



X CONFERENCE OF DEFENSE MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAS

Punta del Este

October 8th to 10th, 2012

THEMATIC AXIS I:

Natural Disasters, Protection of the Environment and Biodiversity

Moderating Country (Guatemala): ***Colonel D.E.M. Edgar Fernando Rodríguez Ruiz***

Reporting Country (Chile): General Jorge Robles Mella

Co-Reporting Country (Canada): Colonel Todd Balfe

Co-Reporting Country (Trinidad and Tobago): Colonel Rodney Smart

Co-Reporting Country (Uruguay): Ambassador Ricardo Varela

Representative of the Executive Secretariat (Uruguay): Deputy General Director of the Secretariat Carlos Villar

The Working Committee met to analyze the topic *Natural Disasters, Protection of the Environment and Biodiversity*, based on the document submitted by the Republic of Chile. In this regard, and in absence of consensus, pursuant to item d) of article 67 of the CDMA Rules of Procedure, the Commission on Thematic Axis I submits two Compromise Drafts to the Plenary of the Conference which read as follows:



PROPOSAL I

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In view of the request made at the 9th Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas, held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Plurinational State of Bolivia, in November 2010, during which a further analysis of the topic of strengthening assistance in case of natural disasters was proposed;

Considering the proposal submitted by the Report of the Working Group on Natural Disasters concerning the strengthening of Inter-American cooperation in the event of natural disasters.

The Commission on the Thematic Axis I recommends:

Accept and agree to the proposal of the "Mechanism of exchange of information on capacities in support of natural disasters", presented by the Rapporteur of the Working Group which may be eventually adopted.

In this respect the Ministries of Defense will submit the proposal for the consideration of the responsible national authorities of each State with primary competence in the matter. Countries' participation will be voluntary in compliance with their own legal system.

Likewise, ask the Pro-Tempore Secretariat to make this matter known and to submit it for consideration through the relevant channels of other organizations at hemispheric, regional and sub-regional levels, which have competence over matters of natural disasters.



PROPOSAL 2:

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In view of the request made at the 9th Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas, held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Plurinational State of Bolivia, in November 2010, to continue with the analysis of the item on strengthening assistance in case of natural disasters; and

Considering the proposal submitted by the Report of the Working Group on Natural Disasters concerning the strengthening of Inter-American cooperation in the event of natural disasters.

The Commission on the Thematic Axis I recommends:

1. To accept for evaluation purposes the proposal of the "Mechanism of exchange of information on capacities in support of natural disasters", presented by the Rapporteur of the Working Group.
2. In this respect, the Ministries of Defense shall submit the proposal to be studied by the responsible national authorities of each country with primary competence in the matter.
3. Likewise, ask the Pro-Tempore Secretariat to make this matter known and submit the topic for consideration through the relevant channels of other organizations at hemispheric, regional, and sub-regional levels, which have competence over matters of natural disasters.

In faith whereof and the recommendations contained in the two submitted drafts, the present document is executed in four counterparts in Spanish, French, English and Portuguese.



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Moderating Country (Guatemala)

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