

# **XI CONFERENCE OF DEFENSE MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAS**

## **MINUTE OF THE PLENARY SESSION, OCTOBER 13, 2014**

The representative of the President of the XI Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas, Vice Minister of Defense Jakke Raimo Valakivi Alvarez, opened the Plenary Session of the ministerial meeting, in Arequipa, Arequipa Region, Republic of Peru, on October 13, 2013, at 15:13 hours, in the Conventions Room of Libertador Hotel:

With the participation of the Authorities of the Head Table:

The representative of the President of the XI Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas, Vice Minister of Defense Jakke Raimo Valakivi Alvarez, invited the Delegation of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana to take the floor to address the plenary.

The moderator of Thematic Axis 1 (Peru), Peruvian Navy Rear Admiral Santiago Llop Meseguer, was invited to read the conclusions for Thematic Axis 1 “Coordination Among Specialized Conferences of the Armed Forces with the CDMA.”

Rear Admiral Santiago Llop Meseguer read the conclusions for Thematic Axis 1, as stated in the Minute, for the aforementioned Thematic Axis.

The representative of the President of the XI Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas, Vice Minister of Defense Jakke Raimo Valakivi Alvarez, asked if any delegate wished to take the floor.

Argentina took the floor to thank Peru and the other countries for their work.

Nicaragua took the floor and expressed its disagreement with the conclusions presented by the Working Committee for Thematic Axis 1, since it considers that given the nature of the specialized conferences, the CDMA has no competency on these matters.

Bolivia agrees with Nicaragua in its disagreement since it is not a member of the IADB.

It is recorded that Bolivia and Nicaragua disagree with this paragraph.

Colombia asked to record the disagreement of Nicaragua and Bolivia on this matter in the Minute.

Venezuela expressed its agreement with the position of Nicaragua and Bolivia.

The representative of the President of the XI Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas, Vice Minister of Defense Jakke Raimo Valakivi Alvarez, asked the moderator to record the position of Venezuela, Nicaragua and Bolivia in the Minute.

The moderator of Thematic Axis 1 (United States), Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Grenier, was invited to read the conclusions for Thematic Axis 2 “Cooperation at the Military Health Level.”

Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Grenier read the conclusions for Thematic Axis 2, as stated in the Minute, for the aforementioned Thematic Axis.

The representative of the President of the XI Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas, Vice Minister of Defense Jakke Raimo Valakivi Alvarez, thanked him and proposed the appropriate discussion.

Colombia took the floor and welcomed the creation of points of contact, stating that it should not only remain just as a list, but also appropriate actions should be taken and something should be done to go beyond the simple contacts list.

It was proposed to continue with discussions on this matter during the next conference.

Colombia thinks it is not necessary to wait for two years to achieve something.

The representative of the President of the XI Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas, Vice Minister of Defense Jakke Raimo Valakivi Alvarez, said that it had been agreed to be discussed during a next phase.

Nicaragua agrees with what was aforementioned, requested a hard copy of the conclusions and their projection since it is necessary to see the documents to have a clearer idea of what is being discussed.

The moderator of Thematic Axis 3 (the Dominican Republic), Colonel Frank Mauricio Cabrera Rizek, was invited to read the conclusions for Thematic Axis 3 “Cooperation in Search and Rescue Capabilities.”

Colonel Frank Mauricio Cabrera Rizek read the conclusions for Thematic Axis 3, as stated in the Minute, for the aforementioned Thematic Axis.

Chile took the floor to thank member countries of the Working Committee for Thematic Axis 3 and Peru for the excellent organization of the event.

Nicaragua took the floor to share some views on the subject; in this sense, within the context of the CMDA, it emphasizes that the military component is subordinate to civilian authority and does not decide on these issues.

Venezuela and Bolivia agrees with Nicaragua.

The moderator asked members to reach consensus.

Nicaragua took the floor to say that Central America is the most vulnerable region to climate change. The point of discussion it wants to share is to come to the understanding that search and rescue is born through protocols, and propose to analyze if this conference has the necessary mechanisms to enforce this thematic axis.

The moderator said he noted that few defense ministers are military and most are civilians. On the subject of search and rescue, saving lives is all that is needed. He appeals to the humanitarian side of the minister to Nicaragua to join the effort to save lives in joint and combined operations.

Chile seeks cooperation from all countries to reach an agreement. It states they are willing to work on a consensus proposal.

Colombia states that to cover the points of the Minister of Nicaragua, an exception in the paragraph must be made.

Venezuela, Nicaragua and Colombia are invited to agree on the text of this thematic axis.

The Plenary closed the session at 16:28 hrs, and participants were invited to the welcoming dinner.

**Pedro Cateriano Bellido**  
**PRESIDENT OF THE XI CONFERENCE OF DEFENSE MINISTERS OF THE**  
**AMERICAS, MINISTER OF DEFENSE OF THE REPUBLIC OF PERU**