



*Ad Hoc Working Group Meeting on  
A proposal of alternatives for coordination between the Conferences of Defense Ministers of the  
Americas and the specialized conferences of the Armed Forces*

Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago  
3 August 2015

Whereas the Ministers of Defense and Heads of Delegation of the participating countries at the Eleventh Conference of Defence Ministers of the Americas (XI CDMA) expressed in the Declaration of Arequipa:

*“Their recognition of the contribution of the military conferences of the Hemisphere in strengthening integration, stability and peace in the Hemisphere and ratifying the principles of political leadership of defense and the armed forces, one finds it necessary to coordinate the CAA, CNI, CONJEFAMER, by the XII CDMA. As such it is encouraged that the agendas of each specialized conference of the armed forces be adapted to the CMDA in order that each ministerial conference can receive the reports of the specialized conferences in the period before, and the CDMA guide future conferences in accordance with what was established in the final declaration;*

*To that end one agrees to the establishment of an Ad Hoc working group in an open and voluntary manner to prepare a proposal of alternatives for coordination between the conferences of Ministers of Defense of the Americas and the specialized conferences of the armed forces. This group will be constituted by the host country of the current conference and the host country of the XII CDMA and other voluntary collaborators, and will hold their first meeting in the first half of 2015”*

And Whereas:

A meeting of an open and voluntary Ad Hoc Working Group was convened on August 3, 2015, in Port of Spain, by the host country of the XII CDMA – Trinidad and Tobago, and was attended by other voluntary collaborators – Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru and the United States, as well as the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB), and the Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies (The Perry Center); and



The Pro Tempore Secretariat for the XII CDMA, pursuant to the decisions agreed to by the participants at the Ad Hoc Working Group Meeting held on August 3, 2015, and in accordance with its responsibilities as the Executive Secretariat as provided for in Article 22 of the CDMA Regulations, has undertaken to circulate the following Draft Recommendations seeking to articulate '*A proposal of alternatives for coordination between the Conferences of Defense Ministers of the Americas and the specialized conferences of the armed forces*':

The following proposals<sup>1</sup> were agreed upon by the participants at the Ad Hoc Working Group Meeting, which was convened to discuss *alternatives for coordination between the Conferences of Defence Ministers of the Americas and the specialized conferences of the Armed Forces*:

These recommendations will be taken forward for consideration at the relevant sessions of the XII CDMA.

- i. The Host Country of the next CDMA should meet with representatives from each specialized conferences (CAA, CNI, SICOFAA), to receive their input into the development of the thematic agenda for the CDMA;
- ii. The Pro Tempore Presidency of each specialized conference should be invited to deliver a report on the outcome of their conference proceedings to the CDMA and to provide insight on future work programmes;
- iii. The Pro Tempore Presidency of each specialized conference should be invited to take into account the outcome documents of the CDMA and comment as required;
- iv. Representatives of the Pro Tempore Presidency of the CDMA and of each specialized conference should be invited to attend the meetings of each Conference;
- v. The Inter-American Defense Board (IADB) could be requested to provide technical support to the Pro Tempore Secretariat of the CDMA in order to facilitate coordination, cooperation and collaboration between the specialized conferences and the CDMA; and
- vi. Member Countries should establish a network of points of contact to liaise with the Pro Tempore Secretariat with the aim of enhancing the coordination between the specialized conferences of the Armed Forces and the CDMA and provide the necessary reports.

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<sup>1</sup> Nicaragua registered its reservations in respect of the recommendations.