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FINAL REPORT
(Provisional)

EXPERT GROUP ON COMPREHENSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT - GEDAIS
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CICAD/OAS EXPERT GROUP ON COMPREHENSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT

1. The Chair of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development presents its Final Report 2016-2017, to the Sixty-Second Regular Session of CICAD. This report was organized and developed in accordance with the contents and activities of the 2016-2017 Work Plan of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development.

I. Executive Summary:

2. The establishment of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development, during the Fifty-Eighth Regular Session of CICAD in November 2015, marks the beginning of a period of high-level contacts and technical exchanges to address the issue of Alternative Development among the countries affected by the drug problem in different instances, trying to adopt proposals for actions in accordance with the realities and needs of each country.

3. Once this decision was endorsed at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS) convened in 2016, the Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development initiated the first exploratory exchanges aimed at defining policies and action programmes with the purpose of reducing the vulnerabilities and impacts of the drug problem, as strategies that contribute, through sustainable development, to the reduction of supply and its side effects on the population affected by the incidence of drug production, trafficking, and/or consumption.

4. With the first actions carried out by the Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development, they sought a common understanding of the problem in its different national nuances, bringing countries with promising experiences closer together by proposing the exchange of strategies, methodologies of action, and lessons learned that allow other countries to develop capacities to implement Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development Programmes adapted to their own realities.

II. Background:

5. The establishment of the Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development (DAIS) was approved at the Fifty-Eight Regular Session of CICAD/OAS held in Trujillo, Peru, in November 2015. This Expert Group is a “high-level technical space to address, according to the realities and needs of each country, the different experiences, principles, new trends, threats, and problems facing Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development -and, where appropriate, the preventive alternative development- in the hemisphere, with a focus on human development.” The Chair of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development for the period 2015-2016 was Peru, acting through the National Commission for Development and Life without Drugs (DEVIDA).
6. During the First Meeting of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development, held Lima, Peru, in May 2016, the Chair of the Expert Group submitted a 2016-2017 Work Plan to the delegates of the Member States to organize CICAD’s activities focusing on five themes: design, implementation (performance), establishment of indicators (measurement), monitoring and assessment, and systematization of experiences; as well as to strengthen the capacities of the experts on Alternative Development, through participation in technical dialogue and coordination fora, exchange of experiences and analysis of the problems of vulnerable groups, facing the drug problem.

7. In accordance with the Work Plan, the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development, would work on the following lines of action or activities: (i) expanded conceptual definition of Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development (by CICAD/OAS); (ii) planning and/or design of interventions (by Peru); (iii) implementation of interventions (by Paraguay); (iv) establishment of indicators—measurement (by Mexico); (v) monitoring and assessment systems for Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development programmes, among others (proposed by Peru); and (vi) systematization of experiences related to the Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development and, where appropriate, preventive alternative development (by Colombia), drawing attention to the need to introduce them during an “International Conference on the Promotion and Dissemination of Actions related to Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development and Preventive Alternative Development, where appropriate”, held in the second half of October 2017.

8. The Work Plan of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development aims at promoting the exchange of information on methodologies for formulating, implementing, assessing, and strengthening Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development programmes, including preventive programmes, where appropriate, among others, in favour of development in rural and urban areas, in order to contribute to the reduction of illicit crop cultivation and to improve the well-being of individuals, thus ensuring the conditions fostering sustainable licit economies.

9. Finally, the activities included in the Work Plan of the Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development (DAIS), are based on the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2016-2020 of the CICAD/OAS Hemispheric Drugs Strategy (2010).

10. During the Sixtieth Regular Session of CICAD, held in November 2016 in Nassau, Bahamas, the Commission approved the resumption of Peru as Chair of the Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development for 2016-2017.

III. Actions Taken:

11. The Work Plan (2016-2017) of CICAD / OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development, proposed by DEVIDA in May 2016 during the First Meeting of the Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development, in compliance with the Design Phase of such Work Plan: (i) identified and evaluated the proposals by themes, in order to define the activities of the Work Plan of the Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development; (ii) determined the experts responsible for each theme of the Work Plan, in order to promote the active participation
of the Member States of CICAD/OAS; and (iii) shared the Work Plan to the Member States of CICAD/OAS for its corresponding approval.

12. Member States participated in the elaboration process with comments and observations, which were duly incorporated into the document in due course; likewise, four countries assumed the leadership for each of the topics raised in the Work Plan:

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<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>THEME</th>
<th>LEAD COUNTRY</th>
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13. Regarding the Activity: “Extended Conceptual Definition of the Comprehensive and Sustainable Development” (Responsible: CICAD/OAS). This activity is in progress. To date, CICAD/OAS has disseminated to and consulted with Member States on the document entitled “Reference Framework for the Expansion of Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development in the Americas;” which has been carried out by the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development, meeting from 17 to 19 October, 2017, at the AECID Training Centre in La Antigua, Republic of Guatemala; and which should continue to be socialized and worked on.

14. This document was also submitted for consideration during the second edition of the "Forum for Intra-Regional Dialogue on Alternative Development" of the Cooperation Programme on Drugs Policies between Latin America, the Caribbean, and the European Union (COPOLAD II), which took place in Santa Cruz de la Sierra (Bolivia) from 20 to 23 November, 2017. The event was attended by seventy-three (73) institutional representatives in charge of Alternative Development from seven Latin American and four Caribbean countries, as well as representatives of producer organizations and associations from Bolivia, Colombia, and Peru.

15. Regarding the Activity: “Planning and/or design of interventions” (Responsible: Peru), the activity was developed and implemented 100 per cent, and reported by Peru as the responsible country through the National Commission for Development and Life Without Drugs - DEVIDA, during the Second Meeting of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development, which was held in La Antigua, Republic of Guatemala, from 17 to 19 October, 2017.

16. Regarding the Activity: “Implementation of Interventions” (Responsible: Paraguay), this activity is in the process of implementation.

17. Regarding the Activity: “Establishment of Indicators – Measurement” (Responsible: Mexico), this activity is in the process of implementation.

18. Regarding the Activity: “Monitoring and Assessment Systems of the Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development Programmes” (Responsible: Peru), this activity was developed and implemented 100 per cent, and reported by Peru as the responsible country through the National Commission for Development and Life Without Drugs - DEVIDA, during the Second Meeting of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive
and Sustainable Alternative Development, held in La Antigua, Republic of Guatemala, from 17 to 19 October, 2017.

19. Regarding the Activity: “Systematization of Experiences related to Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development and, where appropriate, Preventive Alternative Development” (Responsible: Colombia), this activity was developed and implemented 100 per cent and reported by Colombia as the responsible country through the Ministry of Justice and Law, during the Second Meeting of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development, held in La Antigua, Republic of Guatemala, from 17 to 19 October, 2017.

20. Regarding the Activity: “International Conference on Promotion and Dissemination of Actions related to Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development and Preventive Alternative Development – where appropriate”, this activity was developed and implemented 100 per cent. CICAD/OAS, with funding of AECID, organized and carried out the Second Meeting of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development, from 17 to 19 October, 2017, at the facilities of the AECID Training Centre (CFCE), in La Antigua, Republic of Guatemala, with the participation of twenty-six (26) experts in the field of alternative development, territorial development, integration and social development; representing eleven (11) Member Countries.

21. The Meeting of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development, helped to create a space for the collective building-up of knowledge and the exchange of experiences among participants, contributing to analyse and understand the different policies, strategies, priorities and territorial realities of each participating country, also following up on the Work Plan of the Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development.


IV. Conclusions:

23. The Chair of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development for the 2016-2017 period was the Republic of Peru, acting through the National Commission for Development and Life without Drugs, through its Executive Chair.

24. The Final Report of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development for the 2016-2017 period is organized and developed within the framework of the contents and activities established and approved in the CICAD/OAS GEDAIS Work Plan for the reporting period.

25. During the reporting period, the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development implemented and presented the following activities: (ii) planning and/or design of the interventions (by Peru); (v) monitoring and assessment systems of the comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes (proposed by Peru); and (vi) systematization of experiences linked to the comprehensive and sustainable alternative development and, where appropriate, preventive alternative development (by Colombia).
26. CICAD/OAS, with funding from AECID, organized and carried out the Second Meeting of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development, from 17 to 19 October, 2017, at the facilities of the AECID Training Centre (CFCE), in La Antigua, Republic of Guatemala, with the participation of twenty-six (26) experts in the field of alternative development, territorial development, integration and social development; representing eleven (11) member countries.

V. Recommendations:

27. It is recommended that the State assuming the Chairmanship of the CICAD/OAS Expert Group on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development in the 2018 – 2019 period consider in its proposed Work Plan to provide continuity and follow-up to the activities: (i) extended conceptual definition of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development (by CICAD/OAS); (iii) implementation of interventions (by Paraguay); and (iv) establishment of indicators - measurement (by Mexico), which are in the process of development and implementation.