FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
December 11-15, 2000
Washington, D.C.

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FINAL REPORT
I. BACKGROUND

The Statute of the Inter American Drug Abuse Control Commission 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 twenty-seventh regular session, the Commission decided, in accordance with Article 20 of the Statute, to hold the first special session at the headquarters of the Organization in Washington, D.C. on December 11-15, 2000. The purpose of the special session was to consider and adopt the first round of national reports and the first hemispheric report resulting from the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM).

II. PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

A. DECISIONS ADOPTED

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

The agenda (document CICAD/doc.2/00) and the schedule of activities (CICAD/doc.3/00 rev.2) were adopted without amendment.

2. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE PROVISIONAL NATIONAL REPORTS 1999-2000 FOR THE MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM

The Commission considered the provisional MEM reports on each country (CICAD/doc.10/00 – CICAD/doc.43/00), and offered the delegations of all member states the opportunity to comment on the report on their respective country. The Commission decided that factual errors might be corrected directly in the report, but that information on actions taken by a member state after October 24, 2000 would be included in the report only in the form of a footnote. Each country report was considered and adopted on the basis of this methodology.

Following the adoption of the national reports, the plenary considered and adopted the Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control, Hemispheric Report 1999-2000 (CICAD/doc.9/00). The member states used similar methodology to that used for the national reports, allowing information of a factual nature to be changed. The report was reviewed and approved by the entire plenary.
The delegation of Ecuador made the following statement for the record:

“The policies and programs to reduce the production and illicit trafficking of drugs, and control the criminal operations connected to drug-trafficking, which are carried out by subversive organizations in Colombia, have brought about the beginning of a process of displacement of illicit coca crops, and peasant workers from Colombia to Ecuador, which could have disturbing consequences, doing harm to the inhabitants and to the related economic activities carried out in the area.”

The plenary adopted resolution CICAD/001/00 (see Annex 1), which summarizes the agreements of the meeting and provides guidance to member states and instructions to the Executive Secretariat regarding the implementation of the MEM recommendations, and convocation of the Intergovernmental Working Group to review indicator and process questions in preparation for activities in 2001. The MEM and its recommendations will be discussed at the twenty-ninth regular session, and presented to the Summit of the Americas in Quebec City, Canada, in April 2001.

B. PARTICIPANTS

1. CICAD MEMBERS

Attending the twenty-eighth regular session of the Commission were the delegates of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela (The participant list is published as document CICAD/doc.4/00 rev.1).

2. PERMANENT OBSERVERS

Also attending the first special session in their capacity as Permanent Observers to the Organization of American States were representatives of the European Union/European Commission, France and the Russian Federation.

C. SESSIONS

1. INAUGURAL SESSION

The inaugural session was held at 9:00 am on December 11 in the Hall of the Americas in the OAS main building in Washington, D.C. The Chair of CICAD,
Mr. Lancelot Selman of Trinidad and Tobago, welcomed the delegates, and the Executive Secretary of CICAD, Mr. David R. Beall, made an opening statement. Dr. César Gaviria, Secretary General of the OAS, made a welcoming statement on December 11, at 2:15 pm, prior to the opening of the second working session.

2. WORKING SESSIONS

The Commission held six closed working sessions, open only to member states, during which the 1999-2000 National Reports 1999-2000 for the MEM were considered and adopted. The first working session began at 10:00 am on December 11, 2000 in the Hall of the Americas in Washington, D.C. Mr. David Beall spoke on the organizational and administrative matters of the work plan. Dr. Alberto Scavarelli, Governmental Experts Group Coordinator, made a formal presentation of the provisional national reports of the MEM to the CICAD Chair.

Following the approval of all the national reports, Ambassador Claude Heller, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the OAS, delivered an introduction to the Hemispheric Report providing background to the process of the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG), which he had chaired. Those working sessions that were dedicated to the consideration and adoption of the Hemispheric Report were open to OAS Permanent Observer countries.

3. CLOSING SESSION

The closing session was held on December 15, 2000 at 1:00 pm. The Chair of CICAD and the Executive Secretary made final remarks. Mr. Alberto Hart, who returned to his country of origin at the end of January 2001, made a formal farewell to the plenary. Ambassador Luigi Einaudi, Assistant Secretary General of the OAS, addressed the closing session and declared the meeting closed.

Following the Closing Session a press conference was held, and a provisional draft of the Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control Hemispheric Report 1999-2000 was made available to the public (CICAD/E/doc.9/00). The final versions of the Evaluations of Progress in Drug Control, Hemispheric Report and National Reports 1999-2000 were published in February 2001.
ANNEX I

CICAD RESOLUTION 001/00
THE MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM
(Revised version)

THE INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION,

RECALLING that in order to bring about the full implementation of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere and with the intention of strengthening mutual confidence, dialogue and hemispheric cooperation and on the basis of the principles of respect for the sovereignty and territorial jurisdiction of the States, reciprocity, shared responsibility and an integrated, balanced approach in conformity with their domestic laws, the governments agreed in the Plan of Action of the Second Summit of the Americas to develop, within the framework of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD-OAS), a singular and objective process of multilateral governmental evaluation in order to monitor the progress of their individual and collective efforts in the Hemisphere and of all the countries participating in the Summit, in dealing with the diverse manifestations of the problem;

RECALLING FURTHER that CICAD complied with that mandate through resolution 001/99, in which it approved the establishment of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism;

BEARING IN MIND that the objectives of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism include strengthening mutual confidence, dialogue and hemispheric cooperation in order to deal with the drug problem with greater efficacy; achieving full implementation of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere; supporting the States in executing their national plans, helping to strengthen their ability to deal with the problem and promoting implementation of programs for technical assistance, training, and exchanging experience based on the needs of each State; and strengthening multilateral cooperation as a way to ensure the objective evaluation of States’ efforts to tackle the drug problem;

ACKNOWLEDGING the work carried out by the Intergovernmental Working Group, which designed the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism, and by the Governmental Experts Group, which conducted the first evaluation round; and
HAVING EXAMINED the national evaluation reports and the report on the hemispheric situation regarding the drug problem, including the recommendations contained in those documents,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the national evaluation reports 1999-2000 of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism.


3. To urge member states to adopt, as soon as possible, the pertinent steps to implement the recommendations contained in their respective national reports and in the Hemispheric Report.

4. To instruct the Executive Secretariat of the Commission to support member states in implementing the recommendations contained in the national reports and Hemispheric Report 1999-2000 of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism, and to make the pertinent adjustments to their respective annual work plans where necessary.

5. To request that donor states and international organizations provide technical and financial assistance to member states and to the Executive Secretariat of the Commission to support the implementation of the above-mentioned recommendations.

6. To decide that the multilateral evaluation process be carried out each year on an ongoing basis.

7. To instruct the Executive Secretariat, bearing in mind the experience gained in the first multilateral evaluation exercise, to prepare a revised version of the questionnaire of indicators, which must be submitted to the member states for consideration by February 15, 2001, as well as a proposed work calendar for the second round of the multilateral evaluation.

8. To invite member states to comment on that proposal by March 15, 2001 and to submit their comments to the Executive Secretariat so they may be presented to the Intergovernmental Working Group.

9. To reconvene the Intergovernmental Working Group so that it may, prior to the twenty-ninth regular session of the Commission, analyze the adjustments necessary to the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism, including its methodology and work calendar, taking into consideration the material referred to in preceding numeral 8 provided by the Executive Secretariat.
10. To request that the Intergovernmental Working Group present its conclusions for consideration at the twenty-ninth regular session of the Commission, to be held in May 2001 at the headquarters of the Organization.

11. To acknowledge the work of the Governmental Experts Group, which conducted the first multilateral evaluation exercise, as well as the support lent by the Executive Secretariat in this endeavor.

12. To provide that the Chair of the Commission, with the assistance of the Executive Secretariat, adopt the pertinent measures to see that this resolution and the National Reports and the Hemispheric Report 1999-2000 of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism are brought to the attention of the Third Summit of the Americas, to be held in Quebec City, Canada, in April 2001.

13. To transmit this resolution to the General Assembly of the Organization.