



## XIII CONFERENCE OF DEFENSE MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAS

### ANNEX:

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIVE AD-HOC WORKING GROUPS HELD DURING THE XIII CDMA (2017-2018) CYCLE

- A. Ad-Hoc Working Group “**Hemispheric Defense and Security Cooperation Policy: Humanitarian Emergency Assistance**”, created by paragraph 16 of the Declaration of Port of Spain of the 12<sup>th</sup> CDMA, and held in Mexico City, Mexico, from 14 to 18 May 2017.
- a. The importance of promoting along with competent authorities, comprehensive disaster risk management in society, in order to mitigate the effects of a disruptive natural and/or anthropogenic phenomenon.
  - b. The need to improve civil-military coordination during disaster response.
  - c. Enhancing training on disaster response and support to governmental agencies.
  - d. Promoting participation of **CDMA** member States in joint exercises to increase their capabilities, which will be programmed based upon each geographical region’s needs.
  - e. During a disaster, a constant flow of information will be maintained in a centralized manner in order to provide certainty to civil population.
  - f. The affected nation will increase pertinent and timely security measures in disaster zones, in order to guarantee support operations by other countries, as well as security of the general population and their belongings.
  - g. The performance of military personnel shall be timely and in accordance with the law of each country in order to lessen the effects of a disaster.
  - h. To continue holding periodical meetings (twice a year either face to face or virtual) in order to spread lessons learned and share new experiences and adopt them if necessary.
  - i. On the Chilean proposal to establish a Cooperation Mechanism for Disasters and Catastrophes (MECODECA):
    1. To continue the dialogue and work on the proposal.
    2. To create annexes and studies on the technological tools that can be used to advance the proposal, keeping in mind the observations and comments of Conference members.



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- B. Ad-Hoc Working Group “**Progressive Inclusion of Gender Perspective as a Cross-Cutting Issue in Defense and Security Policy**”, created by paragraph 27 of the Declaration of Port of Spain of the 12th CMDA, and held in Panama City, Panama from 20 to 22 September 2017.
- a. Regarding the definition of strategic objectives and action lines to design a path to advance towards institutionalizing the principle of equality and non-discrimination:
    1. To include gender perspective in the field of Defense and Security, from a decision making level to that of operationalization of public policy formulation and evaluation cycle, taking into consideration human resources in this sector, as well as recipients of actions in this field to reduce gender gaps.
    2. To enhance education and awareness raising on gender issues among Defense and Security personnel to understand the complex security environments, while identifying risks and opportunities to provide a lasting and sustainable security for the population without discrimination and in equal conditions.
    3. To promote the eradication of inequality and discrimination between men and women in different vulnerable situations that may affect them, in order to advance towards a cultural change that reflects population diversity and their strategic and practical needs.
  - b. Regarding factors that foster gender equality and the needs identified in the work sphere:
    1. Effective compliance with laws, regulations, policies and rules on gender equality, as well as supervision and control of each institution.
    2. Fundamental education for boys and girls in an equal manner, without distinction of social condition or race.
    3. The areas in institutions in charge of gender issues must conduct constant awareness raising campaigns for internal and external public.
    4. Defense sector strategic alliances with media, academic institutions, research and human rights centers and women organizations, among others.
    5. Set up and implementation of training programs on gender for society at large, and particularly for media.



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6. Have human rights organizations or their equivalents in charge of gender issues, within the Defense Ministries in CDMA Members Countries perform actions to promote budget allocation for activities that foster gender equality mainstreaming to each institution involved.
  7. Have human rights organizations or equivalent in charge of gender issues implement workshops regarding equal treatment between men and women.
- c. Regarding promoting men's participation in the development of gender policies:
1. That Ministers of Defense and Security order their Staffs or decision making commands to raise awareness regarding existing policies on gender equality to men in their institutions.
  2. To incorporate men in the decision making process on proposed gender perspective projects.
  3. To include in the curricula of all education levels of the **CDMA** member countries subjects on gender equality and non-discrimination.
  4. Continue discussing gender perspective during the XIV **CDMA**.
- C. Ad-Hoc Working Group **“The Participation of Defense and Security Forces Regarding Environmental Protection and Climate Resilience”** created by paragraph 25 of the Declaration of Port of Spain of the 12th CDMA, held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, from 14 to 15 February 2018.
- a. Strengthening sustainable practices in life-cycle management of equipment and infrastructure.
  - b. Developing and/or strengthening strategies and processes to adapt to the impacts of climate change on the defense and security sector.
  - c. Possible environmental effects before conducting operations, exercises, and training.
  - d. Implementing initiatives to protect the environment, such as: integrating awareness training for personnel, encouraging energy-conscious behaviors, and considering environmental sustainability in all decision making processes and activities.
  - e. Developing a compendium of best practices among Member Countries of the **CDMA** regarding actions and efforts for environmental protection and climate resilience.



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- f. Continuing the exchange of best practices within **CDMA** Member States regarding actions and efforts in environmental protection and climate resilience.
  - g. Continue discussions on this issue during the 14th **CMDA**.
- D. Ad-Hoc Working Group “**The Evolving Role of the Armed Forces in Defense and Security**” created by paragraph 13 of the Declaration of Port of Spain of the 12th CDMA, held in Washington DC, United States of America, on 22 March 2018.
- a. That a discussion of the evolving role of the Armed Forces be adopted as one of the themes for this and the following Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas.
  - b. That **CDMA** Member States continue to share best practices and lessons learned with regard to the topics discussed in this Ad Hoc Working Group, especially as they pertain to the role of the Armed Forces in supporting law enforcement missions. That the Inter-American Defense Board support this effort as part of its mission to preserve institutional memory.
  - c. That **CDMA** Member States develop a compendium of best practices in the hemisphere regarding approaches to securing cyber space. Additionally, to conduct an Ad Hoc group on cyber defense during the 14th CDMA.
- E. Ad-Hoc Working Group “**The Development of Cooperation Mechanisms in the Field of Search and Rescue**”, created by paragraph 8 of the Declaration of Port of Spain of the 12th CDMA, held in Mexico City, Mexico, from 8 to 12 April 2018.
- a. Integration of the SAR data compendium to all CDMA Member States and its distribution to all organizations and Ministries responsible for humanitarian assistance.
  - b. To continually update and annually validate the SAR data compendium using the digital platform of the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB).
  - c. To acknowledge the particular situation of Haiti and its search and rescue training needs.
  - d. To continue developing cooperation and coordination mechanisms regarding search and rescue during the 14th CDMA, by organizing an Ad Hoc Working Group to analyze the feasibility of organizing SAR Mobile Training Teams amongst the CDMA Member States to provide such training to requesting countries.