



ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

cicad

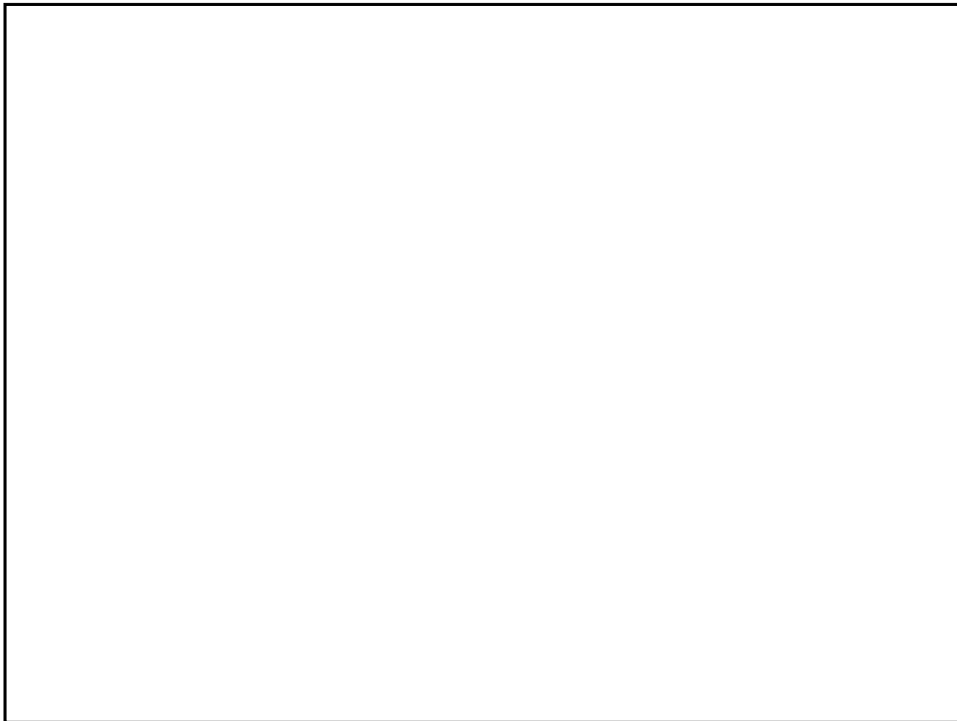
FORTY-FOURTH REGULAR SESSION
November 19 - 21, 2008
Santiago, Chile

OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.44
CICAD/doc.1678-A/08
19 November 2008
Original: English

**MEETING OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON ALTERNATIVE, INTEGRAL
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

James Mack

GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006



Meeting of the Group of Experts on Alternative, Integral and Sustainable Development



Background

n *Lima, Peru*

n *September 23-25, 2008.*

n *Mr. Fernando Hurtado Pascual,
DEVIDA*



Background

Thirty (30) participants

n *14 countries*

n *Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, and Venezuela*

n *18 observers*



Terms of Reference

n *Focus*

n *Strengthening producer groups*

n *Other issues*

n *Exclude*

n *Market seal*

n *World Trade Organization*



Work Plan

- n Guide/manual for strengthening producer groups (Peru)*
- n Guide/manual concerning preventative alternative development (Ecuador)*



Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)

- Review of existing indicators,*
- Proposed changes*



Trip to Tarapoto

- *Heads of delegations*
- *Local producer groups*
 - *Coffee Agrarian Cooperative Oro Verde*
 - *Tropical Crops Institute*



Recommendations

- n *Accept the Group's report*
- n *Accept the proposed work plan*
- n *Direct the group to meet in 2009*
- n *Accept Ecuador's offer to host and chair the next meeting*



ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES



INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

cicad

FORTY-FOURTH REGULAR SESSION
November 19 - 21, 2008
Santiago, Chile

OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.44
CICAD/doc. 1678/08
21 October 2008
Original: English

FINAL REPORT

**GROUP OF EXPERTS CONCERNING ALTERNATIVE, INTEGRAL AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES



INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

cicad

**GROUP OF EXPERTS CONCERNING
ALTERNATIVE, INTEGRAL AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Sept 23-25, 2008
Lima, Peru**

**OEA/Ser.L/XIV.4
CICAD/doc.3/08
Oct 7, 2008
Original: English**

**FINAL REPORT
(provisional)**

GROUP OF EXPERTS CONCERNING ALTERNATIVE, INTEGRAL AND SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT

I. BACKGROUND

During its forty-second regular session in Santa Marta, Colombia, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), the Commission approved the creation of an Expert Group on Alternative Development to deepen the understanding the issues and initiatives discussed at this Commission meeting and advise the Commission on future action. It requested that the Executive Secretariat prepare the group's mandate and terms of reference for consideration at the next CICAD meeting.

As directed, CICAD Assistant Executive Secretary Rafael Franzini-Battle presented the terms of reference for the Expert Group on Alternative Development during the Commission's forty-third regular session in Washington, D.C. Mr. Franzini also presented background information on the functioning of CICAD expert groups (CICAD/doc.1641/08). The Commission agreed to adopt the terminology used by the Andean Community of Nations (CAN) for rural development strategy in areas growing illicit crops: "Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development." Further, the Commission directed that in addition to identifying new issues or challenges in this subject area, the Group of Experts should focus on producer associations, their role in alternative, integral and sustainable development, their existing links to market niches, and ways to strengthen or promote the establishment of such groups.

The Commission also directed that the Group of Experts exclude from their discussions issues related to the following:

- the development of a marketing seal for alternative development products
- any intervention before the World Trade Organization to promote trade opportunities for Alternative Development products.

Peru was elected chair of this Group of Experts while Ecuador was voted vice chair.

II. PROCEEDINGS

A. PARTICIPANTS

MEMBER STATES OF CICAD

The meeting included 30 experts representing 14 member states (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, and Venezuela). Also present were 18 observers representing producer organizations and other interested parties active in the field.

B. SESSIONS AND ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

1. OPENING SESSION

The opening session for the meeting of Group of Experts Concerning Alternative, Intergral and Sustainable Alternative Development took place in the Ministry of Foreign Relations building in Lima. Dr. Bertha Santoscoy, Representative of the OAS in Lima, Gonzalo Gutierrez Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Abel Hermosa, General Manager of *Comisión Nacional para el Desarrollo y Vida sin Drogas* (DEVIDA) in Charge of the Presidency, Fernando Hurtado, President of the Group of Experts and Domingo Paredes Vicepresident of the Group of Experts, offered welcoming remarks.

2. WORKING SESSIONS

A. Presentations

The Group of Experts met in six working sessions during which the following presentations were delivered:

Strengthening producer organizations through alternative, integral and sustainable development in Peru (Peru)

- Mr. Fernando Hurtado Pascual of DEVIDA provided an overview of alternative development within the framework of Peru's National Drug Strategy (2007-2011). In doing so, he spoke of the evolution of illicit cultivation and alternative development as well as the growth of producer organizations. The key elements of an integrated system to strengthen producer groups include economic, social, environmental and political considerations. Each of these is linked to the producer groups, the farmer families and sustainable human development of the people in the area.

Mr. Hurtado expanded on each of these elements or components and provided examples of the benefits realized through this approach and the efforts to enhance producer groups. This included the increase in areas under productive cultivation, the number of groups that have been established, the number of families now members of these groups and the economic benefits that they have been able to realize.

In concluding his presentation, Mr Hurtado underlined that alternative development in Peru offers a model for integral alternative and sustainable development with an integral focus that includes the political, environmental, social, and economic dimensions, all central to the establishing and strengthening producer groups.

Andean strategy for alternative, integral and sustainable development (Andean Community)

- Mr. Adolfo Lopez Bustillo, Secretary General of the Andean Community (CAN), provided an overview of their strategy for alternative, integral and sustainable development. He chronicled the evolution of the strategy, critical elements, objectives and its implementation in various countries. Mr. Lopez further described the plan of action for the strategy that includes initiatives to facilitate the dialogue between civil society and the government as well as those to strengthen cooperation between the CAN and the European Union regarding efforts to deal with the illicit drugs.

Preventative alternative development (Ecuador)

- in his presentation, Dr. Domingo Paredes Castillo, Executive Secretary of CONSEP, acknowledged that preventative alternative development is not an issue for countries where coca and poppy cultivation exists. For Ecuador, it is an important component within its alternative development program.

Citing remote border areas as examples, Dr. Paredes stressed that in the absence of a real State presence, community participation and adequate financing, efforts to eradicate or discourage illicit cultivation cannot achieve their objectives. In recognizing these principles, Ecuador has been able to focus on some of the root causes of illicit drug production including poverty and vulnerability in its National Development Plan.

Dr. Paredes stated that Ecuador now has in place Preventive Alternative Development programs in place in the south and north borders zones that are vulnerable to the illicit traffic of drugs and chemical precursors as well as contraband medicines that contain controlled substances. He described the various components and principles of these programs stressing the importance of support from the international community.

National plan for integral development with coca (Bolivia)

- Limber Solano Montaña and Fernando Cortez Aranibar of the Vice Ministry of Coca and Integral Development spoke of Bolivia's national plan for integral development with coca.

Producer Groups

- Representatives of number of a number of producer groups in Peru shared their experiences and perspectives with the Group of Experts. Speakers included the following:

- Gonzalo Rios General Manager of ACOPAGRO
- Arturo Hoyos Cárdenas, Technical Manager Aspash
- Iderhico Bocange General Manager Coffee Agrarian Cooperative ORO VERDE
- Ingeniero Juan del Mar Technical Manager of COCLA
- Jose Antonio Mejia Polanco, Manager COOPAIN.
- Jaime Sucaticona Ticona, President CECOVASA
- Mario Cesar Cavero, Agroindustrial Cooperative Tocache.
- Enrique Arevalo, Manager ICT.
- Juan del Mar Ramirez, COCLA President.

Each speaker talked about the creation and evolution of their respective group, and their objectives. They spoke of their members and activities and the successes that they have been able to realize in terms of production and marketing of alternative crops and the financial gains they have made over time.

The presentations highlighted the potential benefits for members of these groups and the importance of supporting the groups

B. Working Groups

The Commission tasked the Group of Experts to consider the issue of strengthening producer groups. Members of the Group of Experts also identified a number of other issues of concern regarding alternative, integral and sustainable development during the "roundtable" introductions on the first day of the meeting. From this the Group focused on the issue of preventative alternative development. Both of the subjects were considered in both and smaller working groups. The other issues identified during the "roundtable" will be included in the plan of action for consideration during future meetings.

Strengthening producer groups (Peru)

- The presentations by Peru and the representatives of the producer groups highlighted the potential benefits that could be realized through these groups.

The Group of Experts focused their attention on developing a guide that member states could use to help develop or strengthen producer groups.

The Group of Experts discussed the various elements that should be included in such a guide. The members of the various producer groups present as observers to the meeting provided valuable input to the process, sharing their perspectives on what is required and how things might evolve in the most effective manner.

The Groups of Experts agreed to draw on the experience and expertise resident in the representatives from the producer groups. A working group of these representatives will work with DEVIDA to develop a draft guide. This joint working group proposed a plan of action for consultations and the development of the draft for presentation at the next meeting of the Group of Experts.

Preventative alternative development (Ecuador)

- During the “roundtable” introductions, a number of delegations to the meeting identified their concerns regarding illicit drug production. These countries are not currently producer countries but are transit countries or otherwise feel vulnerable to the problem of illicit drug production.

The presentation by Ecuador provided the Group of Experts with additional information regarding the concept of preventative alternative development and how Ecuador is dealing with this issue. Members of the Group of Experts shared their views on and experience with preventative development. The discussion included reference to the preparation of a guide that might help member states deal with this issue drawing on the experiences of others.

The Brazilian delegation expressed their understanding that the agenda of the meeting included only the exchange of experiences on preventive alternative development not discussions on a document/guide on the subject. The Brazilian delegation was of the view that, given its possible scope and objectives, the proposition of such a document should be firstly analyzed by the Commission, before experts eventually work on its contents. The Executive Secretariat informed the Group that the terms of reference for this and the other existing Groups of Experts call on the members to identify issues of concern, problems or challenges related to the subject in question. It is then up to the Group to select those of particular concern or common interest to develop concrete resources (guides, manuals, self assessment tools, model regulations etc) to help member states to deal with the challenges or problems selected for action. The Commission can also give the Group of Experts a specific task as was the case with this meeting as it relates to strengthening producer groups.

Following an excellent exchange in plenary a smaller working group developed a draft “index” of elements that should be included in a guide or manual dealing with the issue of preventative alternative development. The draft “index” was then

reviewed by the plenary. The Group agreed that the draft would benefit from broader consultation. A revised version of the draft “index” will be prepared and distributed to the Group of Experts so that they might consult with other experts and colleagues in their respective country. The Group agreed to a timetable for the review and drafting of the proposed guide or manual. The Group of Experts will consider and finalize the draft at its next meeting.

Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (review of indicators)

a. Background

During its March 2008 review of indicator proposals for the Fifth Evaluation Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), the Preparatory Intergovernmental Working Group (Pre-IWG) included in its report to CICAD that the indicators on coca, poppy and cannabis crop cultivation (#20 and #22) and on alternative, integral and sustainable development (#25-26) needed to be reviewed for the next MEM evaluation cycle, and that the assistance of the CICAD Group of Experts and their expertise would be sought in this regard. The CICAD Commission approved the report at its forty-third regular session in April 2008.

b. Plenary Session and Review of Indicators

Mr. Martin Cubas, Specialist of the CICAD MEM Section, presented proposed modifications to the Plenary on September 25, 2008, for discussion. The proposals had been drafted prior to the Plenary by experts in illicit crop cultivations and alternative, integral and sustainable development who had expressed an interest in developing preparatory modifications with the MEM Section.

Indicators were reviewed in Plenary by delegations from all participating countries, with the support of the head of the Supply Section of CICAD, Mr. Ziggie Malyniwsky and Adriana Henao, Specialist of the Supply Section of CICAD.

The group reviewed indicators 20, 25 and 26. Indicator 22 was not reviewed, as the group considered that they did not have the expertise to make an appropriate review of the topic covered by that indicator.

The indicators that were reviewed covered the topics of cultivated areas of coca, poppy and cannabis, and of the existence, characteristics and results of alternative, integral and sustainable development programs.

The proposed indicator questions will be uploaded on-line for review by all member states, prior to the February 2009 meeting of the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) where all indicator proposals will be reviewed and

discussed. The final approval will take place in 2009 during the forty-fifth CICAD regular session prior to the onset of the MEM's Fifth Evaluation Round.

3. PLAN OF ACTION

Further to the discussions in plenary and in the working groups, the Group of Experts has prepared the following plan of action from which the assigned products will be presented when the Group next meets:

Guide/manual of best practices to strengthen producer groups (Peru)

Guide/manual on preventative alternative development (Ecuador)

Other issues for discussion at the next meeting:

- Modelos de financiamiento para organizaciones de productores y productos alternativos de corto plazo (flujo de caja) de largo plazo o permanentes (capitalización) y de Seguridad alimentaria. Cultivos agroforestales
- Identificación de factores limitantes para el desarrollo integral de organizaciones de productores. Ejemplo: acceso a los mercados (local, nacional e internacional), comercio justo y productos orgánicos.
- Intercambio de estrategias nacionales
- Fortalecimiento de cooperación interagencial
- Asistencia técnica

4. TRIP TO TARAPOTO

Peru has a great deal of experience and success with the producer groups as an important component of its alternative, integral and sustainable development program. To share this experience, officials of DEVIDA invited the heads of the delegations to the meeting of the Group of Experts on a visit to Tarapoto where a number of these producer groups operate.

Participants travelled to Tarapoto upon conclusion of the meeting to spend the following day there. While in Tarapoto the group visited the Coffee Agrarian Cooperative Oro Verde, located in the native community of Lamas in the San Martin region. The Cooperative society includes 450 associate families, with 3,150 individuals benefiting from this association. The group visited the laboratories and production areas. Following this tour the group visited the Alto Shamboyacu region to enjoy some cultural shows by the native ethnic called the

"Chancas Motilones" who are Oro Verde members and descendants from the inter-Andean pre-Inca era. Their cultural existence dates back of the year 1400 DC. This population supports its ancient customs and a traditional organization adapted to the conditions of the Peruvian Amazon. Returning to Tarapoto, the group visited ICT (Tropical Crops Institute) where they saw the laboratories and new technologies development for coffee and cacao production.

5. CLOSING SESSION

The Group of Experts concluded its work at 3:30 on September 25. At that time, the delegation of Ecuador expressed its interest in hosting and chairing the next meetings of the Group of Experts. Mr. Romulo Pizarro, President of DEVIDA and Mr. Fernando Hurtado Pascual, President of the Group of Experts and Domingo Paredes, Vicepresident of the Group of Experts offered comments and remarks to close the meeting.

III. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS

RECOMMENDATIONS TO CICAD IN ITS FORTY-FOURTH REGULAR SESSION:

The Group of Experts Regarding Alternative, Integral and Sustainable Development recommends that the Commission:

1. Consider and accept the plan of action proposed by the Group of Experts and direct that the Group meet in 2009 to consider the issues in the plan as well as other new trends or threats identified in the area of alternative, integral and sustainable development
2. Consider and accept the offer made by Ecuador to host and chair the Group's next meeting.