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INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE  
CONTROL COMMISSION

**CICAD**

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

**GROUP OF EXPERTS ON MARITIME NARCOTRAFFICKING**  
**July 16 - 20, 2012**  
**Buenos Aires, Argentina**

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### **DRAFT AGENDA**

1. Opening Session;
2. Introduction and Review:
  - Background;
  - Objectives and CICAD Commission expectations;
  - Schedule of work;
  - Proposed work methodology;
  - Status report on Recommendations;
  - Other issues.
3. Round Table: Discussion of the new issues of concern, challenges and trends sent prior to the meeting to the CICAD's Executive Secretariat that could be assigned to a working group;
4. Presentations:
  - Overview of the Drug Problem in Argentina;
  - Responsibilities and Activities of National Entities Related to the Control of Illicit Drugs.
5. Working Groups: To continue revising and/or finalizing work on issues initiated not approved by the Plenary of the Group of Experts, by the CICAD Commission or to begin work on new issues.
  - Review of the Guide for the Control of "Go Fast" Boats (Colombia/Mexico);  
***Briefing:** The use of "go fast" boats continues to be an important means for narcotraffickers to move illicit drugs and related contraband. During the meeting in 2009 a working group initiated a guide to help member states respond to this threat. The working group finalized the draft guide during*

*the Group of Experts meeting in 2011. In considering this guide the CICAD Commission during its fiftieth regular session (November 2011) noted that the Group of experts has a mandate to review and analyze a problem such as the one related to go-fasts and make recommendations to member states for approval by the Commission. However, this guide with various articles appeared like a model regulation for which the Group did not have a mandate to prepare. As such the Commission did not approve this guide. If the Working Group and Group of Experts wish to pursue this issue it will have to be in the form of a guide or best practices manual in how to deal with this method of narcotrafficking.*

- Review of the Guide for the Control of Narcotrafficking Over Lakes and Riverine Systems (Venezuela);

**Briefing:** *The majority of illicit drugs are being moved by maritime means. While most of the enforcement activities have been focused on interdiction at sea, the systems of rivers and lakes are also being extensively used by narcotraffickers. Building on the discussions that took place during the meeting in 2010 the working group chaired by the delegation of Venezuela revised the draft guide that had been prepared. The working group finalized draft guide and presented it to the Group of Experts for comment and additional modification as required. It was presented to the CICAD Commission during its fiftieth regular session (November 2011). In considering this guide the Commission noted that certain definitions used in the document were not consistent with those adopted in various international treaties. The Commission directed that the Group re-examine the definitions contained in this guide to ensure that they are consistent with those contained in relevant international treaties and conventions.*

- Review of the Guide for Judicial Support (United States/Canada/Panama);

**Briefing:** *In some instances prosecutors and judges are not familiar with the special circumstances surrounding interdiction activities related to maritime narcotrafficking. During the meeting in 2011, a Working Group started to prepare a questionnaire designed to identify the general obstacles relating to the investigation and prosecution of maritime narcotrafficking cases. The original plan of action called on the Working Group to prepare and distribute the questionnaire. Delays in finalizing the questionnaire made it impossible to follow the original plan. The Working Group will finalize the questionnaire and a new plan of action, presenting both at the meeting. The purpose of this questionnaire would be to create a catalogue with the nature and types of problems faced by investigators, prosecutors and the court system in maritime drug trafficking and related crimes. After identifying the obstacles, the Working Group will prepare a series of suggestions and training assistance in a document designed to support the investigation and prosecution of persons involved in maritime trafficking of drugs and chemical precursors. This document would create a practical guide that will*

*allow each country to adopt specific provisions that will fit each country's domestic legislation and experience.*

- Review of the Guide for the Control for Small Vessels: Recreational, pleasure, fishing (Argentina);

***Briefing:*** *Member states are faced with the movement of large numbers of small recreational, pleasure and fishing vessels. This is further complicated by extended coastlines and many private marinas. Many of these vessels are used to move illicit drugs and related contraband either to off load to larger vessels and return to port or to transport these illicit goods to other countries. Under these circumstances it is difficult to monitor the movement of these vessels. During the meeting in 2011, the delegation of Argentina chaired a working group to prepare a guide on methods to control these vessels. The guide will be presented to the Group of Experts for review and approval in 2012.*

- Annual update of the Information Bulletin on Methods and Routes Used to Move Illicit Drugs and Related Contraband by Maritime Means (Dominican Republic);

***Briefing:*** *The meeting of the Group of Experts has been an ideal forum for officials to share information concerning new routes and methods used to move illicit drugs and related contraband. Participants to the meeting were invited to share their experiences and information that they have in this regard. A working group chaired by the delegation of the Dominican Republic compiled an information bulletin of the experiences shared by experts. This item or activity will be included as a basic element in the schedules of activity for all future meetings of this group.*

- Issues of concern identified in the round table;

6. Plan of Action and Recommendations for the CICAD Commission's consideration;
7. Date and place for the 2013 meeting.