FIFTY-THIRD REGULAR SESSION
May 20-22, 2013
Washington, DC
I. BACKGROUND

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

In accordance with Articles 20 and 21 of the Statute, it was decided that the fifty-third regular session would be held on May 20-22, 2013, in Washington, DC.

This report provides a summary of the presentations made during the sessions including reference numbers of the detailed documents, and a summary of the most relevant points made by delegations during the discussions.

II. PROCEEDINGS

1. Welcoming remarks

**Presenter:** Mario Zamora Cordero, Minister of Governance, Police and Public Security of Costa Rica, and Chair of CICAD

**Presentation**

As Chair of CICAD, Dr. Zamora made the opening remarks at the fifty-third regular session of CICAD. He expressed his hope that the results of the meeting would prove useful to the member states in performing their day-to-day work in responding to the world drug problem. He praised the fact that this meeting was preceded by a special session in which the OAS General Secretary, Jose Miguel Insulza, presented the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas. In his position as Chair, he invited discussions on the dichotomy between the public health and security approaches with regard to the drug problem, and expressed his desire that this session serve as a first step in the long awaited debates on this subject.

2. Adoption of the draft agenda and draft schedule of activities

The Commission approved the draft agenda (CICAD/doc.2013/13 rev.2) and the draft schedule of activities (CICAD/doc.2014/13 rev.2) without modifications.

3. Working Group to review the CICAD 2012 draft Annual Report to the General Assembly and Draft Resolution Paragraphs

The Chair of the Commission reminded the delegates that these two documents were previously reviewed by a working group which consists of representatives from the permanent missions to the OAS, and convened a working group to review the draft Commission’s Annual Report to the General Assembly
(CICAD/doc.2016/13rev.3) and draft resolution paragraphs (CICAD/doc.2017/13rev.4). The Delegation of Canada was appointed to chair this group.

**Comments by Delegations**

**Peru:** Referred to the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas, calling attention to the reference made in the report to the “Sendero Luminoso” organization as “guerrilla”, clarifying that, for Peru, this is a “terrorist organization”, and requesting that this error be corrected.

**Argentina:** The Delegation took note of the presentation of the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas, indicating that it was being analyzed in detail by the areas of the National Public Administration with jurisdiction in the matter, given the short notice with which the Report had been presented to delegations. The Delegation also indicated that, after a preliminary reading, the country was concerned over references made about Argentina that were not properly contextualized and, in some cases, without empirical support.


**Facilitator:** Adam Kahane, Reos Partners

**Description of the activity**

*a. Presentation of the Scenarios*

Adam Kahane, of Reos Partners, served as lead facilitator of this activity, who along with Adam Blackwell (Secretariat for Multidimensional Security – SMS/OAS), Emiliano Martín Gonzáles, Julius Lang (Court Innovation), and John Walsh (Washington Office on Latin America – WOLA), made presentations on the development process and content of the Scenarios for the Drug Problem in the Americas—Together, Pathways, Resilience, and Disruption; followed by a question and answer session. The presenters emphasized that the Scenarios are neither forecasts nor recommendations, but rather describe potential possibilities and implications of what could be future realities for member states.

*b. Group exercise*

Following the conclusion of the question and answer session, a group exercise was conducted in which meeting participants were divided into small groups to explore the opportunities, challenges, alternatives, and next steps for each of the Scenarios. The aim of this exercise was to achieve a better understanding of the Scenarios and to strategically consider the actions member states could take in response to being confronted with any of the potential future realities described in any of the four Scenarios.


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

**Presentation**

6. Remarks by Dr. Gil Kerlikowske, Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), United States

Dr. Gil Kerlikowske described the current United States’ Drug Strategy, which balances public health programs, law enforcement, and international partnerships, and is rooted in the evidence proving that drug addiction is a disease. He explained that the 2013 Strategy emphasizes prevention efforts through increased funding and attention. Dr. Kerlikowske pointed to the important role of health care professionals in addressing drug use more effectively, in which he further highlighted the importance of strengthening the capacity of health care systems to meet the demand for drug treatment.

Dr. Kerlikowske shared that the ONDCP is actively supporting the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) programs in several member states. Additionally, he noted with satisfaction recent efforts by UNODC to develop International Standards of Drug Use Prevention.

The Director expressed with concern that transnational criminal organizations challenge citizen security. Although these criminal organizations are intimately involved in the drug trade, recent studies suggest that the majority of their business is in other illegal activities. He reiterated that the suggestion that drug legalization would cause transnational organized crime to disappear is a fallacy and a distraction from hemispheric efforts to dismantle violent transnational criminal groups.

Dr. Kerlikowske reiterated ONDCP's commitment to working with all hemispheric partners, noting that it views CICAD as the competent technical regional body on drugs, and values the forum it provides for this important reflection and exchange.


Moderator: Brigadier General Anthony Phillips Spencer, Vice Chief of Defense Staff - Trinidad and Tobago Defense Force

Presenters:

a. Production and Supply of Drugs, Pharmaceuticals and Precursors: Ambassador David T. Johnson, Senior Advisor - Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), USA

b. Drugs and Security: Ambassador Adam Blackwell, Secretary – Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS), OAS; Mr. Rafael Franzini Battle, Regional Representative – UNODC Brazil

Presentations

a. Production and Supply of Drugs, Pharmaceuticals and Precursors
Ambassador Johnson’s presentation (CICAD/doc.2023/13) covered plant-based drugs, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals with an emphasis on drug market trends of production and consumption, highlighting the evolution of coca cultivation and cocaine production in the Andean region. He indicated that the vast majority of Colombian cocaine is being consumed in the US, and that Peruvian and Bolivian cocaine is mostly consumed in Europe. Furthermore, he mentioned the shift in heroin production from Colombia to Mexico and Guatemala; and that there has been little hemispheric shift in the market for cannabis. The
presentation also covered the growing challenge of amphetamine-type stimulants in the region, noting that they are easy to make and the ingredients can be found throughout the world, resulting in a global rise in consumer use of pharmacological drugs. Finally, Ambassador Johnson expressed that the synthesis, production, trafficking, and consumption of drugs are the largest institutional threats; and it is fundamental that related decisions and policies are based upon reliable data and information.

b. Drugs and Security
Ambassador Blackwell’s presentation (CICAD/doc.2027/13) stressed the themes of humility, humanity and institutionality, linking the region’s security problems to the challenges of inequality, lack of employment, poverty, and youth alienation. He emphasized the need to create merit-based institutions and deal with the real and perceived impunity throughout the member states. Ambassador Blackwell highlighted the need to create more efficient and relevant indicators to better measure the impact of the security problem, the real threat it poses to the different populations, and possible solutions. Finally, he stressed that international cooperation was key to foster credibility and facilitate better information sharing among member states.

Mr. Franzini’s presentation (CICAD/doc.2032/13) emphasized that, although indicators have improved over the past decade, there is still a significant lack of hard data on the nature and real threat of drug users, and the relation between the drugs consumed and crimes committed by that population, thus making it very difficult for states to formulate an informed response on how to effectively deal with drug offenders. He also stressed the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach and response to the drug problem, which should include reforms at the judicial level on money laundering regulations, social programs, public health, education, and employment programs for at-risk populations.

Comments by Delegations and Panel Responses

Guatemala: Stated that one of the main problems is narcotrafficking, and expressed its concern about the lack of information on the narcotrafficking situation in transit zone countries. The Delegation also commented that the Government of Guatemala initiated the debate of how to approach the drug problem in order to make progress and advances in drug policy, not to create divisions, as Central America is a region with limited resources and facing the biggest problem regarding narcotrafficking. Guatemala considers that after a year and a half, the objective of the discussions has been achieved through these debates, and understands that the approach must be integrated, but specialized. The Delegation also stressed that its intention has never been to legalize drugs.

The panelists commented that the issue of narcotrafficking in transit countries is addressed in Chapter 5 of the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas.

Colombia: Stated that there appeared to be certain contradictions between the Analytical Report and the Scenarios. The Delegation also remarked that there is no lack of real data in the effort to combat drug trafficking, stating that Colombia has produced and used such data with regard to coca and cocaine, which have proven useful in the country’s fight against narcotrafficking. The Delegation also stated that the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas does not address the problem of substances that are not controlled.

In reply to Colombia’s observation, the panelists stated that in order to address the problem, it is important not only to focus on drugs, but also on related crimes, and that there is a lack of information on the root cause of the problem, which cannot be understood by drug production figures alone.
Ecuador: Pointed out a mistake in Table 9 of the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas concerning poppy crop eradication in Ecuador.

The panelists indicated that the error was noted and will be corrected.

Peru: Voiced its concern about the lack of information on transit zone narcotrafficking in the Analytical Report. The representative also emphasized that the “human being” should be central in the approach to the drug problem and urged a comprehensive and coordinated response based on shared responsibility. The Delegation mentioned that production data is not very reliable due to a lack of uniformity in the methodologies and indicators used to measure it, and linked the establishment of organized crime in the region with the onset of narcotrafficking and its transnational cartels. The delegation noted a prioritization of the issue of organized crime over the drug problem, which is CICAD’s raison d’être as well as the subject of the Secretary General’s Report. Likewise, the Delegation noted that the presence of organized crime in the Americas, except in a few countries, is verified only from the late 1980s and as a direct result of the activities of drug traffickers.

Haiti: Expressed its concern about transit zone routes and the lack of solutions provided by the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas as a comprehensive response to member states that are located in such zones.

Panelists: Stated that the analytical report met its objectives and, once countries have the appropriate time to analyze its contents, the discussions to follow will be very productive. They also noted that countries’ obligations, as stated in the international conventions, must be taken into account and that, while they may be changed if necessary, removing them could be detrimental to the international system. The panelists also commented that the challenges faced by countries pose opportunities to strengthen their institutions, which have to be prepared to face the drug problem in an integral way, and further encouraged member states to take advantage of bilateral and multilateral forums to continue discussing the issues addressed by the analytical report.


Moderator: Dr. Julio Calzada, General Secretary – National Drug Secretariat, National Drug Board, Uruguay

Presenters:

a. Legal and Regulatory Alternatives: Prof. Peter Reuter, School of Public Policy – University of Maryland, USA

b. The Economy of Drug Trafficking: Ms. Melissa Dell, Society of Fellows – Harvard University, USA

Presentations

a. Legal and Regulatory Alternatives
Prof. Reuter’s presentation (CICAD/doc.2029/13) explained the chapter on legal and regulatory alternatives, which provides a review of legal options regarding drugs and presents an analytical framework that does not only focus on a single goal, but rather focuses on reducing harms. The chapter notes that harms relate to use and distribution with potential tradeoffs and considers that policies should
reduce harms, although agreement is lacking on what constitutes “harm”. The presentation then reviewed different types of harms and who bears the harm or risk, as many consequences are borne by drug users, other harms are borne by people around them, and others by society as a whole. The presentation also explained the concepts of decriminalization, depenalization, and legalization. Dr. Reuter reviewed many of the possible benefits and consequences of the different possible approaches stated in the chapter.

b. The Economy of Drug Trafficking
Ms. Dell’s presentation (CICAD/doc.2030/13) explained how economics is essential in understanding illicit drug trade. Ms. Dell stated that estimating the size of drug markets is challenging, but that recent estimates from the United States indicate that the drug market currently exceeds $320 billion USD with estimate retail sales in the Americas reporting just under half of total world retail sales; and the majority of profits associated with the drug trade remain in North America, not in the producing or trafficking regions. This pattern appears not only true for cocaine, but for marihuana and methamphetamine as well. The presentation also explained that, although North America is dominant in drug consumption and profits, it does not mean that the majority of the impact is felt in North America. The gross profits associated with the drug trade accrue as they reach retailers, with the smallest profits found at the beginning of the production line—with the farmers in the producing regions. This situation is also similar for other drugs around the world.

Moderator: Ms. Francisca Florenzano, Executive Secretary – National Director – National Service for Drug and Alcohol Prevention and Rehabilitation (SENDA), Chile

Presenters:

a. Drugs and Development: Prof. Francisco Thoumi, Colombia

b. Drugs and Health: Dr. Maria Elena Medina Mora, General Director – National Psychiatric Institute “Ramón de la Fuente Muñiz”, México

Presentations

a. Drugs and Development
Prof. Thoumi’s presentation (CICAD/doc.2021/13) noted that the absence of direct causation in the drug problem requires a focused study on risk factors; that the benefit of the illegal drug industry to the legal economy is an illusion; and that repressive policies seeking to protect public morals or public welfare, regardless of the social context, end up generating huge costs and eternal wars that cannot be won. The presentation also noted that the relationship between individuals and drugs is extremely diverse and is based on the specific relationship between communities and the state, and between individuals and society; therefore, policies should respond to the characteristics of the problem in each space, moment and situation, and should focus more on human beings and less on prohibited substances.

b. Drugs and Health
Dr. Medina Mora’s presentation (CICAD/doc.2022/13) reviewed the conceptual framework for drugs and public health, including the social determinants of health, effects of drug use, the role of adulterants in drugs, patterns of consumption, and drug prevention and treatment. The presenter stated that one of the goals of a public health approach is to ensure that interventions do not cause more harm than the substances themselves. Therefore, in order to intervene in the best way possible, it is essential to have
updated information to strengthen systems and interventions. Dr. Medina-Mora highlighted the importance of understanding social determinants and risk factors, both biological and social. She also commented that, although a great deal is known about psychosocial aspects associated with drug use, there is a great deal to learn about drug use and dependence. Dr. Medina-Mora shared information on prevention and treatment interventions that are proven effective, as well as programs and policies that modify the consequences of use. Other issues highlighted were the importance of integrating treatment into healthcare, the recognition of human rights, the strengthening of human resources to address these issues and the need for more research in order to strengthen public health responses.

Comments by Delegations and Panel Responses

**Dominican Republic:** Congratulated the new anthropocentric approach, and requested clarification on the new findings in neuroscience to better understand the drug problem.

In response, the panelists noted that there has been great progress in neuroscience research, but it must be supplemented by the social sciences, as drug use is largely determined by the environment.

**Ecuador:** Requested more information on the prevention programs mentioned on the Study on Drugs and Public Health of the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas, and for the source and years covered regarding the information reported on Ecuador.

In response, the panelists noted that the information had been gathered from the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) evaluation of progress report, which is was provided by the Government of Ecuador.

**Uruguay:** Highlighted the importance of the fiscal capacity of the states to address the multiple needs of drug-related policies. The Delegation also noted the need for policies to be centered on people and not on substances. It also mentioned that a noteworthy aspect highlighted by the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas was that drug policies must address the different social, economic and cultural particularities of each community; and that there should be plenty of opportunities to further debate these issues throughout the region.

**Mexico:** Noted that a country that offers public health services should also offer public health research and education to adequately address addiction, as this will strengthen the country’s health infrastructure. The Delegation remarked that the training of human resources responds to these needs, and that it is necessary to review how public health services are being structured and offered to respond to an epidemic such as addiction. The Delegation remarked that, presently, there is a lag in health systems, with some exceptions, which requires the strengthening of research and human resources working in the area of drugs.

**Peru:** Did not agree on the pessimistic view of the progress of alternative development programs, as discussed in the presentation, and noted that Peru has carried out and replicated successful alternative development projects. The Delegation then explained how alternative development programs have helped Peru with its drug supply problems, noting that production is the main problem for the country, not consumption. The Delegation expressed that its alternative development policies have assisted the state in reaching the most isolated areas of the country.

In response, the panelists commented that the global experience with alternative development has not always been positive, given the difficulties associated with sustainability of these programs, and
explained some of the challenges encountered in regions that have carried out alternative development programs.

10. New trends in addressing the drug problem through social crime prevention programs

**Presenter:** Dr. Xiuh Guillermo Tenorio Antiga, General Director of Citizen Participation for the Social Prevention of Violence and Crime – Government Secretariat, Mexico

**Presentation**

Dr. Tenorio’s presentation (CICAD/doc.2033/13) included a diagnostic analysis of the drug problem in Mexico, in which he identified the resources invested in security and combating illicit drug use. Dr. Tenorio highlighted the relationship between addiction and criminal behavior, and described the criminal cycle—noting where preventive actions can be carried out in order to address the problem. He also discussed Mexico’s National Strategy for the Prevention and Treatment of Addictions and described the activities that are being executed in the areas of social prevention, availability of information, improvement of regulations and on addiction treatment courts, all in reference to addressing the drug problem. Dr. Tenorio stressed that the Strategy aims to delay the age of first use, prevent occasional users from becoming addicts, prevent addicts from becoming transgressors, and prevent transgressors from becoming criminal offenders.

**Comments by Delegations and Responses**

**Guatemala:** Requested more information on the obstacles that were faced in the execution of the Program and its costs. The Delegation also asked how the issues of drug trafficking, firearms trafficking and trafficking in persons are being addressed under this Program.

In response, Dr. Tenorio noted that the main obstacles in program implementation were: 1) there are no globally accepted indicators on social prevention, and the country had to spend significant time and resources to develop them; 2) the challenges of a government party transition; and 3) coordination between government entities.

**Panama:** Inquired how the program will prevent criminal groups from undermining drug prevention efforts, and if the program plans to measure its results and how.

In response, the presenter informed that the Program identified the areas that are most vulnerable in order to determine where to take preventive actions and provide increased security. In regard to measuring results, the presenter mentioned three success stories in the cities of Aguas Calientes, Tijuana and Ciudad Juarez, where criminal activity was significantly reduced, and pointed out that results cannot be measured in less than 24 months.

**Ecuador:** Asked what were the lessons learned from previous programs that can be applied to this Program, and what were the main differences between the current and past programs.
In response, the presenter pointed out that Mexico did not previously give priority to social prevention, and noted that the new Program will allow for a more centralized execution.

**Amb. Simons:** Noted that there are many similarities between the approach of Mexico’s Program and that of the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas.

### 11. Presentation of CICAD Executive Secretariat Execution of 2012 Work Plan and proposed 2013 Work Plan

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

**Presentation**

Ambassador Paul Simons submitted the CICAD Executive Secretariat’s results and products of the 2012 Work Plan (CICAD/doc.2034/13), as mandated under Objective 7d of the Hemispheric Plan of Action 2011-2015. The presentation included the topics of contributions, support to member states, activities of the expert groups, and the activities of the six CICAD Executive Secretariat’s Sections.

Ambassador Paul Simons presented the CICAD Executive Secretariat’s 2013 Work Plan to the Commission (CICAD/doc.2035/13). Ambassador Simons explained that this presentation is required under Objective 7c of the Hemispheric Plan of Action 2011-2015, according to which the Executive Secretariat is tasked with presenting its work plan on an annual basis at the spring meeting of the CICAD Commission. The Work Plan was presented to the Commissioners for their approval in accordance with the objectives and actions of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy and Plan of Action.

**Comments by Delegations**

**Ecuador:** Suggested the inclusion of a monitoring component for the Executive Secretariat’s programs, which includes indicators, goals, and results in order to measure impact.

**Canada:** Noted that the work plan had not been sent out in advance of the regular session. The Delegation requested that, in advance of future sessions, work plans be distributed to member states in advance so as to provide sufficient time to review and facilitate a fulsome discussion before approval.

**Decision**

The Commission approved by consensus the Executive Secretariat’s proposed 2013 Work Plan.

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

**Andean Community of Nations:** Made a presentation on the progress made in the PRADICAN project (CICAD/doc.2026/13), where it noted that this project aims to foster cooperation between four Andean countries along with other regional and international agencies. All of the activities outlined in the presentation will contribute to the development of a drug strategy for the Andean Community for the period 2013-2016, which will be sent to Andean Community members for ratification.
**Russian Federation:** Informed that they believe in a balanced approach to drugs that combine law enforcement, prevention and treatment, and re-integration. The Delegation expressed that it will continue to support Latin American countries through law enforcement training, and it is committed to international cooperation and the United Nations Action Plan. The Delegation also noted that Russia is concerned by the growing requests to revise the international instruments related to drugs, and believes that there must be strict compliance with them, as the challenges faced are transnational, and it is only through international cooperation that the drug problem can be dealt with accordingly.

**Spain:** Referenced relevant drug policies implemented in Spain in the last decades to include a balance between supply and demand, focus on public health, respect for fundamental human rights, and a basis on scientific evidence. The Delegation mentioned that a wide range of health and social services to address the drug problem should be considered. However, the Delegation noted that this does not mean that Spain is complacent about production, trafficking, or money laundering; rather it is committed to fighting the struggle with the rest of Europe and its international partners. The Delegation explained how Spain responded to the “heroin epidemic” from the ‘80s with a combination of measures, including specific harm reduction measures and treatment using the bio-psycho-social model in order to improve the health of drug dependent persons and achieve the highest degree of reintegration into social life, work, and family. In short, a policy not based solely on repression, but focused mainly on people and their circumstances.

**Pan American Health Organization (PAHO):** Expressed that the public health chapter of the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas, in which PAHO was a contributor, is a milestone in the development of public policy, as the focus on public health and human rights is fundamental to guide drug policies and to focus policies on people. The Representative explained that PAHO is making progress in these efforts and is implementing a PAHO Regional Drug Strategy that will assist countries in introducing the public health perspective in their policies. Additionally, PAHO is revising quality of care standards for drug treatment centers; is supporting the CICAD Drug Courts Program; partnered with European Union COPOLAD in the development of a course on integrated care in primary health care and research study groups, and the development of an indicator for problematic consumption. In addressing the problem of weak capacity of countries in addressing mental health, PAHO is developing a training program for health workers in mental health specific interventions, including dual diagnosis.

**“Intercambios” Civil Society Association:** Stated that the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas addresses many concerns voiced by civil society organizations of the region over the years: the depenalization of consumption, the decriminalization of users, harm reduction and alternative prohibition regulations. The representative highlighted that evidence has demonstrated that prohibition does not solve, but rather exacerbates the problem. Furthermore, the Representative stated that the Report should be used by countries to introduce the opportunity for reflection, and for developing a framework encouraging further participation in the development of public policies between government and civil society.

**13.** Information framework for the development of demand reduction public policies, plans and programs; CICAD Hemispheric Guidelines on the Construction of a Holistic Community-Based Model of Demand Reduction; and Presentation of the work plan for the Demand Reduction Expert Group, 2013 - 2014

**Presenters:**
- Mr. David Mineta, Deputy Director for Demand Reduction - Executive Office of the President, Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), USA

- Mr. Vitore Andre Maximiano Zilio, National Drug Policy Secretary (SENAD), Brazil, Chair of the Demand Reduction Expert Group

**Presentation**


Mr. Maximiano Zilio provided an outline of the 2013-2014 work to be carried out by the Demand Reduction Expert Group, focusing on the identification of different models of social assistance for member state implementation as a response to individual country and regional needs.

**Decisions**

The documents on Information Framework for the Development of Demand Reduction Public Policies, Plans and Programs, and on CICAD Hemispheric Guidelines on the Construction of a Holistic Community-Based Model of Demand Reduction were approved by the Commission.

**14. Consideration and approval of draft CICAD Annual Report 2012 and corresponding CICAD paragraphs of the Resolution for the forty-third session of the General Assembly of the OAS in June 2013**

The Delegation of Brazil submitted, on behalf of the Delegation of Canada, the draft CICAD Annual Report 2012 (CICAD/doc.2016/13 rev.3) and corresponding CICAD paragraphs of the Resolution (CICAD/doc.2017/13 rev.5) for the forty-third session of the General Assembly of the OAS in June 2013.

**Discussion and approval**

During the consideration of these documents, the Delegation of Venezuela expressed its concern over the terminology used in some paragraphs of the CICAD Annual Report 2012. The Delegation also voiced its concern over the state of the CICAD paragraphs of the Resolution for the forty-third session of the General Assembly, stating that many of them were open to modifications, and that presenting them in this manner would set a negative precedent; and further stated that CICAD is the right body to solve any discrepancies between delegations regarding this document. The Delegations of Argentina and Peru requested the floor to agree with Venezuela. The Delegation of Colombia volunteered to chair a working group, which resulted in the development of modified documents (CICAD/doc.2016/13 rev.6) and (CICAD/doc.2017/13 rev.7), which were approved by consensus by the Commission.

**15. Suggested topics, date and place for the fifty-fourth regular session of CICAD**

**Colombia:** Proposed that the fifty-fourth regular session of the Commission be held in Bogota, Colombia, 10 to 12 of December, 2013. The proposal was approved by the Commission.
Guatemala: Formally announced their candidacy for the Vice Chair of CICAD and informed the plenary that it had sent a proposal to the Executive Secretary (CICAD/doc.2018/13), which had been circulated to Commissioners.

Dominican Republic: Requested that two topics be included in the fifty-fourth regular session of the Commission: 1) the relationship between drug dependent persons and punitive measures with a view towards defining models and solutions that treat addiction as an illness; and 2) the importance of local government in the implementation of drug prevention, treatment, and social re-integration programs.

16. Closure

Ambassador Adam Blackwell, OAS Secretary for Multidimensional Security closed the fifty-third regular session of CICAD.

III. DECISIONS

The Commission took the following decisions:

1. Approval of the CICAD Executive Secretariat 2013 Work Plan (CICAD/doc.2035/13).


5. Approval of the paragraphs corresponding to CICAD of the Resolution (CICAD/doc.2017/13 rev.7) for the forty-third session of the OAS General Assembly, June 2013.

IV. WORKING LUNCH

Supplementary to the agenda, a working lunch was organized by the Secretary General with the Heads of Delegations to discuss impressions regarding the Report on the Drug Problem in the Americas.

V. PARTICIPANTS

1. CICAD Member States

Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela.
2. **Permanent Observers**

Albania, Czech Republic, Spain, France, Holy See, Ireland, Italy, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.

3. **Specialized Inter-American Organizations and International Agencies**

Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF), Andean Community of Nations (CAN), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), European Union, Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), International Organization for Migration, Inter-American Defense Board (IADB), Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), and the Central American Parliament.

4. **Civil Society**

The Canadian Center on Substance Abuse (CCSA), The Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL), Information and Education Center for the Prevention of Drug Abuse (CEDRO), Alliance of Pan American Round Tables (AMRP), Intercambios Civil Association (Argentina), Centros de Integración Juvenil (México), and the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA).