

TWENTY-THIRD REGULAR SESSION
May 5-8, 1998
Washington, D.C.

OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.23
CICAD/doc.958/98
4 May 1998
Original: Spanish

"NON-PAPER"
PRESENTED BY THE DELEGATION OF
ARGENTINA

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The next Meeting of Consultation of CICAD, to be held in Washington, D.C. on May 4, 1998, in fulfillment of the Plan of Action of the Summit of Santiago, Chile, will develop a singular and objective process of multilateral governmental evaluation in order to monitor the progress of individual and collective efforts in the Hemisphere and of all the countries in dealing with the diverse manifestations of the problem of drugs. The Meeting submits the following courses of action for the consideration of the delegations:

WORK PROPOSAL ON THE SUBJECT OF "MULTILATERAL EVALUATION OF BASIC PRINCIPLES"

The following outlines some principles that should serve as a guide to facilitate the preparation of a concrete proposal and the adoption of a policy:

- Respect the three principles adopted and endorsed at the Second Summit of the Americas with regard to the fact that the evaluation system must be governmental, singular, and objective.
- Its governmental nature is essential for maintaining objectivity in the evaluations, since it is government actions that will be evaluated. The participation of representatives from the private sector in this type of control (consultants, auditors, etc.) involves economic interests that may make the process non transparent.
- For it to be objective, it must be carried out with a common basis, which in this instance is the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere. It must, however, also be based on common programs and plans that are adopted at the national level (Master Plans), which, perhaps, should be implemented before the evaluation system. Furthermore, it must also bear in mind the situation in the different countries and consider the following characteristics, among others:

The size of the country to be evaluated.

The structure of the government. Evaluating a country with a centralized political and administrative structure is not the same as evaluating a country with a federal system or a confederation.

Measurement of the efforts and not merely the results.

It will be necessary to conduct a survey of existing resources within the framework of CICAD that can be used for the implementation of the multilateral system, including, most notably, the following:

1. **INFORMATION SYSTEMS** SITCOD (Inter-American Telecommunications System for Drug Control), IADIS (Inter-American Drug Information System - Qualitative Information), and SIDUC (Inter-American System of Standardized Data on Drug Use - Quantitative Information).
2. **GROUPS OF EXPERTS** - Demand Reduction, Chemical Precursors, Money Laundering, Control of Arms and Explosives, and Alternative Development.
3. **CICAD PLANS AND PROGRAMS**

Based on these principles and resources, we feel it is appropriate to establish a working group (a proposal initially made by the Delegation of Argentina) to study mechanisms for implementing the evaluation system, respecting some guidelines already agreed upon within the framework of CICAD. This will also clarify the scope of the discussion and use the working mechanisms of the Groups of Experts of CICAD, which were agreed on at previous plenary meetings.

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A SINGULAR AND OBJECTIVE MULTILATERAL GOVERNMENTAL EVALUATION SYSTEM

The countries in the Hemisphere, in accordance with the adherence the so-called Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere, adopted in Buenos Aires at the twentieth regular session of CICAD and ratified in Montevideo on December 3, 1996, propose the need to establish a singular and objective multilateral governmental evaluation system, responsible for fulfilling the agreements in the aforementioned document.

That document establishes important issues on the need to establish a balance in the policies on the different aspects of the problem of drugs, such as demand reduction, which includes all levels of prevention - primary or actual prevention, secondary or tertiary treatment or rehabilitation, and reintegration into society - controlling drug supply and other related offenses - diverting chemical precursors, arms and explosives smuggling, and money laundering.

Both the issue of balance and that of shared responsibility suggest that the evaluation cover all the aspects of the drug problem, and not simply parts thereof.

All the information will be registered in an Observatory of the Problem of Drugs in the Americas, headquartered at CICAD.

The following items are to be considered:

- I. DEMAND REDUCTION
- II. SUPPLY CONTROL
- III. RELATED OFFENSES

- a. Diversion of essential chemical substances
- b. Smuggling arms and explosives
- c. Money laundering

The parameters for evaluation will be set forth in harmony with the issues to be evaluated and will be established by the CICAD Groups of Experts. These parameters must be approved beforehand by the plenary of CICAD, which will be responsible for the evaluations, all-the-while maintaining its confidential, technical, and governmental nature.

The coordinators will be responsible for preparing an annual report on the situation in the Hemisphere, which must be adopted by the plenary of CICAD at its regular sessions, prior to dissemination. To prepare the report, the coordinators can consult with the governments to verify noncompliance with the principles of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere. The report's conclusions will be confidential until they are approved by the plenary of CICAD.

Evaluations will be carried out at the request of the governments or when deemed appropriate by the plenary of CICAD. The governments will be urged to request an evaluation at fixed intervals that will be set. The nature of these evaluations will be to provide recommendations and not to be recriminatory, and they will set forth elements of cooperation to the governments, so they can fulfill the treaties entered into.