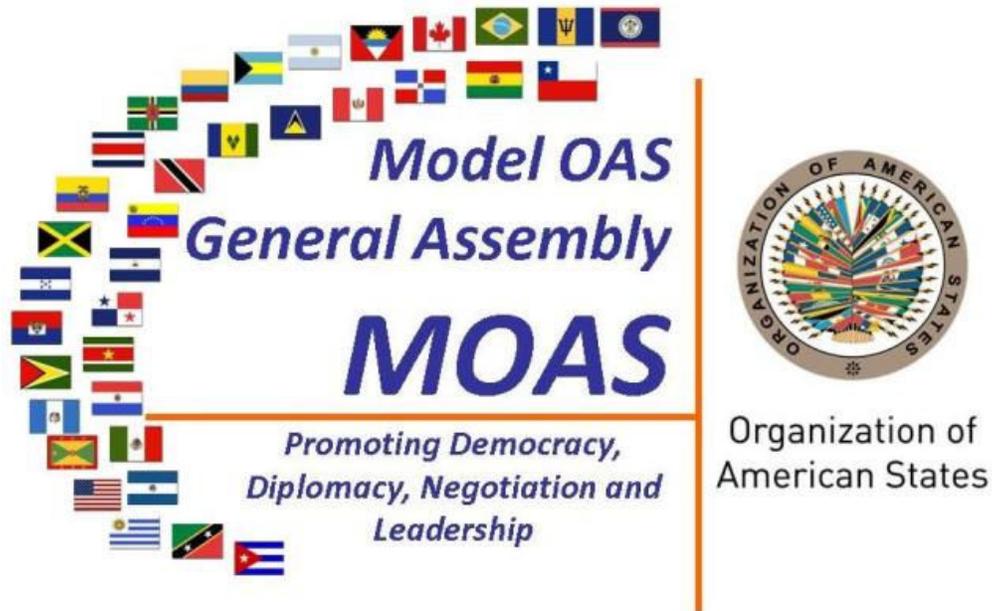


**13th Model of the Permanent Council  
for OAS Interns – 13th MOAS/PC  
July 26-27, 2012**

**FINAL RESOLUTIONS**



**Department of International Affairs  
Secretariat for External Relations**

**MECHANISMS TO STRENGTHEN AND COORDINATE AN INTEGRAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR  
PREVENTING AND COMBATING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME IN THE AMERICAS**

**THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,**

**RECALLING** the commitments made at the Meeting of Experts on Confidence and Security Building Measures on February 3-4, 2003 in Miami, Florida; the Special Conference on Security on October 27-28, 2003 in Mexico City, Mexico; the First Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Public Security in the Americas on October 7-8, 2008, in Mexico City, Mexico; the Second Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Public Security in the Americas on November 4-5, 2009, in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; the Third Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Public Security in the Americas on November 17-18 in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago; and that during the Declaration of San Salvador on Citizen Security in the Americas, the Heads of State and Government reaffirmed their commitment to continue strengthening bilateral, sub-regional, regional, and international cooperation mechanisms [AG/DEC. 66 (XLI-O/11)];

**WELCOMING** a multidimensional approach that promotes international cooperation to address Transnational Organized Crime, abiding by the principles established in Article 2 of the OAS Charter, and the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity with respect for nonintervention in the internal affairs of member states;

**CONSIDERING** that the hemisphere faces unprecedented threats as globalization facilitates the creation of transnational criminal Networks;

**RECOGNIZING** the importance of strengthening national institutions to effectively combat organized crime, Member States reaffirm its commitment to the Hemispheric Plan of Action against Transnational Organized Crime; and

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that education, institutional strengthening and international cooperation are key components of addressing the root problems of transnational organized crime.

**RESOLVES**

1. To confront the current reality by creating a hemispheric intelligence database<sup>1</sup> nested within the Framework of the Organization of American States to facilitate the exchange of information, intelligence and successful experiences within the countries of the region.
2. To convene Member States to develop and support specific training programs on prevention, investigation and the prosecution of transnational organized crime, support such technical training groups on technical assistance and capacity-building, and create a follow-up to evaluate the seminars and conferences that already exist related to institutional training in order to ensure that they are meeting their stated goals.

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<sup>1</sup> Bolivia is willing to cooperate with the efforts of creating a hemispheric intelligence database; however, it reserves the right to limit the information shared on the database on a case by case basis.

3. To encourage member states to sign and ratify the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunitions, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA) that have not already done so.
4. To request the General Secretariat to compile and present to a joint meeting of the Permanent Council an annual report based on the self-reporting of Member States for data on human trafficking, money laundering, and illicit arms trade (making sure the data is comparable). Technical assistance for countries with difficulty in collecting appropriate data will be funded by donations from observer countries. This, along with the production of the report, will be the responsibility of a technical secretariat under the Department of Public Security, financed by voluntary additional contributions from Member States.
5. To promote extensive cooperation for exchanging successful experiences in combating Transnational Organized Crime including ICT, decentralization of partnerships, where appropriate, to the local and municipal levels, and public and private partnerships plus civil society through a forum that will serve as a meeting point between entities with specific concerns and those with corresponding expertise.
6. To participate in the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, including the provision and exchange of information on national production of conventional arms as established in the Declaration of San Salvador, the Declaration of Santiago, and the Consensus of Miami.
  - a. To identify excess stocks of small arms and light weapons as well as seized small arms and light weapons and, in accordance with national laws and international agreements in which they participate in order to define programs for the destruction of said weapons and to invite international representatives to observe their destruction.
  - b. To exchange information on security issues, such as the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons and the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction, within the framework of the UN and OAS, as appropriate.
  - c. The OAS is preparing to execute its program “Promoting Firearms Marking in Latin America and the Caribbean” in Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Panama, and Peru. We commit to expanding this as a hemispheric plan.
7. To establish a hemispheric campaign promoting healthy social integration and discouraging all sectors of society from participating in transnational organized crime, by enlisting influential public figures and organizations to provide accessible information about transnational organized crime, its various forms, and its repercussions.
8. To incorporate this campaign into school curricula and prison programs, by creating clubs, arts and recreation initiatives, sports teams, and job training programs in public schools and prisons, so as to increase school retention rates, disincentivize adolescents from engaging in Transnational Organized Crime organizations, and rebuild positive social values among those already involved in these syndicates.

9. To create an OAS Corps through voluntary participation of Member States that will look for partnerships in collaboration with other similar initiatives to enlist and deploy volunteers throughout the Americas to provide technical training as needed in new technologies, business start-ups, etc. in order to provide sustainable economic alternatives to Transnational Organized Crime.
10. To encourage the creation of new work programs and the support of existing work programs to secure employment for those currently and formerly involved in the Transnational Organized Crime network.
11. To request the General Secretariat to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third regular session on the implementation of this resolution, the execution of which shall be subject to the financial resources available both in the program-budget of the Organization and through cooperation with multilateral financial bodies including, but not limited to, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Caribbean Development Bank.

**A MULTIDIMENSIONAL APPROACH TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE  
IN THE AMERICAS**

**THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,**

**RECALLING** that the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the OAS adopted the Anti-Drug Strategy of the Hemisphere in 1996, and that in its Second Plenary Session of June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012, the OAS General Assembly stipulated the implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action for 2011-2015;

**RECOGNIZING** that, as shown by the CICAD 2011 Report on Drug Abuse in the Americas, drug consumption among youth has increased in recent years;

**CONSCIOUS** of the high human cost of drug abuse in the Americas, especially with the substantial increase of violence in the region and the increase of human rights violations related to drug abuse;

**NOTING** that this issue has detrimental consequences for democracy, social stability, and public health, and has an impact on communities beyond individual drug users;

**EMPHASIZING** that the problem of youth drug abuse must be faced and prevented with a multidimensional perspective;

**BEARING IN MIND** that the drug problem must be confronted through hemispheric cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility;

**NOTING** that young people often do not have the knowledge to resist the dangers of drug usage, and that the issue must be faced from an early age;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that the situation may vary between countries and regions, but that countries can successfully share experiences and strategies;

**REAFFIRMING** paragraphs 14 and 20 of the CICAD Hemispheric Drug Strategy which recognizes that drug abuse is a social and health problem and that drug dependence is a disease;

**CONFIRMING** the view expressed in paragraphs of the same document that treatment models should be evidence based, follow internationally recognize standards and consider the needs of different populations

**TAKING INTO ACCOUNT** General Assembly AG/RES. 2375 (XLII-0/12), “Advancing Hemispheric Security: A Multidimensional Approach” as approved during the second plenary session, held June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 which endorses the progressive implementation by member states of the OAS Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) as the tool to identify their specific youth drug challenges and inform their future drug abuse prevention policies.

**RESOLVES:**

1. To implement initiatives that instruct hemispheric youth on the dangers of drug abuse, recognizing the particular situations of each member state and sub-region. These should include, *inter alia*:
  - a. An awareness campaign with informative messages, presented at schools and through a wide range of media, including social networks and other outlets, and keeping in mind youth outside the educational system;
  - b. Identity-affirming and community-building programs such as sporting and artistic activities, to promote healthy lifestyles among youth in an innovative manner;
  - c. Fostering the reform, in cases where it has not yet been done, of secondary school curricula to include drug education;
  - d. Further sponsoring these various programs through the encouragement of private sector support in accordance with the spirit of corporate social responsibility<sup>2</sup>.
2. To organize a Hemispheric Conference on Youth Drug Abuse Prevention, and invite relevant authorities in the matter – including public, private, and academic sector experts, civil society leaders, and educational authorities from the national and local levels, among others – to share successful practices and experiences:
  - a. This conference will include individual national drug observatory institutions, or their equivalent;
  - b. This conference will lead to the creation of an Inter American Network on Youth Drug Abuse that brings the respective authorities and experts into an ongoing dialogue on successful practices for preventing youth drug use.
3. To provide financial support for these various programs, conferences, and initiatives mentioned in operative clause 1 and 2 through cooperation with multilateral financial bodies including, *inter alia*, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank, as well as voluntary contributions by Member States and Permanent Observers.
4. To urge Member States to recognize drug abuse as a public health issue and to address the problem as such<sup>3</sup>.
5. To promote information sharing among Member States in collaboration with community based efforts regarding successful experiences in alternatives to incarceration for drug-involved offenders, in accordance with the OAS Charter and the Inter-American Democratic Charter.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela places on record its express reservation to clause 1, sub-clause D.

<sup>3</sup> The delegations of the Bahamas, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and the United States of America would like to clarify that drug abuse is not only a public health issue, but also a multi-dimensional issue with regards to international security and development.

<sup>4</sup> The Plurinational State of Bolivia reserves to a limitation of information sharing for security reasons.

6. To enable countries with national observatories for drug abuse to help conduct studies on drug trends in those countries in the Americas that lack such institutions at their invitation funded through international cooperation, permanent observers and public-private<sup>5</sup> partnerships<sup>6</sup>.
7. To promote the inclusion—in national and political agendas, as well as in academic forums and in civil society—of the elements necessary for the conception of a serious, well-informed, and nuanced debate that compares the different alternatives that could serve to confront drug abuse and trafficking including but not limited to:<sup>7</sup>
  - a. Alternatives such as the decriminalization, de-penalization and legalization of drug consumption;<sup>8</sup>
  - b. Member states will commit to promoting and publishing the research and conclusions presented by the CICAD in an integral approach to the validity and viability of alternate measures;
  - c. The CICAD will coordinate, when necessary, with those institutions and local organizations with expertise in this area, in order to facilitate the exchange of information and financing between Member States.
8. To open a call for proposals, managed by the CICAD and the Pan-American Health Organization, which will receive proposals for drug abuse rehabilitation programs from health ministries, local governments, entrepreneurs, non-governmental organizations, community based actors, investors, among others, with the purpose of selecting and funding those with the potential for being the most effective.
9. To agree to keep the drug issue as a central point on the agenda of the Permanent Council of the OAS until an alternate strategy is reached consensually<sup>9</sup>.
10. To endorse the progressive implementation by Member States of the OAS Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) as a fundamental tool to identify specific drug challenges and design future drug abuse prevention policies.
11. To ensure that the members of CARICOM host the Hemispheric Conference on Youth Drug Prevention to show successful practices and experiences at Paramaribo, Suriname.

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<sup>5</sup> The delegation of Venezuela expresses its reservation at the inclusion of the private sector.

<sup>6</sup> The governments of Mexico, Paraguay, Suriname, Brazil, and Guatemala consider that the studies mentioned in this clause must be conducted first, and later lead to future debates on the eventual implementation of alternative strategies to combat drug abuse.

<sup>7</sup> The Plurinational State of Bolivia would not promote the inclusion in a national and political agenda as well as in academic forums and civil society concerning initiatives such as the decriminalization and the penalization of drug consumption.

<sup>8</sup> The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expresses a reservation regarding the use of the term “decriminalization.”