FINAL REPORT
I. BACKGROUND

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

At its thirty-fifth regular session, the Commission decided, in accordance with Articles 20 and 21 of the Statute, that the thirty-sixth regular session would be held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic in the week beginning November 15, 2004. However, it was agreed with the Dominican Republic that the meeting would be held in December 2004 in Washington D.C.

II. PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRTY-SIXTH REGULAR SESSION

INAGURAL SESSION

Opening remarks were made by the Acting Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS), Ambassador Luigi Einaudi, the Chair of CICAD, Mr. Paul Kennedy, and the new Executive Secretary of CICAD, Mr. James Mack (CICAD/doc.1346/04).

Ambassador Luigi Einaudi referred to the reorganization of the OAS, specifically the Department of Multidimensional Security under which CICAD now falls, and said he was confident that the current restructuring would produce a revitalized and stronger organization. He made reference to the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) as a landmark of international cooperation, as well as other areas which have been incorporated in the CICAD agenda as part of effective drug control, such as money laundering and training in strategic and operational drug intelligence. Ambassador Einaudi also highlighted the program now being followed by CICAD involving numerous aspects of security as well as the program mandated by the Summit of the Americas to assess the impact of the cost of drugs on society. He pointed to the challenging financial situation facing the OAS, and thanked all donors for their valuable financial contributions to ensure continued success in CICAD’s work plans. Finally, Ambassador Einaudi thanked Mr. Kennedy, outgoing Chair of CICAD, for the hard work undertaken, and welcomed Mr. Mack to the Commission as the new Executive Secretary.

Mr. Paul Kennedy said that much had been accomplished during Canada’s chairmanship and referred to CICAD as a model for joint action where shared problems require a shared collaborative response. Mr. Kennedy highlighted the role of the MEM as a catalyst for action which needs to remain a practical and relevant tool, and pointed to the importance of ensuring ongoing improvements in cross border cooperation and border integrity, which was Canada’s theme during its chairmanship. He indicated that the OAS was facing difficult times, but that the problems were not insurmountable and that it was important to establish clear priorities within the Commission as well as work with other international organizations to cut costs.
Mr. Kennedy finally introduced Mr. Mack and mentioned his extensive professional experience in the area of drug control and the region.

Mr. James Mack made his opening remarks as the new CICAD Executive Secretary, recognizing the many challenges now facing CICAD and the OAS, together with the need to adapt to ever-changing circumstances and demonstrate creativity and innovation. Mr. Mack indicated his strong commitment to the MEM, highlighting the importance of its recommendations as well as the need for a review of the process. He indicated that CICAD would concentrate on forging stronger cooperative links with other international organizations and encouraged member states to make voluntary contributions to CICAD’s external fund while thanking donors for their contributions in this time of financial constraints for the Organization as well as CICAD.

Many delegations joined in paying tribute to the work of Mr. Paul Kennedy together with former CICAD Executive Secretary, Mr. David Beall, as well as welcoming Mr. Mack to the Commission and congratulating Mr. Abraham Stein, Assistant Executive Secretary, for his work and support.

III. DECISIONS ADOPTED

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

The draft agenda (CICAD/doc.1319/04) and the draft schedule of activities (CICAD/doc.1314/04 rev.2) were adopted without amendment.

2. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION

In accordance with Articles 22 and 23 of the Statute (CICAD/doc.1318/04), the Commission elected the Dominican Republic, in the person of Gen. José Aníbal Sanz Jiminián (CICAD/doc.1316/04), as Chair of the Commission, and Bolivia, in the person of Mr. Jorge Gumucio Granier (CICAD/doc.1331/04) as Vice-Chair.

3. DRUG TREATMENT
   a. New directions in criminal justice and prison policy

Dr. David Deitch, Director of the Center for Criminality and Addiction Research, Training and Application (CCARTA) of the University of California at San Diego (UCSD), opened the session with his presentation “The Criminal Drug User Changing Behavior: An Overview of Corrections Treatment” (CICAD/doc.1335/04). He provided a review of outcome research, linking long-term residential treatment for offenders during and after incarceration to a reduction in recidivism to crime and other behavior which is costly and damaging to communities.

Building on this methodological overview, Mr. Jasper Ormond, of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA) of the Government of the District of Columbia, presented “A Systematic Approach to Intervening and Treating Drug-Involved Offenders” (CICAD/doc.1326/04). Walking Commissioners through the lessons learned in Washington, D.C., he emphasized the systematic incorporation of all stakeholders to design a sustained response to the continuum of development needs, empowering drug and violence-related offenders to be personally accountable for their success in the reentry process.
A number of delegates took the floor, including the delegate of Uruguay who commented on the complexity of the therapeutic community model and the possibility that it might not be an appropriate model in all jurisdictions, given that criminal behavior is defined differently by each member state. The delegate questioned the cost-benefit value of treatment within the penitentiary system, when compared to other policies such as alternative sentencing, prevention, and harm reduction, which could be a better way to spend the limited resources of the corrections systems in most OAS member states. The delegate of El Salvador recognized that governments cannot continue to imprison individuals whose primary problem is drug addiction or mental health disorders, and expressed El Salvador’s goal to offer treatment for its offenders in such ways.

The delegate of Chile reported that her country already has therapeutic communities established in many prisons, but has had difficulty in selecting which prisoners should participate, since almost all inmates have substance abuse problems. Dr. Deitch explained that screening for drug use during intake assessment helps best distribute a country’s limited treatment resources towards those individuals most in need of treatment and most likely to benefit. He indicated that it is most effective with individuals towards the end of completing their prison sentence, who can be motivated to behavioral change as they plan their post-release life.

The delegate from Argentina acknowledged the importance of supporting social reinsertion for released offenders, especially to find employment. Mr. Ormond confirmed the importance of employment security for released offenders, and suggested that performing community service prior to and upon release can support a sense of social inclusion and values connected to legitimate labor and employment.

The delegate of Colombia asked which types of drugs of abuse it was important to focus on and include in these programs. Guest speaker Ormond responded that the institution can detect its particular drug use patterns by conducting a urine screening for each new offender upon entry, and can then base substance abuse interventions according to those drugs most often detected. If screenings detect a changing drug use pattern over time, then treatment services can be adjusted accordingly.

The United States delegate commented that in the U.S. judicial system, it is common for the serious violent offender to cooperate with prosecutors as necessary in order to be charged for a lesser offense. Referring to the rhetorical question posed by the delegate of Uruguay as to exactly what defines a “drug crime,” he pointed out that this can include a broad variety of offenders that might not be equally suited for substance abuse programming.

b. Effective substance abuse programming for offenders – Insights from a Caribbean workshop

Mr. Michael Tucker, Executive Director of the Jamaica National Council on Drug Abuse (NCDA), gave a presentation entitled: “Effective Substance Abuse Programming for Offenders: Outcomes from a Caribbean workshop” (CICAD/doc.1344/04). He explained that traditional incarceration had not proven useful for dealing with substance abuse-involved offenders in the Caribbean, and that during the November 2004 workshop supported by the Government of Canada, high-level prison, treatment, research, and drug policy officials had identified several areas for improvement in order for the region to offer more adequate treatment services to its incarcerated and offender populations. Among other issues, he highlighted that progress is needed in updating corrections legislation to mandate uniform provision of substance abuse, mental health and development services. Reflecting on the national action plans developed
during the workshop, recommendations included designing model needs assessment and intake methods for the Caribbean, as well as other corrections-specific sensitization and treatment training curricula.

The Canadian delegate stated that Canada would be willing to participate in this initiative and work with CICAD to facilitate further development of offender programming in the region. Mr. Tucker responded that the Government of Canada had been instrumental in helping Jamaica to set up its drug court programs in years past, including professional exchanges to Canada to receive relevant training, and commended Canada for its steady track record and assistance in this area.

c. Practical guide for organizing a comprehensive drug dependency treatment system

Dr. Luis Alfonso, a CICAD consultant, gave a presentation (CICAD/doc.1336/04), which began by describing the drug problem in the hemisphere in the following terms: growing demand; a lack of epidemiological research; a shortage of treatment services; and a failure to evaluate the effectiveness of programs. He explained that treatment goals are to curb use, maintain drug abstinence, and help individuals recover full functionality.

He presented the Guide for Implementation of a National Treatment System, which shows how to determine the needs and the resources available to meet them, improve the quality of treatment services, and obtain improved financing and a better organization of services.

The delegate of Chile thanked CICAD for publishing the Guide, which is being used by the National Drug Commission (CONACE) in conjunction with the Health Ministry. In addition, provision has been made in the budget for free services to addicts who are enrolled in the social security system. She also referred to the importance of specialized treatment for women, with nurseries and child care facilities, and to the special characteristics of treatment for street children.

Mexico highlighted the importance of having the Guide to organize a national treatment system, and suggested that the Secretariat continue to give its support to this in future. The delegates of Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Peru, Paraguay and Panama requested assistance with implementing it.

4. CICAD EXPERT GROUP ON MONEY LAUNDERING CONTROL


The Head of CICAD’s Money Laundering Control Unit, Dr. Rafael Franzini Batlle, introduced the work of the CICAD Expert Group on Money Laundering Control during 2002-2003 and the changes in the CICAD Model Regulations on Money Laundering Offences. The Chairman of the Expert Group, Mr. Víctor Hugo de la Barra, Director of the Bolivian Financial Investigation Unit, presented the final reports of the meetings of the Expert Group in July 2004 - CICAD/LAVEX/doc.23/04 - (Washington, D.C.) and October of that year - CICAD/LAVEX/doc. 24/04 - (La Paz, Bolivia). In addition, he nominated Colombia to chair the Group in 2005, and El Salvador for 2006.
Dr. Franzini presented the history of the Transnational Organized Crime (TOC) topic within the OAS and the work done by CICAD’s Expert Group on Money Laundering Control in this area. He recalled the meeting in Washington D.C. of the ad-hoc group on TOC in March 2004, and that the Expert Group had been tasked by CICAD with preparing an action plan on this issue. He informed the Plenary that other entities within the OAS were also dealing with TOC within the scope of the Committee on Hemispheric Security.

At the end of the presentations, the delegates of Colombia and the United States said that they did not agree with the part of the Expert Group’s 2005 work plan that referred to treatment of transnational organized crime. The approach taken by the delegates of Uruguay, Canada, Chile and Mexico differed from that of Colombia and the United States. A working group was set up to resolve the different positions of the delegations, and it developed the following text to amend the final report of the meeting of the Expert Group held in La Paz, Bolivia:

1. **Organized Crime**

   *Taking into account resolution AG/RES. 2026 (XXXIV-O/04) and considering whether certain aspects of the Palermo Convention pertaining to money laundering should either be amended or included in the Model Regulations, the Commission requests that the Secretariat:*

   a. *In consultation with the Secretariat for the Palermo Convention, draw up an explanatory list of the elements in that Convention pertaining to money laundering that are different from or not included in the Model Regulations;*
   b. *Compile the proposals by member states regarding which issues they would like to have included in that list, or specific texts for new articles or amendments to the model regulations on money laundering related to the Palermo Convention, prior to January 31, 2005;*
   c. *Identify and consult with other OAS agencies and organizations outside the OAS that are dealing with or could appropriately deal with the different items on the aforesaid list.*

   *The report should be ready before February 15, 2005.*

The report, including the above text, was approved by the Commission. The Commission also decided that the Secretariat should distribute a report on the results of this effort before the next meeting of the Expert Group, so that the Group could consider which additional measures it should take – and whether it should indeed take them – regarding any of the items on the list or the proposed texts. It further decided that the outcome of the work of the Expert Group would be forwarded to the Permanent Council of the OAS, through the Committee on Hemispheric Security, for its consideration in conjunction with the topic of combating transnational organized crime in the hemisphere.

The Expert Group on Money Laundering Control should meet before March 2005, in view of the fact that the Expert Group of the OAS Committee on Hemispheric Security will be meeting in March.


Mr. Michael Sullivan, head of the CICAD Legal Development Section, reported on the results of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations (Palermo) Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) headquarters in Vienna in July 2004. He indicated that at the time of the Conference, seventeen OAS member states had ratified the Convention. He also noted that the Protocols to the Convention
on trafficking of persons and smuggling of migrants are now in force, while the third Protocol, on firearms, has yet to receive the required number of ratifications. Mr. Sullivan indicated that the Conference established a multi-year work program (up to 2008) to implement the Convention and that a special fund for technical assistance comprised of voluntary contributions by the states parties had been set up. He also pinpointed some difficulties foreseen by certain states regarding the number of legislative measures required and their implementation at the national level. The UNODC welcomed efforts by the OAS to promote signature of the Convention and voiced interest in learning of the results of the organized crime indicators contained in the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) questionnaire.

5. CICAD EXPERT GROUP ON MARITIME DRUG TRAFFICKING

Captain Juan Pablo Rodriguez, Chief of Staff of the Honduran Navy and chair of the CICAD Expert Group on Maritime Drug Trafficking, presented for the Commission’s consideration, the Group’s report and recommendations from the June 2004 meeting in Tegucigalpa (CICAD/doc.1320/04).

Delegates taking the floor congratulated the Captain for his presentation and recognized the excellent work completed by the Group. Several speakers underlined the importance of bilateral agreements and the exchange of information among member states as effective ways to facilitate and strengthen maritime counter drug efforts.

The Commission accepted the Group’s report and recommendations, underlining that the Group should meet in 2005 as proposed to continue its work.

6. CICAD EXPERT GROUP ON CONTROL OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

Mr. Kleber Pessoa de Melo, Chief of the Controlled Products Unit, National Health Surveillance Agency of Brazil, and chair of the CICAD Expert Group on Pharmaceutical Products was not able to attend the Commission meeting. In his place, Mr. Ziggie Malyniwsky, Chief of the Supply Reduction and Control Section, reported on the work of the Group further to its meeting in Brasilia in June (CICAD/doc.1338/04).

Mr. Malyniwsky provided an overview of the tasks addressed by the Group during its meeting and proposed recommendations for further action submitted to the Commission for its consideration.

Delegates thanked the Group for its work and stressed the need for continued efforts in this area. Several delegates expressed their concern over the growing problem of internet sales of pharmaceutical products and other drugs, and said that the Group should concentrate on this issue when it meets again. Finally, several delegates commented on the excellent guide for health professionals prepared by the Group.

The Commission accepted the Group’s report and recommendations and work plan for 2005.

7. CICAD EXPERT GROUP ON CONTROL OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES

Mr. Ronaldo Urbano, Coordinator General of the Drug Control Police, Federal Police Department of Brazil served as the Chair of the Group of Experts on Chemical Substances during its meeting in Brasilia in June. In reporting on this meeting (CICAD/doc.1348/04), Mr.
Urbano provided a detailed review of the Group’s discussions and work during that meeting, as well as the recommendations contained in its report to the Commission.

Delegates supported the work of the Group and the need for it to continue its efforts. Speakers made particular note of the need to strengthen enforcement and expressed concerns regarding the safe disposal of chemicals. The delegate of Chile suggested that CICAD should work more closely with other entities such as the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) on chemical control projects and operations and also engage the chemical industry in its efforts.

The Commission accepted the Group’s report and recommendations and work plan for 2005.

8. CICAD EXPERT GROUP ON DEMAND REDUCTION

CICAD’s Hemispheric Guidelines for Prevention in Schools: the work of the CICAD Expert Group on Demand Reduction, 2004

Dr. José Ramón Granero, the Argentine Secretary of State for Prevention of Drug Addiction and Control of Drug Trafficking (SEDRONAR) and Chairman of the CICAD Expert Group on Demand Reduction, introduced the report of the Expert Group meeting in Argentina in September 2004 (CICAD/doc.1353/04).

He also presented a document entitled *CICAD’s Hemispheric Guidelines for School-based Prevention* (CICAD/doc.1325/04) for discussion and approval. The document provides some policy guidelines, including: improving and/or promoting a legal framework for prevention in schools in all of the countries; securing financing for these programs, which could be the proceeds of forfeitures from drug trafficking; and recommending to governments that they identify, assess, prioritize, and encourage a nationwide prevention strategy, and incorporate it into all educational institutions at the regional, municipal, and local levels. The Commission approved the document and recommended that member states give consideration to including the guidelines in their prevention policies and programs.

With regard to the Expert Group on Demand Reduction, the Commission was of the opinion that it is essential for it to continue its effective work and to define guidelines for other areas of demand reduction, such as workplace prevention, prevention in communities, for parents, and for specific high-risk population groups.

As part of a horizontal cooperation effort, the Chilean delegation offered its assistance to any member state seeking support in designing its school-based prevention programs, and it asked that CICAD be the entity to promote this effort. The Panamanian delegate offered her special congratulations to the Expert Group and to Dr. Granero on the results of the meeting held in Argentina, and to the CICAD Executive Secretariat on its efforts and accomplishments in the area of demand reduction, which is the focus of increasing concern on the part of member countries.
9. SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION

a. Programs for prevention of the abuse of drugs and other psychoactive substances: the life skills theory

Dr. Gilbert J. Botvin, Professor of Public Health and Psychiatry in the Public Health Department of the Medical School of Cornell University, began his presentation (CICAD/doc.1350/04) by explaining the need for prevention programs to be supported by scientific evidence to ensure their effectiveness. He also said that the approach to prevention should be to provide information on health and the development of healthy habits, management of social influences, and the development of personal and social skills and abilities. As for advances in the science of prevention, he spoke about the causes of drug use and addiction, prevention models that work, the duration of their effectiveness, which substances can be prevented, who benefits most from the life skills programs, and the obstacles to effective prevention.

Delegations congratulated Dr. Botvin on his presentation and commented that the life skills model had changed drug prevention trends, because it worked on developing the necessary personal skills to avoid drug use. They noted the importance of involving the family in the program, because it made it much more effective, and of including a gender perspective. They also said that it should be expanded to university level, that it should be adapted culturally to each of the countries where it was implemented, and that a way should be found to apply this program to children who are not in school, since this population group is generally at greater risk than others.

El Salvador requested that CICAD ensure implementation of the Life Skills Program in the countries of the region, and that the Secretariat offer the necessary technical and financial assistance to that end, as well as preparation of materials and training of teachers.

Paraguay, Belize, Ecuador, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Argentina and Bolivia also requested CICAD assistance to implement the Life Skills Program in schools.

b) Substance abuse prevention in the schools: examples in the Hemisphere

• “We are Winners” Program

Ms. Holda Alvarez de Marré, the Executive Secretary of the National Drug Commission (CONAPRED) of Panama, introduced the prevention program that Panama is currently developing with the support of the First Lady and the technical assistance of CICAD, known as “We are Winners” (CICAD/doc.1354/04). This program is modeled on the life skills approach, with national coverage in urban and rural public and private schools. The program has been financed by the Forfeitures Law, which provides funds derived from drug trafficking to CONAPRED to finance prevention programs. Before implementing the program, an inventory was taken up of all programs currently being conducted by public institutions or NGOs, to determine which schools had not been reached. In addition, the educational materials were validated and adapted, and impact and process evaluations of the “We are Winners” Program had been started.

• Health and Family Life Education in the Caribbean

Mrs. Beverly Reynolds, Assistant Officer of Programs in the Health Department of the Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM), offered a presentation entitled Creating
Factors of Resilience and Protection through Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) (CICAD/doc.1337/04). HFLE is a curriculum with the political support of CARICOM member countries and other institutions, such as the United Nations and the University of the West Indies (UWI). The program was developed with the participation of the young people themselves, together with youth and policy officials, to build strong character in youth so that they can cope with stress and trends common to that age group, such as early sexual initiation, high rates of HIV/AIDS, unemployment and poverty, negative messages in the mass media, and family disintegration.

- **Skills for life and for adolescence, Lions Quest**

In their presentation (CICAD/doc.1339/04), Ms. Sue Keister, an education consultant, and Mr. Mike Buscemi, a youth counselor, from the Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) explained the methodology of the Lions-Quest curricula, which cover first through twelfth grades in schools with cross-cutting components to help develop skills involved in commitment, communication, dispute settlement, rejection of drugs, decision-making, and others, all of which are supplemented with community service activities together with volunteers from the local Lions Clubs. The model is science-based, and has been designated as a model program by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA). The curriculum can be offered once a week until all the academic content has been completed—for a holistic experience.

- **The national drug abuse prevention program in Chile**

Mrs. María Teresa Chadwick Piñera, Executive Secretary of the Chilean National Narcotics Control Council (CONACE), presented the Chilean Continuous School Prevention Strategy (CICAD/doc.1343/04), which has been implemented from preschool to university levels, including elementary and secondary education. The approach is based on life skills, protective and risk factors, social competencies, and the ecosystem. The programs for preschool and elementary school include a teacher’s manual, a student manual, and material for sessions with the family. The program is nationwide, and covers up to 87% of the preschool population. The CONACE budget allocates 8.5% to school-based prevention, or the equivalent of US$1.1 million. The secondary education program covers a series of activities including brainstorming sessions, a movie forum, debate, games, research and theatre.

c) **Promoting a culture of lawfulness program**

Dr. Roy Godson, Director, National Strategy Information Center (NSIC) and Professor, Department of Government, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, gave a presentation on creating citizen capacity to promote the rule of law in the community and a culture of lawfulness geared to preventing crime, corruption and drug trafficking. One of the principles of the program is that all citizens are equal under the law, and that the law exists to protect the individual and peaceful coexistence.

The delegate of Barbados congratulated Dr. Godson on his presentation and commented that she was concerned over that the media are constantly promoting drug use and sexuality among young people.

The Honduran delegate expressed her appreciation of the presentation and highlighted the importance of the subject, because it goes to the root of the problem. She asked that CICAD support the introduction of this program into member states that request assistance.
The Canadian delegate added that in her country, there are a number of programs focusing on teaching respect for the law, and that these programs are particularly relevant in urban areas. Mexico commented that to make substantial headway, programs such as the ones being presented in this CICAD meeting need to be implemented, and said that there is a need to create more dynamic prevention policies in the education system. He also believed that it was important to find a way to give prevention programs developed in the countries more sustainability and continuity.

The delegate of Chile found the program very interesting, since the Ministry of Education is requesting programs to combat drug dealing in schools and, in her view, the Culture of Lawfulness program covers this, as youth need to be taught that what they are doing is a crime that has consequences. She asked for assistance in implementing the program in her country.

### 10. REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENTAL EXPERT GROUP (GEG) OF THE MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

The General Coordinator and the Deputy General Coordinator of the Governmental Expert Group (GEG), Dr. Darling López and Dr. Alejandro Montesdeoca, presented a report on the experiences of the third MEM evaluation round (2003 – 2004) and the status of GEG meetings (CICAD/doc.1358/04). They referred specifically to the first and second GEG drafting sessions held in Argentina (May 10-21, 2004) and in Washington, DC (October 11-22, 2004), which produced the preliminary national evaluation reports and preparatory decisions for drafting the hemispheric report. They also emphasized how important it was for countries to meet the deadlines set for handing in their national information, the need for experts to devote working time in their capitals prior to and after the GEG drafting sessions, the principle of shared responsibility, and the re-inclusion of Guyana in the MEM process.

As regards compliance with the mandate of the thirty-fifth regular session of CICAD related to the 82 recommendations reiterated from the first MEM evaluation round (1999 – 2000), the GEG asked the Commission for an extension until February 2005, since the dialogue with countries is still taking place.

In addition, the GEG presented a proposal to the Commission that referred to a series of problems detected in the MEM process and indicators, and the consequent need to convene the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) before the fourth evaluation round (2005-2006). The purpose of this meeting would be to review and modify the MEM questionnaire indicators and the evaluation process in general, to make them more dynamic and to strengthen them.

While the need to revise, modernize, and strengthen the MEM process is recognized, various delegations renewed their commitment to this process. They said that it should continue to be a means for assisting countries, and that they appreciated the work of the GEG, its Coordinators, and the MEM Unit in the Executive Secretariat. They highlighted the importance of the quality of the experts’ work and compliance with deadlines, in addition to the need to promote the mechanism in the hemisphere and to make on-site visits to countries.

The Commission agreed with the GEG recommendations, and decided to convene the IWG in mid-2005, with the mandate to examine MEM processes, indicators and the questionnaire, with a view to making MEM a more flexible and reliable instrument that is less onerous for the countries.
11. REPORT ON THE STATUS OF ASSISTANCE PROJECTS OF THE FIRST AND SECOND ROUND OF THE MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

Dr. Francisco Cumsille, Acting Chief of CICAD’s Inter-American Observatory on Drugs, presented a report (CICAD/doc.1332/04) on the status of assistance projects based on the recommendations of the first (14 projects) and second (16 projects) MEM evaluation rounds. This presentation covered the countries for which assistance was approved, their projects, the funds allocated, the number of projects being implemented, and the projects already completed. With regard to projects under the second round, the Executive Secretariat voiced its concern that even though several countries have signed the Memoranda of Understanding for their projects and others are in the process of signing them, there are nine countries that are still at the stage of developing project proposals, and three countries that have requested assistance and have not yet begun project preparation. The concern is that donors’ funds earmarked for projects in the latter twelve countries have been frozen and could be used for assistance requests from other countries.

The delegations of Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Canada, and Uruguay said, among other things, that the Secretariat should develop criteria to determine the circumstances in which a country can lose the allocated resources to another country, or investigate further the reasons.

The Canadian delegate said that in 2004, 20 per cent of its financial contribution to CICAD had been earmarked for MEM assistance projects, and that this helps the credibility of the MEM. As a donor, Canada is interested in seeing more information on this subject and more executed projects.

The Executive Secretariat said that it was willing to offer any technical and financial assistance required and to use all necessary resources to assist countries in developing their projects.

As a result of this discussion, the Commission agreed to the Executive Secretariat’s proposal that in those cases where there is no signed memorandum of understanding, countries will be given until February 28, 2005 to present their projects, and that CICAD will give its firm support to this process at the request of countries, and will consider any problems of force majeure that may arise. If the project is not approved by that date, then the Secretariat will reallocate those funds to other assistance requests on the basis of MEM recommendations.

12. INTER-AMERICAN OBSERVATORY ON DRUGS

a. National Observatories on Drugs

Dr. Francisco Cumsille, acting Chief of the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs, made a presentation to the Commission (document CICAD/doc.1332/04) which described the main objectives of the Observatory, including technical and financial assistance in the following areas: 36 projects involving surveys on prevalence; the study of the economic, human, and social cost of drugs in seven countries; development of new software to collect supply statistics, and training on information in six Caribbean countries.

He went on to explain the Inter-American Observatory’s work plan for 2005-2006, which will focus on research, partnerships with other institutions, horizontal technical assistance among countries, and adequate human resources to perform drug studies.
The annual *Statistical Summary on Drugs* had been placed on the Observatory’s web page. The summary covered the comparative study of use surveys among secondary school students in seven countries, and information by country on seizures of drugs, chemical products, equipment, money, and property, discovery of laboratories, crop-growing areas, and persons arrested, tried and convicted for drug-related crimes.

b. National studies on the economic and social cost of drugs

Dr. Augusto Perez Gomez, lead researcher for the cost program, associate of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and Director of the Nuevos Rumbos, Colombia, presented an update on the current status of the CICAD program to estimate the human, social and economic costs of drugs in the Americas (CICAD/doc.1361/04). Dr. Perez highlighted the achievements to date, which include a manual on the general methodology, 17 indicators and research protocols as well as the creation of a webpage allowing automatic calculations, with seven countries formally involved in the project: Barbados, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Mexico and Uruguay. The next project meeting will be held in Panama in January 2005 where preliminary findings will be presented. Dr. Perez reported that the 2005 activities will not only complete the pilot phase of the cost project but also prepare the final analysis and results to be presented at the Summit of the Americas in November 2005.

c. Identifying and assessing emerging trends in drug use in the Eastern Caribbean – a Joint program of the French Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction (OFTD) and the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs

Dr. Patrick Prince, Executive Secretary of the National Council on Drug Abuse Prevention, St. Kitts and Nevis and Ms. Natasha Lloyd, Programme Officer, Substance Abuse Advisory Council Secretariat, St. Lucia made a presentation (CICAD/doc.1331/04 and 1332/04) on assessing emerging trends in drug use in the Eastern Caribbean. Cooperating with CICAD’s Inter-American Observatory on Drugs were the French Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction (OFDT), the Martinique Health Monitoring Center (OSM), the French Inter-Agency Drug Control Training Center (CIFAD) and the French Guiana Drug Addictions Network, while Dominica, Guyana, Haiti, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia and Suriname participated as pilot countries. Training workshops were held in Martinique in 2004 (March, June and September) to identify and assess emerging drug phenomena in the Caribbean. Training was also provided on the use of the Nvivo software in qualitative data collection and analysis. The participants reviewed the results of studies from the pilot countries and drew up a series of common findings, recommendations and conclusions which include the proposal to continue the project with the original six participating countries, the need to develop standardized guidelines for research, develop drug information systems in participating countries and carry out a standardized study among male arrestees.

Finally, the report entitled *Qualitative Research on Drug Use. Assessing Emerging Drug Trends in the Caribbean*, prepared by the Inter-American Observatory in cooperation with the OFTD, was distributed electronically to the Commission.
13. SECRETARIAT PRO TEMPORE OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS (CIFTA)

Mrs. Pilar Gaitán of the Permanent Mission of Colombia, on behalf of the Secretariat pro tempore of the Consultative Committee of the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials (CIFTA), made a presentation on the work of the Secretariat and the formation of a joint CIFTA/CICAD group of experts on those areas covered by CIFTA that are not encompassed in the CICAD Model Regulations on Arms Trafficking.

Mrs. Gaitan reported that pursuant to the Declaration of Bogotá of the Conference of State Parties to the CIFTA, adopted by the OAS General Assembly in resolution AG/RES.1999 (XXXIV–O/04) of June 8, 2004, a joint CICAD-CIFTA group of experts was being established to address firearms matters not covered by CICAD’s model regulations. She indicated that work was in progress on a methodology for this task that would be presented to the 6th meeting of the Consultative Committee to be held in April 2005, and thereafter forwarded to the OAS General Assembly for adoption, after which, the group would be convened. Several delegations expressed their support for this initiative.

The delegate of Brazil indicated his support for the Colombian initiative and highlighted that his country assigns a high priority to combating illicit arms trafficking and is committed to applying the CIFTA Convention. In his capacity as the representative of the country that held the Chairmanship pro tempore of MERCOSUR, the delegate proposed that the CICAD-CIFTA working group include among its functions, in addition to those listed by the representative of Colombia, the task of evaluating the need to review CICAD’s Model Regulations on firearms, especially as these relate to controlling firearms transit and export.

14. LEGAL STATUS IN NATIONAL LEGISLATIONS OF DRUG POSSESSION FOR PERSONAL USE AND MICRO TRAFFICKING

A presentation was made by Brazil as Secretariat pro tempore of MERCOSUR by Mr. Marcos Pinta Gama, General Coordinator for Combating Transnational Crime, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil, on the juridical treatment afforded under national legislation of different countries to the subjects of possession of drugs for personal use and the trafficking of small amounts of drugs (CICAD/doc.1363/04).

Mr. Pinta Gama reported that in 2004 MERCOSUR had considered, with respect to drug control matters, among other topics, national approaches to the subjects of possession of drugs for personal use and trafficking of small amounts of drugs, known colloquially as “microtrafficking”. He indicated that a compilation of the drug-related legislation of various countries carried out by MERCOSUR revealed that some countries criminalize one or both of these activities while others do not. In light of the foregoing, MERCOSUR decided that it would be desirable to hold a conference to consider the different approaches of countries to these subjects and how these might be harmonized. Mr. Pinta Gama indicated that Brazil proposed to host such a conference in 2005, for which an agenda would soon be circulated, and expressed the hope that CICAD Commissioners would support the initiative. After interventions by several countries including an offer by Mexico to fund the participation of an expert to attend the conference, the Executive
Secretary of CICAD stated that he would hold discussions with the Permanent Mission of Brazil on supporting the proposal.

15. DECISION ON EVALUATION OF A CICAD PROJECT

Following the instructions of the thirty-fifth regular session of CICAD to select several CICAD projects for evaluation, CICAD’s Executive Secretary proposed to the Commission that the following projects executed by the Executive Secretariat be evaluated:

- On-Line M.A. in Addictions Studies
- Preparation of National Drug Strategies/Plans
- Issuance of Land Ownership Titles in the Cantons of Arapata and Coripata, Nor Yungas Province, Department of La Paz, Bolivia.

The Commission approved the evaluation of the projects proposed by the Executive Secretariat and the results will be presented to the Commission in 2005.

16. STATEMENTS BY PERMANENT OBSERVER COUNTRIES TO THE OAS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

   • SPAIN

The Commission heard a statement from Mr. Enrique Asorey Brey, Minister and Alternate Observer of Spain to the OAS, who began by congratulating the newly elected Chair and Vice-Chair of CICAD, and then reported on his country’s support for the Commission’s activities over the past eight years, with contributions in cash and in kind of US$400,000 to US$500,000 a year. He also referred to Spain’s two main priorities in its international cooperation with CICAD.

The first priority was institutional strengthening of national drug commissions in Central America, the Dominican Republic and the Andean countries, including the establishment of national drug observatories. Spain’s interest in this subject stems from the fact that the affected countries are the ones that need to take the lead in anti-drug efforts, and to do so, their national institutions have to be strengthened, either through appropriate laws, technical means, qualified personnel, or skills to effectively perform their functions.

The second priority was to support decentralization of drug policies in the region. The reason for this was to involve the government agencies closest to the people and drug-related problems, such as municipalities and regions, in anti-drug efforts.

He recalled that in September 2004 at the United Nations headquarters, the Prime Minister of Spain committed to double the resources for development cooperation in the four years of his administration, and it is from these resources that Spanish funds allocated to CICAD are drawn. He confirmed his government’s commitment to continue its cooperation with CICAD and OAS member states.

   • FRANCE
Mr. Raymond Quereilhac, Assistant Permanent Observer of France to the OAS, first congratulated the Chairman elect and the new Executive Secretary of CICAD on their new posts, and then referred to the importance his government attaches to the work of the Commission. He mentioned the fact that the French territories of Martinique, Guadalupe, and Guyana are in the region of the Americas, and highlighted the importance of international cooperation and the need to take a multilateral approach to the drug problem. He stated that the Declaration on Security in the Americas, adopted in Mexico in 2003, included in its multidimensional concept of security the idea that drug trafficking jeopardizes the security of the countries of the hemisphere. At the meeting in Mexico, the Caribbean countries spoke of their vulnerability to drug trafficking and how it affected their stability.

In addition, he highlighted the key role and exemplary nature of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) for OAS member countries and how it responds to the drug problem and constitutes an instrument in the service of international cooperation.

He stated that control of drug trafficking was one of his country’s priorities. France makes contributions to support the work of regional organizations such as the South American Financial Action Task Force (GAFISUD), the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF), the Inter-Caribbean Customs Council, and the Caribbean Association of Police Chiefs. He also referred to the cooperation agreement between France and CICAD, through the Inter-Ministerial Anti-Drug Training Center (CIFAD) in Martinique, which trains officials in the Caribbean and Central America, and he outlined the main activities of CIFAD in 2003-2004. He added that they are interested in expanding training modules for the control of chemical precursors, synthetic drugs, and crime analysis work to other countries in the future.

He concluded by expressing his government’s intention to continue its close cooperation in an effort to develop joint activities to tackle the common worldwide problem of illicit drugs.

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Mr. Nicolay Babich, the representative of the Russian Federation, said that the problem of illicit drug trafficking is important for everyone, and that his country regarded it as the basis for efforts to increase its cooperation to combat drug trafficking (CICAD/doc.1360/04). He went on to say that in 2004, the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, visited Mexico, Chile, and Brazil, and that Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez had visited Moscow. During these talks, Russia reiterated its interest in stepping up contacts with the most important political integration organizations in the Americas, and especially with the OAS, the Rio Group and MERCOSUR.

Mr. Babich expressed his concern over the growing tendency to convert Afghanistan into a giant drug factory, with an increasing opium production over the years. Afghan heroin is expanding not only to countries bordering Afghanistan, such as Central Asian countries, Russia, and Europe, but it is also penetrating black markets in the Americas. In other words, the problem has become a transatlantic issue. In addition, there has been an increase in volumes of cocaine and synthetic drugs from the Western Hemisphere and Western Europe to Russia.

The delegate said that the experience acquired by CICAD member states through the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) is useful to regional organizations in Asia and that it is being put into actual practice. He indicated that Russia is keenly interested in developing bilateral cooperation with the countries of the Americas in the area of drug control. In this context, Russia has concluded an intergovernmental agreement with Nicaragua, and is in the process of negotiating others with various Latin American countries.
• CENTRAL AMERICAN PERMANENT COMMISSION FOR ERADICATION OF THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION, TRAFFICKING, CONSUMPTION, AND USE OF NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES (CCP)

Dr. Raúl Gerardo Batres, the Executive Secretary of CCP, reported that it is taking the necessary steps to adopt Articles 1, 2, and 3 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. With regard to the drug control situation in Central America, he reported on the strengthening of national drug commissions in member countries, and also referred to specific projects being implemented by the CCP with the technical and financial cooperation of various international agencies, including CICAD. However, despite the efforts of the countries and the CCP, he warned of the serious situation in the region: since many drug trafficking routes pass through the Central American region, it has been invaded by this problem, entailing a social and human cost that the countries cannot meet by themselves. He requested the cooperation of the different organizations present to combat the problem afflicting the region.

• UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)

The head of the Latin American and Caribbean Section of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Ms. Cristina Albertín, gave a presentation (CICAD/doc.1356/04) on the programs that office is implementing in different areas in the hemisphere. She underscored the importance of the political will of the different governments for the success of the projects implemented by the international community, and indicated that an increasing number of countries were participating in the financing and development of projects in their countries. However, it has been more difficult to obtain the participation of governments in certain areas, such as demand reduction. She reported on the success achieved by eradication programs developed by the UNODC in the Andean countries.

The delegate of Colombia agreed with Mrs. Albertín that the problem of drug use is not being addressed in all its complexity in the countries of the region, and that there is neither a serious evaluation of the programs nor a social awareness of the problem. On the subject of eradication, he concurred with the UNODC representative on the successful implementation of projects in this area in his country.

The Argentine delegate asked Ms. Albertín about the possibility of obtaining UNODC financing to develop a workplace prevention project in 2005. The Uruguayan delegate posed the same question, and congratulated UNODC on its innovative programs in the fields of harm reduction and prevention of HIV.

On the subject of financing the workplace prevention program, the UNODC representative reported that resources allocated to this project come from a special United Nations fund, but that she would do her best to make them available to the region for this purpose.

17. ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMEN OF CICAD EXPERT GROUPS

The following were elected to chair the CICAD Expert Groups. The Commission agreed that all Expert Groups would meet in 2005 to continue their work.
• **Expert Group: Demand Reduction**

The nomination of Mrs. Beth Peterson of Canada (CICAD/doc.1330/04) as Chair of the Expert Group on Demand Reduction was supported by the delegations of Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Argentina, Barbados, Haiti, Guatemala, Jamaica, Brazil, Trinidad and Tobago, and Peru, and was therefore unanimously approved.

• **Expert Group: Money Laundering Control**

The nomination of Dr. Maria Cristina Chirola of Colombia (CICAD/doc.1352/04) as Chair of the Expert Group on Money Laundering Control was supported by the delegations of Uruguay, Canada—the delegation that proposed El Salvador as chair for 2006—U.S., Brazil, Dominican Republic, Peru, Costa Rica, and Guatemala. The Colombian candidate was unanimously elected to chair the Expert Group on Money Laundering Control.

• **Expert Group: Control of Pharmaceutical Products**

The nomination of Argentina as Chair of the Expert Group on Control of Pharmaceutical Products and the Expert Group on Control of Chemical Substances was supported by the delegations of Uruguay, El Salvador, Colombia, Brazil, Mexico, Guatemala, U.S., Chile, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, and Peru. As a result, Dr. Gabriel Y. Abboud was elected as Chair of the Expert Group on Control of Chemical Substances. Argentina will later present the candidate to Chair of the Expert Group on Control of Pharmaceutical Products.

• **Expert Group: Maritime Drug Trafficking**

The Mexican delegate advised the Commission that in view of the fact that three countries, Brazil, Honduras, and Mexico, had candidates for the Chair of this Expert Group, a consensus had been reached for the 2005-2006 period. A meeting of the expert group would be held during the first four months of 2005 in Honduras, prior to the next regular session of CICAD. At that meeting, the three countries would together present a work program for 2005 and 2006. During the thirty-seventh regular session of CICAD, Brazil and Mexico would become co-chairmen of the expert group to implement the aforesaid work program.

This solution was supported by Colombia, U.S., Argentina, Canada, Chile, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Uruguay, Peru, and Nicaragua, and was unanimously adopted by the Commission.

18. **WORKING GROUP FOR CICAD ANNUAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

A Working Group was established to consider a draft of the CICAD annual report to the General Assembly, together with a draft resolution, observations and recommendations prepared by the CICAD Executive Secretariat. The Working Group, chaired by Colombia, agreed that the text would follow the format of the *Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere* as in the previous report, and that the Group would continue its work via e-mail. Ms. Maria Clara Faciolince of Colombia, informed that the Chair, in coordination with the Executive Secretariat, will compile the recommendations agreed to by the CICAD Expert Groups, and that a draft report and draft
resolution would be prepared and distributed electronically to the Permanent Missions for final comments, suggestions and modifications. The texts will be presented to CICAD at its thirty-seventh regular session for approval. The delegate of Mexico congratulated Colombia for its leadership in the Group and reminded delegations of their right to propose any additional paragraphs to the respective resolution before the meeting of the General Assembly's Preparatory Commission.

19. PROPOSED TOPICS, PLACE AND DATE FOR THE THIRTY-SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION OF CICAD

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

- The review and approval of the MEM national reports and hemispheric report.
- Presentation of evaluation results of CICAD projects.
- Presentation of the final report of the aerial spray monitoring program in Colombia.
- Discussion on submissions of topics for the next Summit of the Americas, to include the cost project study.

In the discussion, the Delegations of the United States and of Antigua and Barbuda asked that the next session of the Commission take place mid to late April 2005 in view of the taxing preparations prior to the OAS General Assembly in June. Antigua and Barbuda also asked for a more pro-active involvement of the CICAD Commission in the negotiations in the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) prior to the Summit of the Americas in November 2005. The Delegate of Canada requested that at the next session of the Commission a presentation be given by the Canadian delegation on Building Evaluation Capacity in area of Demand Reduction that had originally been scheduled for the previous Commission meeting but was postponed due to a lack of time. Canada also requested a follow-up discussion on priority setting which also had to be postponed from the previous CICAD regular session.

The delegate of Brazil proposed as an agenda item for the next CICAD Session the discussion of a strategic assistance plan among Financial Intelligence Units (FIU's) in the area of money laundering control. The objective of the discussion would be to consider new cooperation projects among member states, with the technical and/or financial assistance of CICAD.

The delegate of Paraguay referred to the need for a specific promotional strategy to heighten awareness of the MEM in the hemisphere as well as to highlight the importance of the MEM recommendations in each member state, given that in many countries the mechanism is still relatively unknown. The delegate of Mexico also asked that a media strategy to promote the MEM to be developed and included in the next CICAD agenda, with countries implementing a similar strategy on a parallel basis.

Many delegations expressed their congratulations to the Executive Secretary, Mr. James Mack and Assistant Executive Secretary, Mr. Abraham Stein, on designing a balanced meeting moving away from the old style of concentrating on supply side issues and focusing on the important issue of demand reduction.

In accordance with Articles 20 and 21 of the Statute, the President proposed that the thirty-seventh regular session be held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic during the last week in
April or the first week of May 2005, at a date to be agreed by the Chair and the Executive Secretariat.

20. OTHER BUSINESS

CLOSING SESSION

In his closing remarks, General Sanz thanked the Delegates and the Executive Secretariat of CICAD for their hard work during the thirty-sixth regular session, and congratulated the many presenters for the useful information provided to the Commission throughout the meeting. The Chair made specific reference to the new challenges that confront the CICAD Commission such as transnational organized crime, corruption, money laundering, trafficking of persons and terrorism. General Sanz highlighted the valuable presentations made by academics and specialists in drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation as well as the interchange of experiences in the implementation of prevention policies, which reflect CICAD’s regional leadership in this subject. In concluding, the Chair expressed his commitment to moving forward with the work of the Commission and invited all the delegations to Santo Domingo for the thirty-seventh regular session of CICAD, declaring 2005 the “Year of Illicit Drug Abuse Prevention in the Americas”.

B. PARTICIPANTS

1. CICAD MEMBER STATES

Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela attended the thirty-sixth regular session of CICAD.

2. PERMANENT OBSERVERS

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

3. INTER-AMERICAN SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

Representatives attended from the Andean Community (CAN); the Andean Parliament; the Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM); the Central American Parliament; the Central American Permanent Commission to Eradicate the Illicit Production of, Trafficking in and Use of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (CCP); the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA); Inter-American Defense Board (IADB); the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO); and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

The list of participants in this regular session is published separately as document CICAD/doc.1317/04 rev.1.