue of insecurity is bigger than the drug problem, and suggested – a comprehensive approach to viewing the drug problem. He said that the report identified challenges such as, impunity and corruption and stressed the importance of the rule of law. The representative stated that there was no silver bullet to address all these problems but that decriminalization and legalization were taking up a disproportionate amount of time in our discussions compared to these important issues. The representative further stated that public health is embedded in the Hemispheric Drug Strategy and more needs to be done to implement it. The delegate stated that Canada is opposed to decriminalization and legalization. He asked for clarification of the drug study's status, noting that it is not an intergovernmental-endorsed document, but a discussion document.

**Representative of Uruguay:** Indicated that drug trafficking has one sole objective: to make a profit. He said the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas has been very relevant for his country, and even though it is not an approved document, it opens the door to a broad debate. The delegation indicated that the country has exercised its sovereignty to regulate the cannabis market and that it is willing to share the new policies being developed in Uruguay.

**Representative of Suriname:** Pointed to the need to redesign the country's drug policies with a focus on people and on vulnerable populations, and talked about the importance that social mechanisms be put in place toward that end. Although the government of Suriname is against drug legalization, decriminalization has been practiced by law enforcement authorities.

**Representative of Bolivia:** Highlighted the importance of the debate over the Drug Report, noting that in 2008 the anti-drug effort was nationalized in Bolivia and significant operations were carried out to combat drug trafficking and reduce the supply of coca. He also indicated that his country cannot depend on foreign assistance for anti-drug efforts and that it has increased its investment in this area.

**Representative of Guatemala:** Stated that this is a very important debate and urged all member states to use the report as a tool, indicating that alternative methods should be sought. The delegation expressed satisfaction that the academic world is involved in the debate, and praised alternatives being implemented in other countries.

**Representative of Peru:** Stated that Peru upholds the UN conventions on controlled narcotic drugs. As such, indicated that Peru maintains a position against the legalization of drugs. Indicated that the drug problem requires an integral, balanced and multidisciplinary approach, based on the understanding and scientific evidence, under a human rights perspective. Similarly, indicated that the public health focus should be accompanied along with supply control and alternative development. Highlighted the relevance of the Hemispheric Strategy and its Plan of Action as documents that should guide the work. Coincided in the importance of investigating money laundering and expressed interest in establishing more efficient exchange of information and intelligence mechanisms among countries. Recognized the diverse realities and that Peru respects them, therefore considers that the debate has not concluded and should continue. Highlighted CICAD as the forum responsible to carry out said debate.

**Secretary General:** Dr. Insulza concluded by saying that the debate has been very important, and he thanked the commissioners from the member states for their comments. The Secretary General stated that the OAS Drug Study was never intended to be adopted by member countries; rather, it is a discussion document. Finally, he highlighted a need to look for options and alternatives, not just decriminalization and legalization.

## 10. Chemical Substances and Pharmaceutical Products

### Presenters:

- a. **Report of Group of Experts on Chemical Substances and Pharmaceutical Products:** Ms. Rosa María Vásquez Hidalgo, SUNAT, Peru (CICAD/doc.2044/13)

Ms. Rosa María Vásquez Hidalgo presented the report on the meeting of the Group of Experts held August 5-9, 2013, in Lima, Peru. The presentation included a summary of the debates that took place during the meeting, the documents that were finalized, and the corresponding action plan.

- b. **Presentation on Chemical Control and NPS:** Mr. Reiner Pungs, Expert, Precursors Control Section, INCB)

During his presentation, Mr. Reiner Pungs (CICAD/doc.2049/13) provided a general overview of the diversion of chemical products for use in illicit drug production, a worldwide problem that affects all member states. The presenter described a number of measures the member states should take to minimize the diversion of these chemical substances. He also talked about the problems caused by the introduction of new psychoactive substances (NPS), which the member states have recently started to observe.

### Comments by the Delegations

Several delegations congratulated and thanked Peru for its leadership of the Group of Experts and for its reelection to chair the group. They also congratulated the INCB representative for his excellent presentation.

**Representative of Mexico:** Underscored the importance of having a legislative framework for effective control of chemical products, undertake cooperative actions allowing for a positive final outcome of seized chemical precursors. The delegation also suggested that the Group of Experts take note of the recommendations and the results of the meeting of national anti-drug authorities, which took place in Ecuador in September 2013.



**Vice Chair:** Indicated that the diversion and illegal importation of chemicals is a serious problem in Guatemala, and mentioned the efforts his country is undertaking to combat this problem in conjunction with China, where these chemical products are mainly produced.

**Representative of the United States:** Underscored the importance of the working relationship between the CICAD Executive Secretariat and the INCB, and emphasized that with the increase in international controls over chemical products, it is clear that national measures must be increased to control these products and to include the participation of the private (chemical) sector in this effort. He talked about the increased use of “hidden cargo” and about the transfer of clandestine laboratories from northern areas (Mexico) toward the south (Central America), and from the coca-producing areas of South America to Africa.

On the subject of new psychoactive substances, the representative echoed the concerns expressed in the INCB presentation with regard to the spread of NPS. The delegate also said that under the current regulatory framework it is not possible to ensure that control measures are current or adequate in such a changing environment. The representative added that the United States is working with Canada to accelerate the process of scheduling chemicals by means of the United Nations conventions.

**Representative of Canada:** Recalled the participation of Canada in the last meeting of this Group of Experts and indicated that the meeting produced notable achievements, including the work on NPS. The delegate stated his country’s experience with this problem, including seeing a growing number of new psychoactive substances appear, which presents new challenges for Canada. The representative also encouraged the countries to share information on investigation and results, and underscored the importance of collaboration between the CICAD Executive Secretariat and the INCB to help the member states address this problem. On the issue of Article 12 of the 1988 Convention (related to pre-export notification), the delegation asked the INCB representative whether the member states should consider this article to be binding.

Mr. Pungs responded that the article is not mandatory, but that it is necessary for countries that expect to receive pre-export notifications to comply with it. He indicated that the INCB will establish a new working group on NPS and a series of specific operations, most likely in 2014.

**CICAD Executive Secretariat:** Ambassador Simons suggested that the Commission consider the possibility of changing the name of the group of experts to include the NPS issue, since the group is already working on the topic and it would be a positive step for its name to reflect that.

**Representative of Ecuador:** Noted that without chemicals there are no drugs, and indicated that the national observatories could play a more important role in controlling chemical products used in illicit drug production. He also cautioned that it is important for the INCB and countries to have information available on the quantities of chemical products needed in each country, so as to look at any exports that are made and ensure that they do not exceed legitimate need. The delegation felt that a multidisciplinary approach to controlling chemical products is needed by the experts and specialists from different areas who are involved in the control and legitimate use of these substances. The delegate shared information on a range of initiatives that Ecuador has carried out with regard to control of chemical substances.

**Representative of Colombia:** Supported the proposal made by the CICAD Executive Secretary in terms of a name change for the Group of Experts. In responding to the questions posed on this agenda item, the delegation suggested that existing legislation on control of chemicals is insufficient to adequately control the diversion and misuse of these substances, and stressed that the member states should consider the best alternatives to ensure effective control. The representative closed by stating that controls tend not to respond to the rapid changes that arise in the context of unregulated chemical products and NPS.

## Decisions

The Commission approved the Report of the Group of Experts, including its recommendations, documents, and action plan; instructed the group to meet in 2014; and reelected Peru as Chair of the Group of Experts for the 2014-2015 term.

### 11. Report of Group of Experts on Maritime Narcotrafficking

- a. **Report of the Group of Experts on Maritime Narcotrafficking:** Captain Raúl Robles Manrique, General Directorate of the Peruvian Coast Guard

The presentation by Captain Raúl Robles Manrique referred to the work of the Group of Experts on Maritime Narcotrafficking and to the report of its most recent meeting (CICAD/doc.2043/13). The presentation included a summary of the issues addressed and the materials that were prepared, as well as the action plan proposed for the Commission's consideration and approval.

## Decisions

The Commission approved the Report of the Group of Experts, including its recommendations, documents, and action plan; instructed the group to meet in 2014; and elected Colombia as Chair of the Group of Experts for the 2014-2015 term.

### 12. Report by Ambassador Paul Simons, Executive Secretary of CICAD

**Presenter:** Ambassador Paul Simons, Executive Secretary of CICAD

In his remarks, Ambassador Simons (CICAD/doc.2055/13) presented the activities carried out throughout 2013, including experiences of participants in the Fellowship Program for Professionals, the production of the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas and CICAD's relationship with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) which had strengthened. He noted that the various groups of experts have worked diligently, and explained that the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) will have a new approach, provided by the Sixth Evaluation Round. He also drew attention to the work of strengthening institutions, noting the expansion of the Drug Treatment Court model. He highlighted the work carried out in the area of supply control and control of precursors and synthetic drugs; the importance of anti-drug intelligence efforts; the training in control of money laundering; and the BIDAL project (on Seized and Forfeited Asset Management in Latin America).

The Executive Secretary talked about efforts that show collaboration on research with prestigious universities in the Americas. He pointed to the achievements of the Training and Certification Program for Drug and Violence Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation (PROCCER), both in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as specialized activities developed by the Demand Reduction Section. Ambassador Simons highlighted the remarkable job done by the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs (OID) and the progress made on information systems, as well as the surveys that had been conducted. The challenges for 2014 include: increasing the number of donor countries and money from donors, presenting a work plan during CICAD's 2014 spring session; following up on the Declaration of Antigua; consolidating the MEM methodology; having a team in place to provide technical advisory support to the member states; maximizing resources for meetings and optimizing potential synergies and results; obtaining contributions from member states to hold a Special General Assembly; and finding new funding sources, in which multinational organizations such as PAHO can play a key role.

## Comments by the Delegations

Several delegations thanked Ambassador Simons for his leadership and his report on CICAD activities, and reiterated their support of the CICAD Executive Secretariat and the work it is carrying out.

**Representative of Canada:** The delegation talked about the need for the CICAD Executive Secretariat to continue its day-to-day work in the countries through beneficial programs, and called for a reflection on how to update the Action Plan first at the experts' level, then at commissioners' level. The representative noted that the challenges for 2014 include the need to improve meetings, and recommended fewer presentations and greater respect for time limits. The delegate said more time should be devoted to interaction among commissioners, since there had only been such interaction the evening before at the session on cannabis, and supported the idea of broadening the funding base. The delegation stated that countries that want to hold a special General Assembly should provide money for it.

**Representative of the United States:** Echoed Canada's observations and emphasized the need to work more effectively by prioritizing activities and allocating resources accordingly.

## 13. Report of the Governmental Expert Group (GEG) of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)

**Presenter:** Mr. Dave Alexander, General Coordinator, GEG

The General Coordinator of the Governmental Expert Group (GEG) of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), Dave Alexander, presented a report on the group's activities during the MEM Sixth Evaluation Round (CICAD/doc.2050/13). In his report, Mr. Alexander explained the new methodology adopted by MEM for its Sixth Round and described the activities carried out by the GEG, beginning with the preparatory session and establishment of thematic working groups in August 2013 through its first plenary session in November of that year. The GEG Coordinator noted that the GEG did not complete its work and proposed holding another in-person meeting at the end of February 2014 to complete the review of the 34 draft reports, noting that the preliminary results of the GEG's work would be presented during CICAD's spring session and that the final reports would be presented in November 2014.

## Comments by the Delegations

**Representative of Venezuela:** Stated that it had not been possible to name the Deputy General Coordinator at the Miami meeting for the same reasons that the GEG could not finish its work either in Punta Cana or in the first drafting session of the previous round, which made it necessary on both occasions to convene a follow-up meeting, with the respective budgetary implications. The representative indicated that the report does not reflect why there were four abstentions in the vote for the Deputy General Coordinator, since this issue was not on the agenda that was sent out or the one approved by the plenary.

Expressed disagreement with the statement that the members of the five thematic groups reviewed and analyzed the information from the countries and evaluated it objectively and in accordance with the guidelines provided. He stated that in evaluating the status of Recommendation 14, in countries with similar crop cultivation conditions, evaluations of Not Applicable, Not Started, and Partially Complete were given, which shows that the members of the group were working individually and not collectively.

Stated that the review of the draft reports was limited to the chapter on Control Measures, and not to the reports in their entirety. As to whether or not Recommendations 11-15 were applicable in a number of countries without significant illicit crop cultivation, or with no illicit crop cultivation, the delegation

explained that this discussion took up four of the six working days. He pointed out, that a group of experts did not agree that in countries with irrelevant quantities of illicit crops—in which eradication was measured by the number of plants seized and not by areas eradicated— a recommendation that they implement alternative, integral, and sustainable development programs was not applicable to them.

Proposed that the GEG General Coordinator's report be amended to incorporate, the language agreed to by the GEG to address the situation concerning Recommendations 11-15, in order to prevent the debate from being reopened at the next GEG meeting. Moreover, the Supply Reduction group did not manage to present a unified evaluation proposal; nevertheless, in the General Coordinator's report the Commission is asked to approve a call for this thematic working group to meet on January 8-9, 2014. The delegate suggested that the meeting be open to the participation of those experts who might be able to contribute to the work of this group.

**Representative of Trinidad and Tobago:** Stated that the MEM is recognized internationally and this is evidence of its relevance, value, and impact, as it aims to support the countries by consolidating trends, identifying challenges, and offering guidance while striving to provide the assistance they need. The representative indicated that it is against this backdrop that the delegation notes with concern the feedback provided by its principal and alternate experts, and also notes that the General Coordinator's report recognizes that there are parallel views and that there was a lack of flexibility. The representative stressed that flexibility is essential in any discussion that takes place in a multilateral setting, and indicated that the majority of the experts expressed very strong negative feelings about the attitude of some of the participants who monopolized the floor and showed a lack of flexibility and respect toward the contributions of others. The representative indicated that due to that situation, the GEG could not meet the objectives laid out in the meeting.

Accepted the General Coordinator's report and recommended that "not applied" be included in the evaluation categories in the handbook of evaluation criteria, and that a session be convened to continue the drafting process. She also asked the Executive Secretariat to investigate in detail the situation that occurred during the first drafting session and take appropriate and decisive measures to ensure that it does not happen again. The representative also said that she remains convinced that the MEM is an excellent instrument and that its effectiveness should not be diminished by situations such as the one that occurred. The representative indicated that her delegation is committed to an ongoing, active participation in the mechanism and hopes for feedback on this issue from the Executive Secretariat, as well as reports from the General and Deputy General Coordinators that are more positive.

**Representative of Peru:** Indicated that while recommendations for supply reduction are based on the plants produced in the countries that have illicit crop cultivation and alternative development, there are also other drugs that can be produced in other countries, such as chemical products, including medications coming from producer countries. Recently, new psychotropic substances and chemical products have begun to appear. In some cases, the recommendations might not be applicable for plant-based drugs, but might be for other drugs. The delegation believes it is important to review the text of the recommendations to include illicit crops and other types of drugs, so as to evaluate drug control comprehensively.

**Chair:** Asked the General Coordinator of the GEG to respond to Peru's intervention. He also encouraged the delegations of Venezuela and Trinidad and Tobago to meet to discuss and prepare a proposal, with the assistance of the Executive Secretariat, during a plenary recess.

**GEG General Coordinator:** Recommendations 11-15 focused on alternative, integral, and sustainable development and on reducing the illicit supply of drugs, and it is difficult to modify them in line with

what was suggested by the representative of Peru. However, it is an issue that can be raised by the Inter-Governmental Working Group (IWG) in future debates.

**Representative of Venezuela:** Explained that traditionally there is an arbitrary separation of the subjects of supply reduction and control measures. The area of supply reduction, as mentioned in the conventions, refers to the separation of the leaf from the plant. The other stages, such as manufacturing, are covered by the control measures stipulated in the conventions.

**Representative of Colombia:** Requested that all delegations look at how to better negotiate in this context so that consensus can be reached in the GEG. The delegate said the last meeting was clearly difficult and asked the MEM Section about procedures that would make it possible to convene a special session of the Inter-Governmental Working Group.

**Representative of Canada:** Underscored the importance of the MEM and the need to find a path forward. The delegate said that this is the first meeting under the new methodology and it cannot be expected to be perfect, but a reasonable solution can be found in a timely fashion. He noted that 30 of the 34 CICAD members had sent representatives to the meeting in the Dominican Republic, investing significant resources, and that limited resources have to be used carefully. The representative also noted that failure to complete the MEM process is a collective failing, and that the methodology can be modified in the following round but not in the context of this one. The delegate stated that Canada will support broadening the focus on synthetic drug production in the next round. The representative also asked that all members of the Commission send experts who are truly technical experts, without a political agenda, to the GEG meetings. The delegate emphasized that resources are scarce and will be allocated where they are most needed; nonetheless, there is a need to work in a collegial and respectful manner, which includes respect for the GEG General Coordinator. The delegate asked that the work of this round be completed well and on time.

**Representative of Peru:** Agreed to take up this issue again in the future, and agreed that the evaluation should be completed without affecting the MEM's objectives and that all aspects should be evaluated. The representative reiterated some suggestions to include other types of drugs with respect to these recommendations, whether under supply reduction or control measures.

**Representative of Argentina:** Expressed support for Venezuela's conclusions and proposals and the search for consensus with respect to the positions expressed in this case in point. The representative also stressed that this forum should continue to be strengthened, and it should maintain the highest standards from a technical standpoint and in terms of the appropriateness of the experts, taking into account the need for impartiality, confidentiality, and judgment in the analysis of the various circumstances so as to maintain a high standard and so that this continues to be a reference point for everyone. The delegate encouraged a return to a constructive dynamic at the next meeting so the GEG can fully carry out the mission it has been assigned in an inclusive framework.

**GEG General Coordinator:** Stated that this Sixth Round is just beginning and maturing, and that there will be setbacks along the way. With respect to the two issues discussed, the following agreement was reached:

- 1) On Recommendations 11-15, for those countries that are not primarily producers, the evaluation will use the term "Not Applied" and will include the following text "In consideration of the countries' situation, CICAD agreed not to apply any category from the evaluation scale, given that country does not have significant illicit crop areas."

- 2) At the January 8-9 meeting in Washington, D.C., the members of the thematic working group on Supply Reduction will participate. They will meet to implement this formula and continue editing the reports for the plenary meeting in February.

**Representative of Venezuela:** Expressed appreciation for the constructive spirit in which these points of consensus were drafted, and clarified that the way the Supply Reduction section is divided reflects the division that appears in the Hemispheric Drug Strategy.

The Commission approved the GEG report with the proposal (points 1 and 2).

#### 14. Money Laundering Control

- a. Report of Group of Experts, Dr. Paulo Abrão, National Secretary of Justice of Brazil, Chair, Group of Experts

Dr. Abrão gave a summary of the activities carried out by the Group of Experts in the working sessions held in Washington and in Brazil, in May and September, respectively (CICAD/doc.2045/13). The following working documents prepared by the group's experts were presented for approval by the plenary: the Study to Identify International Cooperation Mechanisms (Formal and Informal) to Allow Adequate Exchange of Information for Prevention and Suppression of Money Laundering, Terrorism Financing, and Recovery of Assets of Criminal Origin; the Methodological Guide for Asset Investigation; the Statement on the Murder of Orlan Chávez; and Proposed Recommendations to Improve Anti-Money Laundering Systems at the Level of the OAS Member States. Subsequently, Dr. Abrão presented the sub-working groups' work plans for the meeting that will take place in the first half of 2014. Finally, he asked the Commission for the aforementioned documents to be approved.

#### Comments by the Delegations

**Representative of Nicaragua:** Noted the outstanding job undertaken by the Group of Experts, stated that he had no observations regarding the report's approval, and recommended that the document be sent to the countries to ask for their comments or for the document to be approved. In response to this comment, Dr. Abrão clarified that since this is a self-evaluation mechanism, it is not binding and added that the document has been available for all the countries since September, via the CICAD website.

**Representative of Venezuela:** Sought to clarify whether the approval of the "Proposed Recommendations to Improve Anti-Money Laundering Systems at the Level of the OAS Member States" applies only to the document or to the document and its presentation to the OAS General Assembly. Dr. Abrão clarified that a request was being made for both approvals, of the document itself and of its presentation to the General Assembly. Venezuela then requested that the Commission adopt the document, approving it but putting off the decision to take it to the General Assembly until the next meeting, so as to review the exact contents of the document.

#### Decisions

The Commission approved the documents, taking into account the request made by the representative of Venezuela, and approved Uruguay's nomination for the Chair and Peru's for the Vice Chair of the Group of Experts for the 2014-2015 period.

## 15. Remarks by OAS Permanent Observers and by International, Regional, and Civil Society Organizations Accredited to the OAS

**Representative of the Russian Federation:** The delegation reiterated its commitment to the international conventions and emphasized its interest in continuing to work with CICAD and with its partners at the UNODC in the process of reviewing the progress made by the member states in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Action Plan. The representative introduced the Commission to the various training courses organized by Nicaragua's Federal Drug Control Agency in collaboration with the Russian Federation, pointing to their achievements and effectiveness in training agency personnel in law enforcement in the Central American Integration System (SICA). She also noted that in 2013 a number of courses were organized for agents in Lima and were attended by representatives of five other South American countries, and hoped that this type of activity could continue in years to come. The representative of the Russian Federation indicated that CICAD is among the top organizations that work on drug control.

**Representative of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO):** Highlighted several points of interest stemming from the formal presentations and parallel meetings during the working days of CICAD54. These include the need to: (1) map out the capacity for response of the countries' health sectors; (b) implement alternatives to incarceration for drug-dependent offenders; (3) hold regional and subregional forums for discussion and exchange, to define and strengthen the political framework for developing a public health approach; (4) strengthen respect for human rights and the view of social, economic, and cultural factors as essential elements of drug policy; (5) strengthen systems for information, research, and the generation and analysis of scientific evidence as a support and basis for policies; and (6) develop human resources for the implementation of strategies, policies, and programs with a focus on public health.

Similarly, talked about progress made by PAHO and CICAD in defining collaborative areas of action in demand reduction and institutional strengthening, as well as with the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs. Additionally, the representative emphasized the need for a firm commitment and political will on the part of the member states and their agencies and teams in order to create the conditions necessary for the initiatives that come out of this collaboration to be successful.

**Representative of Asociación Intercambios:** Thanked CICAD for its invitation and for particularly the opportunity provided to civil society through the dialogue initiative organized for December 10, 2013, which she hoped was the first of many other forums of this nature. The representative believed it was important to be able to contribute diverse practices and perspectives in these decision-making venues, and to give a voice to individuals directly affected by drugs, so as to learn from the past and build a new future.

**Representative of Dejusticia:** Asked the Commission to pay special attention to the phenomenon of women being involved in drug trafficking. She shared some of the results of studies undertaken by the International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC), to which Dejusticia belongs, which refer to the phenomenon of the feminization of drug use and the participation of women in trafficking. The representative asked, therefore, that when it comes time for countries to define their prison policies, they take women into account and consider their circumstances.

**Representative of the Canadian Drug Policy Coalition:** Expressed his appreciation for being able to participate in the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas, noting the importance of that report for civil society in general, and mentioned the significant role this effort has had in establishing an unprecedented dialogue. He indicated that this is only the beginning of a global discussion, and that he

expects it to have repercussions at the 2016 UNGASS meeting by offering different approaches and perspectives.

**Representative of the Wilson Center:** Referred to the event on government and civil society organized in Bogotá, which took place prior to CICAD54, in which more than 20 nongovernment organizations participated. The representative talked about two of the issues addressed: public health and human rights. Based on this event, the Wilson Center contributed a number of recommendations, ideas, and thoughts, from a public health standpoint: (1) it is important to include a community perspective when it comes to addressing the drug problem; (2) it is necessary to propose different types of responses to different types of drug use, as harm-reduction policies; and (3) it is essential to include NGOs and their relationships with the governments when the strengthening of institutions is being discussed. On another matter, the representative laid out several challenges: the need for a comprehensive drug policy with a gender focus; respect, protection, and fulfillment of human rights as a central pillar of drug policy; and the need to allocate resources and capacities from a human rights standpoint.

**Representative of Viva Río:** The representative noted that while international conventions are in effect in many of the countries and considerable progress is being made in preparing documents and instruments that enable human rights to be guaranteed, laws must be recognized not only on paper but also in practice. She commented that countries that do not include harm reduction or decriminalization of drug use incur in a violation of human rights. She presented several cases in which human rights are not respected, calling to mind the high cost of maintaining the prison system and emphasizing that funds are being invested that could be devoted to prevention rather than repression. She indicated that a human rights approach to drug laws is essential to prevent and reduce injustice and affronts to human dignity.

## **16. Topics, Dates, and Place for the Fifty-Fifth Regular Session of CICAD**

The Commission determined that the next regular session of CICAD will be held in May 2014 in Washington, D.C. The Chair of the Commission and the Executive Secretariat of CICAD will provide further information in due course.

The issues suggested for the next meeting include:

**Representative of Canada:** Requested that the Executive Secretariat distribute the recent evaluations of its programs in advance and indicate how these have been incorporated into the programs underway and how the programs have been adjusted based on the evaluation results. The delegation noted the need to present an evaluation agenda for current program planning to benefit the Commission. The representative said that it would be useful to discuss outcomes since we have already discussed outputs.

**Representative of Trinidad and Tobago:** Proposed two topics: a presentation on the Drug Treatment Court Program for the Americas; and a discussion on the psychosocial determinants of drug use or abuse, providing a holistic approach in terms of public health.

**Representative of the United States:** Requested a look at the issue of supply and of illicit drug trafficking to ensure that the meetings are balanced, in line with the Hemispheric Drug Strategy. The delegate also expressed the need for closer ties between the Groups of Experts and the Commission to be able to follow their work more closely and benefit from it.

**Representative of Mexico:** Indicated the need to continue providing opportunities for dialogue between CICAD and civil society organizations and guarantee the presence of said social actors in upcoming regular sessions, which contributes and enriches the debate.



**Representative of Chile:** Proposed that the issue of micro-trafficking be included on the next CICAD agenda.

**Representative of Peru:** Formally announced the aspiration of Peru to become Vice Chair of CICAD next year.

## Closing

Vice Minister Miguel Samper, Chair of CICAD, presented the Commission with the Chair's conclusions (CICAD/doc.2069/13), in which he laid out a series of issues that were part of the debates held during the event. Following this, he brought the fifty-fourth regular session of CICAD to a close. The document is attached to this report.

### III. DECISIONS

The Commission took the following decisions:

1. Approval of the Draft Agenda and Draft Schedule of Activities (CICAD/doc.2039/13 and CICAD/doc.2040/13 rev.2 corr.1).
2. Election of Colombia and Guatemala as Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission.
3. Approval of the Report of the Group of Experts on Money Laundering Control (CICAD/doc.2045/13), including the work plan, the documents presented, and the road forward for meeting in 2014. In the case of the "Proposed Recommendations to Improve Anti-Money Laundering Systems at the Level of the OAS Member States" (CICAD/lavex/doc.17/13 rev.1), the document should be presented to the Commission for its review and approval before being presented to the OAS General Assembly. In addition, the election of Uruguay and Peru as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, of the Group of Experts was approved for the 2014-2015 period (taking effect in September 2014).
4. Approval of the Report of the Group of Experts on Maritime Narcotrafficking (CICAD/doc.2043/13), including the action plan, the documents presented, and the road forward for meeting in 2014. It also approved Colombia's election as Chair of the Group of Experts.
5. Approval of the Report of the Group of Experts on Chemical Substances and Pharmaceutical Products (CICAD/doc.2044/13), including the action plan, the documents presented, and the road forward for meeting in 2014. It also approved Peru's reelection as Chair of the Group of Experts.
6. Approval of the Report of the Governmental Expert Group (GEG) of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) with an amendment to incorporate the language agreed to by the GEG to address the situation concerning recommendations on Supply Reduction (11-15).

## IV. PARTICIPANTS

### 1. CICAD Member States

Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

### 2. Permanent Observers

Russian Federation and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

### 3. Specialized International and Regional Organizations

International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL); Pan American Health Organization (PAHO); COPOLAD; Development Bank of Latin America (CAF); Office of the Mission to Support the Peace Process in Colombia (MAPP-OEA); United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

### 4. Civil Society

Centros de Integración Juvenil (CIJ); Lua Nova; Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA); Canadian Drug Policy Coalition; SURGIR; Smart Approaches to Marijuana; Viva Río; Carter Center; Corporación Viviendo; Igarape; Woodrow Wilson Center; Intercambios de Asociación Civil-Argentina; Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development, AECID-Costa Rica; Open Society; Corporación Acción Técnica Social; Centro de Información y Educación para la Prevención del Abuso de Drogas (CEDRO); Espolea A.C.; Coalición de Reducción del Daño; Organización Nacional para el Desarrollo de los Pueblos (ONALDEP); Mama Coca; Centro de Estudios de Derecho, Justicia y Sociedad-Dejusticia; and the Caribbean Drug & Alcohol Research Institute.