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INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE
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**ADDRESS BY THE INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD (IADB)
COLONEL YSIDRO LÓPEZ AQUINO**



IADB ADDRESS AT CICAD-2011

Mr. Chair of CICAD; delegates of the member states, observers, and the private sector; ladies and gentlemen:

On behalf of the states that make up the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB), and of the Chair of the Council of Delegates, Lt. Gen. ROBERTO MACHADO Y SILVA of the Brazilian Air Force, I offer our gratitude for this opportunity to address this inter-American forum, within the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), which is currently holding its 49th regular session, in this great city of Paramaribo, Suriname. Mr. Chair, I am Col. Ysidro López Aquino of the Army of the Dominican Republic, and I work as an advisor to the IADB Secretariat, through the Sub-Secretariat for Advisory Services.

The Inter-American Defense Board (IADB) is an agency of the OAS, comprising civilian and military representatives appointed by the member states, with the chief function of providing technical, consultative, and educational ADVISORY SERVICES on military and defense matters in the Hemisphere, in pursuit of the provisions of the OAS Charter. In addition, it takes into account the needs of the smaller states, which are more vulnerable to traditional threats and to new threats, concerns, and other challenges. This statutory mandate enables it to have, within its structure, a group of advisors who work in the **DIVISION OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL AFFAIRS**, with the task of analyzing all matters related to **Multidimensional Security**.

It is therefore important to take particular note of civilian-military cooperation in the implementation of the control measures set out in the recently adopted HEMISPHERIC DRUGS STRATEGY 2010, and its Plan of Action. The IADB has taken note of this plan of action, together with the four initiatives prepared by the Group of Experts on Ocean-borne Drug Trafficking, held in Santo Domingo, D.R., particularly those with a naval or maritime component, namely:

- Model Legislation on Self-propelled Submersible and Semi-submersible Vessels,
- Control of drug trafficking on lakes and river navigation systems, and
- Fast launches.

Those initiatives, together with the plan of action of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy 2010, and the Maritime Drug Strategy, are being forwarded to the Hemisphere's military and defense agencies, in particular the Inter-American Naval Conference, in order to facilitate international cooperation on maritime issues as provided for in those mechanisms.

Finally, we congratulate all the speakers for the high quality and professionalism of the presentations; the Chair of CICAD and the Executive Secretary of CICAD for their excellent leadership of this important event; the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security for its support; and the government of Suriname and this beautiful people for the warm welcome they have extended to us.

Thank you very much.