



ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
Inter-American Council for Integral Development
Inter-American Committee on Ports



**VIII MEETING OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN
COMMITTEE ON PORTS (CIP)**
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DECLARATION OF CARTAGENA

(Adopted during the third plenary session held on September 13, 2013 and pending revision by the Style Committee)

WE, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEMBER STATES INTEGRATING THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON PORTS,

HAVING SEEN:

The Lima Action Plan 2012-2013 approved by Resolution [CIDI/CIP/RES. 108 (VII-12)]; and

The financial reports of the following projects of the Inter-American Committee on Ports: Status of the Special CIP Port Program 2011 and 2012-2013 Budget approved by Resolution [CIDI/CIP/RES. 110 (VII-12)]

CONSIDERING:

That the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) is a permanent hemispheric forum of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) established in 1998 by Resolution AG/RES. 1573 (XXVIII-0/98) of the General Assembly in accordance with articles 77 and 93 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OEA) and articles 5 and 15 of the CIDI Bylaws.

That the theme of the Sixth Summit of the Americas, "Connecting the Americas: Partners for Prosperity," that took place in Cartagena on 14 and 15 of April, 2012, has as one of its thematic areas the physical integration and connectivity of the hemisphere.

That the Heads of State and Government reaffirmed in the VI Summit of the Americas that the promotion and the deepening of physical infrastructure projects at the national, sub regional and regional levels are priorities of public policies and strategies of development in our countries and expressed the importance of promoting the exchange of experiences and the involvement of the public and private sectors in programs and projects of physical infrastructure to connect and integrate the Americas.

The port sector is fundamental in international trade and in the hemispheric integration and physical connectivity in the region.

That the modernization of the port system will result in the growth and competitiveness of the economies of the Americas

That it is important to note that the expansion of the Panama Canal, will offer significant opportunities for development, but also the challenge of increasing the human, technological and infrastructure capabilities in the ports of the Americas;

That, at the request of the Delegations of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Panama, and the United States, the Delegations of Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Paraguay, the Dominican Republic, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Surinam, Uruguay and Venezuela have expressed their support for the efforts of the Secretariat to modernize the CIP and to develop strategies for accomplishing the objectives of the Lima Action Plan.

WE RESOLVE THAT IS NECESSARY TO:

1. Strengthen high-level dialog for the promotion of competitiveness in the port sector through priority thematic areas such as good infrastructure, modern connectivity, efficiency in administrative processes, cost-competitive, sustainable management and clear regulatory frameworks.
2. Facilitate competitive provisions for port facilities that allow foreign trade and respond to new markets demands in virtue of the entry into force of the trade agreements.
3. Achieve port operations specialization taking into accounts the hemispheric needs, strategic position and physical connectivity of our countries on cargo transfer.
4. Exchange experiences to strengthen the capacities of the countries in the implementation and compliance with the major international conventions and rules for the protection of the environment, the economy, and the physical security and health. As well as in strategic areas that promote competitiveness.
5. Strengthen the participation of landlocked countries and the incorporation of navigation on inland waterways as fundamental routes for international trade in the central regions of the Hemisphere.
6. Promote public policies and the establishment of strategic partnerships, in which the private sector is included in order to have port, maritime and terrestrial infrastructure that is economically sustainable and environmentally in accordance with the new challenges that require international trade.
7. Promote the implementation of a money-laundering and terrorism-financing detection system in the port sector in each member state, which can be based on the model that Colombia has pioneered in the freight industry and is the first of its kind in the world.
8. Ratify the importance of the work of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) as a permanent technical hemispheric forum in the field of ports being this one of the services of greater importance for the advancement of regional integration.

9. Instruct the CIP Secretariat to promote hemispheric cooperation on port issues through institutional and technical capacity building and the sharing of experiences. The end result would be the advancement of Member State national agendas and to report to the CIP at the IX Meeting of the CIP.

10. Instruct the Secretariat to continue its work to facilitate the modernization of the CIP's operational capacity and, in this connection, to develop strategies for improvement and thus contribute to the implementation of the Lima Action Plan.

11. Instruct the Secretariat to broaden participation in the CIP by promoting public-private partnerships that will enrich the inter-American dialogue on ports, establish synergistic relationships and increase the opportunities for cooperation and to report to the CIP at the IX Meeting of the CIP.

12. Instruct the Secretariat to continue in its role as facilitator of hemispheric dialogue and cooperation and, in accordance to their capabilities, support this task by contributing human and technical resources, the organization of regional initiatives among Member States and with other institutions, and to establish a serious commitment to seek other funding sources.

13. Request the OAS General Secretariat to increase the level of financing from the Organization's Regular Fund to support the work of the CIP and its Secretariat in order to ensure its continuing activities, including implementing the necessary agreements and actions to enable the CIP to operate efficiently and effectively.

14. Ratify our vote of support for the excellent work performed by the CIP Secretariat staff.

15. Request the OAS General Secretariat to direct that the instruments to allow effective execution of the Cartagena Action Plan adopted in this resolution be strengthened.

16. Raise this declaration to the OAS General Assembly.