



## XIII Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas



### **PREPARATORY MEETING** Mexico City, June 4-6, 2018

The Preparatory Meeting of the XIII CDMA was organized by the Secretariat of the National Defense of Mexico, through a Pro-Tempore Secretariat and took place in the Presidente Intercontinental Hotel, Polanco, Mexico City, on June 4-6, 2018.

#### **I. BACKGROUND**

- A. The Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas (CDMA) is an international multilateral political forum integrated and directed by the Ministers of Defense of the Americas, with the authorization of the government of the respective countries. Additionally, based on Article 2 of the Regulations, it has the main objective to promote reciprocal knowledge, the analysis, the debate, and the exchange of ideas and experiences in the field of Defense and Security.
- B. During the XII CDMA, held in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, on October 2016, the Ministers of Defense agreed, in the “Declaration of Port-of-Spain” to establish five Ad Hoc Working Groups for the 2017-2018 cycle of the Conference in different member countries to discuss fundamental issues for the Hemisphere in matters of:
  - a. Cooperation and Coordination Mechanisms on Search and Rescue.
  - b. The Evolving Role of the Armed Forces on Defense and Security
  - c. Defense Cooperation and Hemispheric Security Policy Emergency Humanitarian Relief
  - d. Role of Defense and Security Forces on Environmental Protection and Climate Resilience
  - e. Progressive inclusion of Gender Perspective as a Cross-Cutting Issue in Defense and Security Policy.

#### **II. Legal Framework**

Based on the Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas’ Regulations, it is established that:

- A. The Preparatory Meeting is an assembly type meeting. It should be held at least four months prior to the Conference, with the main objective of approving the Thematic Agenda to be analyzed in the ministerial meeting. The Preparatory Meeting is attended by the delegates of Member States with the right to vote.
- B. For purposes of planning its activities, the Preparatory Meeting will have the following basic documents prepared by the Executive Secretariat, The proposed Thematic Agenda for the Conference, tentative proposals for updating the Conference Regulations, the administrative instructions for the Conference, a report on the candidates for host country, and the draft of the proposed Declaration.

- C. The plenary of the Preparatory Meeting will have the authority to define the Draft Thematic Agenda by seeking consensus or by a majority of votes, if necessary. In any case, a limited number of themes should be considered in accordance with the available time at the Conference.
- D. The definitive Thematic Agenda will be recorded in the Minutes of the Preparatory Meeting and disseminated by the Executive Secretariat before the Conference. After the Thematic Agenda is approved, only urgent matters may be added with the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Member countries.
- E. The Preparatory Meeting, under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General of the Conference, will be organized according to the same criteria established for the Conference of Ministers.

### **III. PARTICIPANT DELEGATIONS**

#### **A. Representative of the XIII CDMA**

- a. Brigade General, Staff Officer Graduate David Rivera Medina, General Secretary of the XIII Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas.
- b. Group General, Military Pilot, Air Staff Officer Graduate, Sergio Sotelo Bustos, Executive Secretary of the XIII CDMA.
- c. Infantry Lt Col Staff Officer Graduate Salvador Bárcena López, Chief of Agreements of the XIII CDMA.
- d. Infantry Major Staff Officer Graduate Oscar Hernández Reyes, Deputy Chief of Agreements of the XIII CDMA.

#### **B. Member Country Delegates**

- a. Argentina, Mr. José Luis Vila, Undersecretary of Defense for International Affairs
- b. Barbados, Mjr Junior Browne, Defense Forces of Barbados
- c. Belize, Honorable John Birchman Saldivar, National Security Minister
- d. Bolivia, Army General José Luís Begazo Ampuero, Vice Minister of Defense and Integral Development Cooperation
- e. Brazil, Division General Pedro Paulo de Mello Braga, Deputy Chief of Defense Ministry's International Organizations.
- f. Canada, Ms. Tracy Brûlé, Section Head, Latin America and the Caribbean, Western Hemisphere Policy Department of National Defense
- g. Chile, Mr. Cristián de la Maza Riquelme, Defense Undersecretary
- h. Colombia, Mr. Anibal Fernández de Soto Camacho, Vice Minister of Defense for International Affairs and Policies.
- i. Ecuador, MSc. Diego Fernando Gómez Orejuela, Vice Minister of National Defense
- j. El Salvador, Infantry Lt Col, DEM Carlos Alberto Ramírez Hernández, Defense Policy Head.
- k. United States of America, Mr. Sergio de la Peña, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense in Western Hemisphere Affairs (DASD-WHA).
- l. Guatemala, Brigade General Jorge Roberto Ruiz Serovic, Vice Minister of Defense Policy and Planning of the National Defense Ministry.
- m. Guyana, Lt Col Lorraine Foster, Staff Officer

- n. Haiti, Mr. Louis Emile Leveque, Under Director of Foreign Cooperation of the Defense Ministry
- o. Honduras, Division General Raynel Enrique Funes Ponce, Deputy Chief of the Joint Staff
- p. Jamaica, Brigadier David Cummings, Deputy Chief of Defense Staff
- q. Mexico, Brigadier General, DEM. Porfirio Fuentes Vélez, Chief of the S5 (Strategic Planning), National Defense Staff
- r. Nicaragua, Mr. Iván Lara Palacios, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs for Legal Affairs
- s. Panama, Commissioner, DEM. Eric Estrada, General Director of the National Border Service
- t. Paraguay, Rear Admiral (R) Américo Ibarra Collar, Vice Minister of National Defense
- u. Peru, Division General (R) Hernán Felipe Flores Ayala, Vice Minister for Defense Policies
- v. Dominican Republic, Major General José Eugenio Matos de la Cruz, Vice Minister of Defense for Military Affairs
- w. Santa Lucia, Hon. Heremenegild Francis, Minister for Home Affairs, Justice and National Security
- x. Trinidad and Tobago, Col. Roger Carter, Defense Attaché in Washington, DC, USA.
- y. Uruguay, Col. Wilson García Croquis, Defense Attaché of the Embassy of Uruguay in Mexico
- z. Venezuela, Major General Tito José Urbano Meleán, Vice Minister of Education for the Defense

C. Observer Organization

Inter-American Defense Board (IADB) Brigade General Stephen M. Lacroix General Director of the IADB's Secretariat.

#### IV. DEVELOPMENT OF THE EVENT

- A. **Inauguration Ceremony** Division General, DEM, Pedro Felipe Gurrola Ramírez, Inspector and General Comptroller of the Mexican Army and Air Force, gave the opening remarks and then declared open the Preparatory Meeting of the XIII CDMA. He welcomed the participating delegations.
- B. **Official photograph.** It was presided over by the Inspector and Comptroller General of the Army and Air Force, accompanied by the Delegates of the participating Member countries.
- C. **Activity report of the Pro-Tempore Secretariat.** Group General, Aviator, DEMA, Sergio Sotelo Bustos, Executive Secretary of the XIII CMDA presented the activities report of the XIII CMDA (2017-2018).
- D. **Presentation of conclusions and recommendations of the Ad-Hoc Working Groups.** In order to inform the attending Delegates of the results of the Working Groups held during the XIII CMDA cycle, the Presidents of the Ad-Hoc Groups presented the

following conclusions and recommendations: (ANNEX "A" CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AD-HOC WORKING GROUPS CARRIED OUT DURING THE XIII CMDA, CYCLE 2017-2018).

- E. **Presentation of the program of activities for the XIII CMDA.** The Executive Secretary presented to the consideration of the delegates, the program of activities for the Ministerial Meeting to be held from October 7 to 10, 2018.

Date	Time of the day	Activity
<b><u>Sunday</u></b> Oct. 7, 2018	Day	Arrival of delegations
		Accreditation at the hotel
		Bilateral meetings (upon request of Member countries)
	Night	Welcoming Cocktail (all delegations participate)
<b><u>Monday</u></b> Oct. 8, 2018	Morning	Opening of Plenary Session
		Official Photograph
		Remarks from the Ministers
	Afternoon	High level panels
	Night	Evening walk (Minister and their spouses)
<b><u>Tuesday</u></b> Oct. 9, 2018	Morning	Plenary Session
	Afternoon	Closing Ceremony
	Night	Evening show (Minister and their spouses)
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b> Oct. 10, 2018	Day	Bilateral meetings (upon request of Member countries)
		Departure of Delegations

- F. **Presentation and approval of the thematic agenda for the XIV CMDA.** The Executive Secretary presented to the plenary of the Preparatory Meeting, the proposal for the integration of the Thematic Agenda. The Delegates agreed to establish it as follows:
- a. Organize an Ad-Hoc Working Group that addresses the topics "Cooperation in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HA/DR)" and "Cooperation and

Coordination on Search and Rescue (SAR)” allowing the exchange of experiences and best practices about the participation of Defense Forces and Security regarding environmental protection and climate resilience. This Working Group will be hosted by the Dominican Republic on a date to be defined.

- b. Organize an Ad-Hoc Working Group that continues to address the "Evolution of the Role of the Armed Forces in Defense and Security" that includes cyber-security as a tool for Defense and Security of the Hemisphere as well as the theme of Transnational Organized Crime. This Working Group will be hosted by the United States of America on a date to be defined.
  - c. Organize an Ad-Hoc Working Group that continues discussing the theme of the inclusion of Gender Perspective as a cross-cutting issue in the Defense and Security Policies in the hemisphere, with the purpose of reaching gender equality and eradicating any kind of discrimination based on gender in the Defense and Security Forces. This Working Group will be hosted by the Republic of Panama on a date to be defined.
- G. **Report of postulations to host the XIV and the XV CMDA.** Brigade General, DEM David Rivera Medina, General Secretary of the XIII CMDA, invited the attending delegates to inform of their nominations to host the XIV and XV CMDA. The following postulations were presented:
- a. The Cooperative Republic of Guyana expressed its offer to host the XIV CMDA during the 2019-2020 cycle.
  - b. The Republic of Chile expressed its offer to host the XIV CMDA during the 2019-2020 cycle.
  - c. The Federative Republic of Brazil expressed its offer to host the XV CMDA during the 2021-2022 cycle.
- H. **Integration of the style committee for the XIII CMDA and procedure for bilateral meetings.** The Delegates for the Preparatory Meeting agreed to integrate the Style Committee for the XIII CMDA as follows:

Language	Delegates	Countries
Spanish	Sr. Christian Clay Mendoza	Mexico
	Sr. Andrés Villar Gertner	Chile
English	Lt. Col. Steven Guilbault	Canada
	Mr. Joseph Lontos	United States of America
Portuguese	Pending definition	Brazil
	Pending definition	
French	Mr. Louis Emile Leveque	Haiti
	Mr. Luc Garvey Jean Pierre	

Furthermore, the Executive Secretary of the XIII CDMA, manifested to participating delegates that in case their were interest to hold bilateral, trilateral or multilateral

meetings, they should organize directly with interested parties, and must inform the Pro Tempore Secretariat in due time, so as to include them in the calendar and make necessary logistical arrangements.

- I. **Presentation and approval of the list of observers of the XIII CMDA.** The Secretary General of XIII CMDA, presented to the plenary, the list of countries or organizations proposed to attend the ministerial meeting as observers, which were ratified by an absolute majority of the States present, as follows:
  - a. Ministry of Defense of Spain
  - b. Inter-American Defense Board (IADB).
  - c. Conference of American Armies (CAA)
  - d. Inter-American Naval Conference (INC)
  - e. System of Cooperation Among the American Air Forces (SICOFAA)
  - f. Committee of Hemispheric Security of the Organization of American States
  - g. William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies.
  - h. International Committee of the Red Cross (CICR)
  - i. Center for Strategic Studies in Security of Colombia (CREES)
- J. **Presentation, review and approval of the Draft Declaration.** The Executive Secretary of the XIII CDMA presented to the Preparatory Meeting plenary the Draft Declaration; after being analyzed attending Delegates agreed to approve it and present it to the Ministers of Defense and Security during the XIII CDMA next October, as follows: (ANNEX "B" DRAFT DECLARATION OF CANCUN)
- K. Assisting delegates from Member States unanimously thanked and congratulated the General-Secretary and the Executive Secretary for the excellent organization and direction of this Preparatory Meeting.
- L. **Closing Ceremony** Brigade General, DEM, David Rivera Medina, Secretary General of the XIII CMDA, declared officially closed the Preparatory Meeting, thanking for the attendance of the participating Delegations, he then proceed to the signing of this Act.

## V. SIGNATURES

General Secretary of the XIII CDMA

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Brigade General DEM David Rivera Medina

Delegate of Argentina

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Mr. José Luis Vila

Delegate of Barbados

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Major Junior Browne

Delegate of Belize

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Hon. John Birchman Saldivar

Delegate of Bolivia

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Army General José Luis Begazo Ampuero

Delegate of Brazil

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Division General Pedro Paulo de Mello  
Braga

Delegate of Canada

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Ms. Tracy Brûlé

Delegate of Chile

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Mister Cristián de la Maza Riquelme.

Delegate of Colombia

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Colonel Héctor Edison Gómez Manchego

Delegate of Ecuador

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MSc. Diego Fernando Gómez Orejuela

Delegate of El Salvador

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Infantry Colonel DEM Carlos Alberto Ramírez  
Hernández

Delegate of the United States of America

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Delegate of Guatemala

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Mr. Sergio de la Peña

Brigade General Jorge Roberto Ruiz Serovic

Delegate of Guyana

Delegate of Haiti

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Lieutenant Colonel Lorraine Foster

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Mr. Louis Emile Leveque

Delegate of Honduras

Delegate of Jamaica

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Division General Raynel Enrique Funes Ponce

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Brigadier David Cummings

Delegate of México

Delegate of Nicaragua

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Brigadier General DEM Porfirio Fuentes  
Vélez

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Mister Iván Lara Palacios

Delegate of Panama

Delegate of Paraguay

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Commisioner DEM. Eric Estrada

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Rear Admiral (R) Américo Ibarra Collar

Delegate of Peru

Delegate of Dominic Republic

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Division General (R) Hernán Felipe Flores  
Ayala

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Major General José Eugenio Matos de la Cruz



Delegate of Saint Lucia

Delegate of Trinidad and Tobago

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Honorable Heremenegild Francis

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Colonel Roger Carter

Delegate of Uruguay

Delegate of Venezuela

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Colonel Wilson García

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Major General Tito José Urbano Meleán