



10TH HEMISPHERIC FORUM WITH CIVIL SOCIETY AND SOCIAL ACTORS
“Toward a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas”
Washington, DC – May 9-10, 2013

PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

Civil society plays an important role in the annual OAS General Assemblies by providing input into the decision-making process and partnering with Member States for the implementation of the hemispheric agenda.

During the 43rd OAS General Assembly that will take place in Antigua, Guatemala on June 4-6, 2013, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Americas will discuss priority issues for the region and approve resolutions related to the pillars of the OAS, including multidimensional security, with a special emphasis on the fight against drugs; the promotion and protection of human rights; strengthening democracy and citizen participation; fostering integral development; and inter-American legal cooperation.

In preparation for the 43rd Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly, on May 9, 2013 the Department of International Affairs of the Secretary for External Relations, with the support of the Governments of Canada, Chile and the United States, will hold the 10th Hemispheric Forum with Civil Society and Social Actors in order to offer its participants an opportunity to exchange ideas and develop proposals and recommendations about the main theme of the upcoming General Assembly, “Toward a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas.”

The recommendations resulting from this 10th Hemispheric Forum will be presented the following day, May 10, by representatives of civil society organizations (CSOs) in a Special Session of the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (CISC). These recommendations will contribute to the Member States’ deliberations of the Draft Declaration and the resolutions related to the inter-American agenda, to be adopted in the 43rd OAS General Assembly.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The expected results include:

1. A recommendations document to be presented to OAS Member States via the CISC based on the dialogue and outcomes of virtual and face-to-face consultations on the General Assembly main theme.
2. A negotiation process of the draft Declaration of the 43rd General Assembly that takes into account the perspectives of civil society and other social actors;
3. The exchange of experiences and best practices on projects and programs carried out by civil society and social actors related to the main topics of the General Assembly.

METHODOLOGY AND FORMAT

The Hemispheric Forum will have duration of one day and will be held in Washington, DC. The Forum will be dedicated to addressing the topics related to the General Assembly theme, “Toward a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas,” and their links to the pillars of the OAS and the inter-American system, in particular public health, security, democracy, and access to justice.

The morning will consist of a plenary session that will be composed of three panels representing the OAS organs, the General Secretariat, Member States, partner institutions, and CSO and social actor networks to discuss the work of the OAS political bodies and the efforts carried out in support of the implementation of the theme of the General Assembly and other priority topics in the region. Each panelist will make a brief presentation based on the theme of the session. Following the presentations, there will be time for comments by the participants.

In the afternoon sessions, the participants will have the opportunity to dialogue, exchange experiences and formulate their recommendations in a working group that will focus on the aforementioned themes of the General Assembly. The working group will be moderated by a civil society representative and will have a rapporteur responsible for taking notes of the discussions, as well as compiling the various comments and recommendations in order to produce a final outcome document. The work of this group will be supported and facilitated by the Department of International Affairs.

At the end of the day, there will be a plenary session to share the results of the working group, finalize the recommendations from the Forum, and select a representative(s) to present the document to the Member States.

These recommendations will be consolidated into a document to be presented the following day, May 10, by selected CSO and social actor representatives to the OAS Member States via a session of the CISC.

LANGUAGES

The plenary and working group sessions of the 10th Hemispheric Forum with Civil Society and Social Actors will be in English and Spanish.

May 9, 2013

Location: Padilha Vidal Room
OAS General Secretariat Building
1889 F Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006

8:45 am Registration (Terrace Level)**9:00 am Inaugural Session**

- Ambassador Arturo Ulises Vallarino Bartuano, Permanent Representative of Panama to the OAS, Chair of the OAS Permanent Council, Chair of the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (CISC)
- Alfonso Quiñónez, Secretary for External Relations, OAS

9:10 am Introduction of the Forum Methodology and Objectives

- Jorge Sanin, Director of the Department of International Affairs/Secretariat for External Relations, OAS

9:20 am Presentation of the Theme of the 43rd OAS General Assembly

- Ambassador Jose Rodrigo Viemann de Leon, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the OAS

9:45 am First Plenary Session: Challenges to Public Health and the Development of a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas

- Paul Simons, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), OAS
- Luis Alfonzo, Regional Advisor on Substance Abuse, Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
- Lisa Sanchez, Manager, Latin American Program for Drug Policy Reform, México Unido contra la Delincuencia/Transform Drug Policy Foundation

Dialogue with Participants**10:45 am Coffee break****11:00 am Second Plenary Session: Challenges to Public Security and the Development of a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas**

- Alvaro Briones, Department of Public Security, OAS
- Ricardo Vargas, Director, Accion Andina

Dialogue with Participants

- 12:00 pm** **Third Plenary Session: Challenges to Democracy and Access to Justice and the Development of a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas**
- Jean Michel Arrighi, Secretary for Legal Affairs, OAS
 - Roberto Courtney, Executive Director, Grupo Civico Etica y Transparencia
- Dialogue with Participants**
- 1:00 pm** **Lunch**
- 2:00 pm** **Introduction to the Working Group to Prepare the Recommendations Document**
- Martin Huenneke, Chief of Section, Relations with Permanent Observers and Civil Society, Department of International Affairs/Secretariat for External Relations, OAS
- 2:10 pm** **Presentation of the Results of the Virtual Forum “Toward a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas”**
- Jose Luis Vazquez, Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)
- 2:15 pm** **Working Groups to Prepare the Recommendations Document**
- 5:00 pm** **Presentation of the conclusions and recommendations of the Working Groups**
 Selection of three spokespersons for the Special Session of the CISC
- Challenges to Public Health and the Development of a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas
 - Challenges to Public Security and the Development of a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas
 - Challenges to Democracy and Access to Justice and the Development of a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas
- 5:30 pm** **Sessions conclude for the evening and submittal of recommendations to the OAS General Secretariat**

May 10, 2013

Special Session of the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society
Participation in OAS Activities

Date: Friday, May 10, 2013

Time: 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Place: Simon Bolivar Room

- 10:00 a.m. Opening Remarks
- Alfonso Quiñónez, Secretary for External Relations, OAS
 - Ambassador Arturo Ulises Vallarino Bartuano, Permanent Representative of Panama to the OAS, Chair of the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (CISC)
- 10:15 a.m. Presentation of the 10th Hemispheric Forum with Civil Society and Social Actors
- Jorge Sanin, Director of the Department of International Affairs/Secretariat for External Relations, OAS
- 10:20 a.m. Presentation of the Recommendations of the 10th Hemispheric Forum with Civil Society and Social Actors
- Civil Society and Social Actor Representatives
- 10:45 a.m. Interventions by Member State Delegations
- 11:05 a.m. Additional Comments by Civil Society Organizations and Social Actors
- 11:20 a.m. Interventions by Member State Delegations
- 11:30 a.m. Closing