**XVI CONFERENCE OF DEFENSE
MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAS
WORKING COMMITTEE
"RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT, APPLICATION
AND GOVERNANCE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
IN THE MILITARY ENVIRONMENT"
MENDOZA, ARGENTINA. OCTOBER 13-16, 2024**

MINUTES

The Meeting of the Working Committee "Responsible Development, Application and Governance of Artificial Intelligence in the Military Environment" was held within the framework of the XVI Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas on October 15, 2024 at 08.00 am. As agreed by the delegates of the member states of the CDMA at the Preparatory Meeting, Canada assumed the role of rapporteur, while the Argentine Republic was the moderator.

I. BACKGROUND AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

A. The Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas, created in 1995, is an international multilateral and political forum directed by the Ministers of Defense of the hemisphere, with authorization from the governments of their respective countries.

B. The key objective of the Conference is to foster reciprocal knowledge, debate, analysis and exchange of ideas and experiences in defense and security matters.

C. The Conference is organized by the Assembly of Member States, the Working Committees and the Pro Tempore Secretariat.

D. The Working Committees are made up of the Member States appointed in the Preparatory Meeting to discuss the Thematic Agenda or the specific issues of the Conference. A Working Committee will be established for each thematic issue which will be presided over by the delegate of the Member State appointed as Moderator and will be supported by a Recording Secretary and the staff appointed by the Host Country.
The Working Committees are reserved. Only the delegates appointed by the Member States and Observers, if authorized at the Preparatory Meeting, will be allowed to participate in such committees.

E. The Thematic Agenda was submitted and approved at the Preparatory Meeting of the XVI CDMA held on June 11 and 12, 2024 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on a virtual modality.

F. At the Preparatory Meeting of the XVI CDMA, the theme "Responsible Development, Application and Governance of Artificial Intelligence in the Military Environment" was approved to be discussed during the Conference. There, it was resolved that Canada will assume the role of rapporteur and the Argentine Republic, of moderator of the Working Committee.

II. PARTICIPANTS

A. Presiding officers of the Working Committee
- Moderator: Juan Pablo García Tiscornia, Ministerio de Defensa de la República Argentina

**XVI CONFERENCE OF DEFENSE
MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAS
WORKING COMMITTEE
"RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT, APPLICATION
AND GOVERNANCE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
IN THE MILITARY ENVIRONMENT"
MENDOZA, ARGENTINA. OCTOBER 13-16, 2024**

- Rapporteur: Scott Millar, Assistant Deputy Minister (Policy), Department of National Defense.

B. Representatives of the Pro Tempore Secretariat of the XVI CDMA

- Juan E. Battaleme Martínez, Secretario General de la XVI CDMA.
- Ana Carolina Podlesker, Secretaria Ejecutiva de la XVI CDMA.

C. National Delegations

1. Argentina

- Daniel Arbol, Coordinador de Planificación para la Defensa del Ministerio de Defensa.
- Leonardo Hekimian, Coordinador de Articulación de Ciencia y Tecnología para la Defensa del Ministerio de Defensa.

2. Bahamas

- Commodore Raymond King.

3. Brazil

- Brigadier General, José Roberto Queiroz, Subjefe de Organismos Internacionales.

4. Canada

- Assistant Deputy Minister (Policy), Department of National Defence.

5. Chile

- Karen Meier, Jefa de división de Relaciones Internacionales dependiente de la Subsecretaría de Defensa.

6. United States

- Koreyan Calloway, Office of the Secretary of Defense.

7. Honduras

- Gral. de Brigada Dagoberto Moncada. Inspector de las Fuerzas Armadas.

8. Jamaica

- Bryce Waugh Latoya, Jefa de Delegación.

9. Guyana

- Captain Britany Van Lage.

10. Mexico

- Cnel. Héctor Maldonado, Subdirector Centro de Operaciones del Ciberespacio dependiente de la Secretaría de Defensa Nacional (SEDENA).

XVI CONFERENCE OF DEFENSE
MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAS
WORKING COMMITTEE
"RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT, APPLICATION
AND GOVERNANCE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
IN THE MILITARY ENVIRONMENT"
MENDOZA, ARGENTINA. OCTOBER 13-16, 2024

11. Panama

- My Wladimir Gonzalez García, Asesor Tecnológico. Ministerio de Seguridad Pública.

12. Paraguay

- Cnel. DCEM, Jorge Ramón Garcete Luraghi, Director de Cooperación y Relaciones Internacionales. Ministerio de Defensa Nacional Paraguayo.

13. Peru

- Guillermo Portillo, Dirección de Asuntos Multilaterales y Cooperación Internacional.

14. Trinidad and Tobago

- Air Vice Marshal Darryl Daniel, Trinidad and Tobago Defence Forces.

15. Uruguay

- Contralmirante Gustavo Luciani, Director de Inteligencia Estratégica.

III. MEETING

A. Presentation of the theme "**Responsible Development, Application and Governance of Artificial Intelligence in the Military Environment" by Canada.**

The main issues discussed were the following:
- Opportunities and challenges of the AI in the military environment.
- The importance of international standards and rules to ensure the responsible and safe use of this technology and its governance.
- The importance of sharing good practices, lessons learned and working together to ensure that the CDMA is a strong and consistent voice in the development of international standards.

B. Exchange of experiences between delegations, after the issue raised by Canada, the delegations of Paraguay, Uruguay, Bahamas, Brazil, Jamaica, United States of America, Chile, Jamaica, Paraguay, Peru, Panama, Argentina, Mexico, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago took the floor and the following conclusions were reached:

C. Conclusions of the Working Committee
After the presentations made by the delegations of Canada and the discussion held by the delegations, it was concluded that:

**XVI CONFERENCE OF DEFENSE
MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAS
WORKING COMMITTEE
"RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT, APPLICATION
AND GOVERNANCE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
IN THE MILITARY ENVIRONMENT"
MENDOZA, ARGENTINA. OCTOBER 13-16, 2024**

- AI in defense and international security issues is a key area to promote reciprocal trust and develop international cooperation, share good practices and experiences, provide training through workshops and working groups by developing technical tools, aim at a common terminology, foster R+D in AI, among other issues to establish agreed standards for the responsible and ethical use of this new technology, taking into account its fast development and constant evolution.

- There is a growing international concern for the responsible use of AI in the military environment, as shown in the recent summit held in Seul in September 2024. There, more than 60 countries signed an action plan (Blueprint for Acción).

- It is important to respect data transparency, integrity and privacy as well as to have the resources necessary to guarantee its responsible use.

- There is a need for international agreement and cooperation to ensure agreed governance for the responsible use of this technology, mainly in the case of lethal autonomous weapon systems, based upon the principles of Humanitarian International Law and in compliance with the criterion to maintain human control and supervision on critical decisions.

- It is important to work together to prevent AI weaponization from being used by national and international organized crime, as well as warring non-state actors.

In short, it is advisable to achieve a common terminology, share and systematize good practices and, consequently, work together on agreed standards, to foster cooperation in terms of AI for Defense.

D. Working Committee´s Recommendations
On account of the issue raised, the Working Committee recommends the following to Defense Ministers and Heads of Delegation.

1. **Ethics and human involvement.** Encourage the ethical use of AI in Defense by strengthening the importance of operating under a human command and control chain in autonomous lethal weapon systems and the supervision of critical decisions which might adversely affect human beings.

2. **Technological inclusion:** Consider the economic and technological diversity of the member States of the CDMA, trying that all of them may move forward in scientific research and technological development of AI for Defense.

3. **Hemispheric cooperation in AI:** Promote mechanisms to strengthen reciprocal trust and hemispheric and regional cooperation which allow member states of the CDMA to share knowledge and good practices and build up agreed standards, as well as to develop technological skills for the application of AI for Defense. For such purpose, contact and communication networks are encouraged to deal with this issue and improve international

**XVI CONFERENCE OF DEFENSE
MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAS
WORKING COMMITTEE
"RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT, APPLICATION
AND GOVERNANCE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
IN THE MILITARY ENVIRONMENT"
MENDOZA, ARGENTINA. OCTOBER 13-16, 2024**

cooperation in such topics, evaluating the possibility of creating a working group.

On October 15, 2024, at 01:00 pm, the Working Committee "The Responsible Development, Application and Governance of Artificial Intelligence in the Military Environment" concluded its activities and signed these Minutes.

It is expressly placed on record that the Executive Secretariat of the XVI CDMA will distribute copies of this document to the Member States in the official languages of this Conference.