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**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE
CONTROL COMMISSION**

CICAD

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

**SIXTIETH REGULAR SESSION
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**NASSAU COMMEMORATIVE DECLARATION
IN RECOGNITION OF THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)**

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On the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Organization of American States (OAS), we the Member States, gathered in Nassau, The Bahamas on 2nd November, 2016,

COGNIZANT of the ongoing challenges posed by the evolution of the world drug problem on the hemisphere and emerging trends, including new psychoactive substances, and recognizing the importance of improving our efforts to counter the negative impact that the illicit cultivation and production, trafficking, distribution and abuse of drugs have on public health, social cohesion, development, the environment and citizen security,

RECALLING as a hemispheric response to the threat of drugs, the convocation of the first OAS Inter-American Specialized Conference on Traffic in Narcotic Drugs, held in Rio de Janeiro, in April, 1986, which led to the creation of the Inter-American Program of Action of Rio de Janeiro against the Illicit Use and Production of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Traffic Therein, and the subsequent establishment of CICAD in November, 1986,

RECOGNIZING the significant work undertaken by CICAD and its Executive Secretariat throughout the past three decades in strengthening the capacity of Member States to address the world drug problem, through its respective programmatic areas, and in constructing a

hemispheric agenda that respects human rights, encourages public health and other approaches that mitigate the negative impact of drug abuse, relies upon scientific evidence and focuses on the needs of human beings,

HIGHLIGHTING the noteworthy achievements of CICAD and its Executive Secretariat, which *inter alia* include, the adoption of the 1996 Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere and its corresponding 1998 Plan of Action, the 2010 Hemispheric Drug Strategy and the 2011-2015 Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs, as well as the creation of a unique multilateral process to evaluate drug policies in the hemisphere,

REAFFIRMING our commitment to comprehensively address the world drug problem in accordance with Inter-American and international drug related instruments, including the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Drugs 2016 outcome document, entitled, “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem” and the strategic guidelines and courses of action as set forth in the aforementioned Hemispheric Drug Strategy and the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2016-2020, respectively,

CONVINCED that the complex nature of the world drug problem, in all its manifestations, will continue to require an integrated, balanced, and multidimensional approach, involving the participation of all relevant sectors in an effort to arrive at responsive solutions,

DECLARE:

1. Our unwavering and renewed commitment to foster and strengthen hemispheric and international partnerships and cooperation to address the world drug problem within the framework of the principle of common and shared responsibility.
2. Our commitment to work collaboratively to strengthen CICAD and its Executive Secretariat with the objective of improving the capacities of Member States toward a balanced and integrated approach to the world drug problem in the hemisphere.
3. Our commitment for the implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2016-2020 at the national level, ensuring, where appropriate, its application to necessary policies, legislation and programmatic actions.
4. Our commitment to the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism as the only valid hemispheric instrument to measure the progress of Member States in the application of the Plan of Action 2016-2020, recognizing other established multilateral mechanisms, by mutual agreement, for the monitoring, collection and exchange of information.
5. The need for continued dialogue on the world drug problem with the aim of identifying lessons learned, challenges, successful models and best practices.
6. To consider knowledge and scientific evidence in the development and implementation of policies, which contribute to strengthening national strategies to address the world

drug problem, as a way of identifying effective solutions, and achieving better results in facing emerging challenges.