COMMITTEE ON PARTNERSHIP OEA/Ser.W

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PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING THE STUDY ON

TOOLS AND ENTITIES OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM

TO ADDRESS NATURAL DISASTER RESPONSE

(Adopted by the Committee at the meeting of January 30, 2020)

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The Department of Sustainable Development of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), pursuant to the mandate contained in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 2939 (XLIX-O/19), presented a brief analysis of each of the tools and instruments that the inter-American system has to address natural disaster response.

The purpose of the Study, document CIDI/CPD/doc.188/19 rev. 1 is to provide member states with a description of the current status of the tools and entities of the system; the challenges for their effective use; the rationale for including changes in their functions and structure; and options for enhancing the role of the Organization of American States in building capacity for disaster preparedness and response, as well as in facilitating international response.

The revised version of the Study was presented to the Committee on Partnership for Development Policies at its meeting on December 16, 2019. On that occasion, member states agreed to review each of the tools and entities included in the Study individually, in order to agree on the relevant recommendations to be submitted for consideration by the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI).

The above-mentioned mandate states: “11. Building on the mandate established by paragraph 13 of resolution [AG/RES. 2916 (XLVIII-O/18)](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_18/CIDIS00003e02.doc) to instruct SEDI to conduct – in coordination with the relevant areas of the OAS and the Inter-American system, in particular the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS) and the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CSH) – a study, within available resources, of existing tools and entities established within the inter-American system to address natural disaster response, and to report such findings to a joint meeting of the Permanent Council and CIDI by the end of 2019. The study shall include: (1) the future structure, responsibilities, and membership of the Inter-American Committee for Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR); (2) the future of the [Inter-American Emergency Aid Fund] FONDEM, specifically whether it should be abolished or replaced with an instrument that can facilitate the orderly and timely transfer of post-disaster assistance between member states and affected countries; (3) the future of the Inter-American Convention on the Facilitation of Disaster Assistance; (4) the Inter-American Network for Disaster Mitigation (INDM); and (5) the experiences of member states that have been affected in engaging with these entities.”

For its part, operative paragraph 13 of resolution  [AG/RES. 2916 (XLVIII-O/18)](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_18/CIDIS00003e02.doc) says: “To instruct Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) to present for consideration by the CIDI, a proposal to facilitate, as resources permit, the response to disasters and to strengthen the collaborative provision of assistance by member states, permanent observers and other entities to member states affected by disasters, with a view to aligning and optimizing the use of all existing instruments and mechanisms of the OAS; strengthening coordination and collaboration within the framework of the instruments and entities of the inter-American system and sub-regional mechanisms; and functioning in a coordinated manner with existing mechanisms and agencies of the United Nations (UN) System and other international entities.”

In order to advance the discussions as agreed, the Committee has decided to adopt the following working procedure:

* The Secretariat will make successive presentations on each of the tools and entities included in the Study at formal meetings of the Committee. The presentations will be included as items on the order of business of the meeting in question. The presentations will be made by representatives from all areas of the Secretariat that are involved with the operation of each tool or entity. The presentations will attempt to answer the following questions and others that may arise during the discussions:
* Background
* How does the tool/entity currently operate?
* How many times has it gone into operation in the last five years in disaster situations?
* What benefits would the adoption of the changes suggested in the Study bring?

In the case of the Inter-American Emergency Aid Fund (FONDEM):

* Which countries have made contributions in recent years?
* An informal meeting of the Committee will follow each formal meeting. During informal meetings, delegations will review information received from the Secretariat and advance discussions to agree on recommendations to be adopted on the tool/entity considered at the preceding formal meeting.
* At the following formal meeting, an attempt will be made to agree on the recommendations discussed at the previous informal meeting on the tool/entity considered, without prejudice to their comprehensive review at the conclusion of the discussions on the entire contents of the Study. At the same formal meeting, information will be received from the Secretariat on another tool/entity to which the Study refers. The formal meeting will be followed by an informal meeting for the purpose described in the preceding paragraph.

In that way, all elements of the Study will be reviewed until agreements are reached on each one, and thus comprehensively on them all.

* After the individual review of each element, a formal meeting will adopt the agreed comprehensive recommendations on the Study for submission to CIDI for its consideration in order to fulfill the mandate contained in operative paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 2939 (XLIX-O/19).

To perform this task, the following schedule of meetings is proposed:

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| Thursday  January 30, 2020  2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  Padilha Vidal Room | * Study on tools and entities of the inter-American system to address natural disaster response   + - * + Procedure for its analysis         + Agreement on the schedule         + Inter-American Emergency Aid Fund (FONDEM), Presentation by the Secretariat |
| INFORMAL MEETING  Tuesday  February 4, 2020  2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  Padilha Vidal Room | * Study on tools and entities of the inter-American system to address natural disaster response   + - * + Inter-American Emergency Aid Fund (FONDEM) |
| Tuesday  February 18, 2020  10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  Padilha Vidal Room | * Study on tools and entities of the inter-American system to address natural disaster response   + - * + Agreement on recommendations in relation to the Inter-American Emergency Aid Fund (FONDEM)         + Inter-American Convention to Facilitate Disaster Assistance, Presentation by the Secretariat |
| INFORMAL MEETING  Tuesday  February 25, 2020  2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  Padilha Vidal Room | * Study on tools and entities of the inter-American system to address natural disaster response   + - * + Inter-American Convention to Facilitate Disaster Assistance |
| Tuesday  March 3, 2020  10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  Padilha Vidal Room | * Study on tools and entities of the inter-American system to address natural disaster response   + - * + Agreement on recommendations in relation to the Inter-American Convention to Facilitate Disaster Assistance         + Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR), Presentation by the Secretariat |
| INFORMAL MEETING  Tuesday  March 10, 2020  10:00 a.m. – 1:00 pm  Gabriela Mistral Room | * Study on tools and entities of the inter-American system to address natural disaster response   + - * + Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR) |
| Wednesday  March 18, 2020  10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  Padilha Vidal Room | * Study on tools and entities of the inter-American system to address natural disaster response   + - * + Agreement on recommendations in relation to the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR)         + Inter-American Network for Disaster Mitigation (INDM), Presentation by the Secretariat |
| INFORMAL MEETING  Monday  March 23, 2020  2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  Gabriela Mistral Room | * Study on tools and entities of the inter-American system to address natural disaster response   + - * + Inter-American Network for Disaster Mitigation (INDM)         + Consideration of recommendations for CIDI |
| Tuesday  April 14, 2020  10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  Padilha Vidal Room | * Adoption of recommendations on the Study on tools and entities of the inter-American system to address natural disaster response |

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