COMMITTEE ON PARTNERSHIP OEA/Ser.W

FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICIESCIDI/CPD/doc.200/20 rev.3

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CONSIDERATION OF THE STUDY ON THE

TOOLS AND ENTITIES OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM TO ADDRESS NATURAL DISASTER RESPONSE, document CIDI/CPD/188/19 rev.1

RECOMMENDATIONS

(Agreed by the Committee during the meeting held September 11, 2020)

1. RELATED TO THE INTER-AMERICAN EMERGENCY AID FUND (FONDEM)

Based on the Study “Tools and Entities of the Inter-American System to Address Natural Disasters” [CIDI/CPD/doc.188/19 rev.1, Section 1: Inter-American Emergency Fund (FONDEM)] and the information provided by the Secretariat in CIDI/CPD/INF.41/20, member states:

* Conclude that the FONDEM Statutes do not pose barriers to receiving funds or executing resources and that no changes are required to them.
* Consider that in order to maximize the impact of FONDEM as a tool for disaster response, the OAS General Secretariat shall strengthen *inter alia* its outreach, management and promotion of FONDEM.
* Recommend active outreach effort promoting FONDEM by the OAS General Secretariat shall be undertaken encouraging financial contributions from member states, permanent observer states, or other states, international organizations, foundations, nongovernmental entities, public or private enterprises, or individuals.

1. RELATED TO THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION TO FACILITATE DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Urge states that are not parties to adhere to the Inter-American Convention to Facilitate Disaster Assistance.

1. RELATED TO THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION (IACNDR) Amendments to the Statutes.

**Amended Article 2 (this paragraph should be the second one in Article 2)**

The IACNDR also seeks to harmonize efforts and to facilitate the exchange of information on the actions taken and ongoing, as well as on the response plans of the institutions of the inter-American system, sub-regional and international partners, OAS member states and permanent observers in response to natural and other disasters.

**Eliminate Article 4 and reorder the Chapters accordingly.**

**Amended Article 6.e**

Invite member states with voice but without vote and, when necessary, invites permanent observers, and representatives of national, sub regional, regional, and international organizations and mechanisms to participate in IACNDR meetings with voice but without vote.[[1]](#footnote-1)/

**Article 6.f**

Submits and presents an annual report on its activities to the Permanent Council**.**

**Amended Article 6.g**

Assists in coordinating the cooperation among OAS member states, when invited to do so by the interested parties, and assists states affected by a natural disaster in notifying OCHA.

**Article 6.i**

Solicits voluntary contributions for the purposes established in this Statutes and in accordance with article 14.

**Article 12**

The IACNDR shall meet at the Headquarters of the General Secretariat of the OAS, except when it decides on an alternative venue or format for its meetings, which could be virtual.

**Article 14**

The IACNDR through the Secretary General, and without prejudice to the individual competence of its members, shall solicit voluntary contributions from member states and permanent observer states of the Organization and from other member states of the United Nations, as well as from individuals, or public or private institutions, whether national or international,and/or seek to establish the necessary specific and trust funds, pursuant to the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat of the Organization to assist OAS member states consistent with article 2**.**

1. RELATED TO THE INTER -AMERICAN NETWORK FOR DISASTERS MITIGATION (INDM)

The Inter-American Network For Disasters Mitigation (INDM) includes three elements: the Virtual Forum, the Hemisphere Encounters and the Online Database. The Online Database is the only government-authorized archive in the Western Hemisphere consisting of authoritative national information from member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) in the area of disaster mitigation.

The Committee on Partnership for Development Polices recommends the following:

1. The platform of the Database should continue to be upgraded to maximize its performance with current technology. The Database is in the process of being migrated to a newer platform which will facilitate access to information and immediate updating.
2. The OAS database should be visible, easily accessible and user friendly for OAS member states and its regional and international natural disaster management partners.
3. The Database should be named to ensure that it can be easily found on the OAS Website.
4. Continue to hold the Hemisphere Encounters when member states deem appropriate.
5. Encourage member states to register and update their national authority or focal points on natural disasters.
6. Encourage the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB) and the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) to continue their efforts to ensure that the information on the OAS Online Database is current and available to the natural disaster community.
7. Continue to strengthen cooperation with regional and international partners and encourage them to continue to contribute information, to the extent possible, in order to ensure that useful and critical information on natural disasters is maintained in the online database, for the benefit of all within the hemisphere.
8. Urge Member states to annually update their national information provided to SEDI and IADB for inclusion in the OAS Online Database on natural disaster.

ANNEX

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES

STATUTES OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE

ON NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION (IACNDR)

CHAPTER I

NATURE AND PURPOSE

# Article 1

The Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction (hereinafter “the IACNDR”) is an entity of the Organization of American States (hereinafter “the OAS” or “the Organization”), established by the General Assembly through resolution AG/RES. 1682 (XXIXO/99).

# Article 2

The purpose of the IACNDR is to act as the principal forum of the Inter-American system for analyzing issues related to natural and other disasters, including the prevention and mitigation of their effects, in coordination with the governments of member states; competent national, regional, and international organizations; and nongovernmental organizations.

[The IACNDR also seeks to harmonize efforts and to facilitate the exchange of information on the actions taken and ongoing, as well as on the response plans of the institutions of the inter-American system, sub-regional and international partners, OAS member states and permanent observers in response to natural and other disasters.]

The IACNDR seeks to strengthen hemispheric actions to achieve maximum international cooperation in support of national and/or regional efforts for timely prevention, preparedness, early warning, response, vulnerability reduction, emergency care, mitigation, rehabilitation, and reconstruction.

The IACNDR shall provide advisory services to the Inter-American Emergency Aid Fund (FONDEM) in all matters pertaining to emergency aid, including social, humanitarian, material, technical, and financial assistance to member states pursuant to the Statutes of that Fund.

The IACNDR shall provide advisory and coordination services under the Inter-American Convention to Facilitate Disaster Assistance.

# Article 3

The IACNDR is governed by these Statutes. Its activities shall be carried out in accordance with the OAS Charter and the mandates handed down by the OAS General Assembly and Permanent Council.

[~~CHAPTER II~~

~~FUNCTIONS~~

# ~~Article 4~~

~~The IACNDR shall submit to the Permanent Council annual progress reports on the implementation and updating of the Inter-American Strategic Plan for Policy on Vulnerability Reduction, Risk Management and Disaster Response (IASP), which contains recommendations on initiatives related to natural disasters and methods of financing, placing particular emphasis on policies, programs, and international cooperation intended to reduce the vulnerability of member states to natural disasters]~~.

CHAPTER [~~III~~ II]

STRUCTURE

# Article [~~5~~ 4]: Composition

The IACNDR shall comprise the Chair of the OAS Permanent Council, the Secretary General of the OAS, the Assistant Secretary General of the OAS, the President of the InterAmerican Development Bank (IDB), the Director General of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Secretary General of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), the President of the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF), the Director General of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the Director General of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD), the Chair of the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB), and the Executive Secretary of the InterAmerican Commission of Women (CIM).

# Article [~~6~~ 5]: The Chair and its functions

The Secretary General of the OAS, or, in his absence, his respective representative, is Chair of the IACNDR and, in that capacity, performs the following functions:

1. Convenes the IACNDR;

1. Represents the IACNDR before the other organs and agencies of the OAS;

1. Directs and coordinates the meetings organized by the IACNDR with other agencies responsible for or associated with matters related to the prevention and mitigation of the effects ofnatural disasters;

1. Coordinates performance of the IACNDR’s functions;

1. [~~When necessary, invites the member states, permanent observers, and representatives of national, subregional, regional, and international organizations and mechanisms to participate in IACNDR meetings with voice but without vote; said organizations could include the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the White Helmets Initiative, the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA), and the Coordination~~ Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC); Invite member states with voice but without vote and, when necessary, invites permanent observers, and representatives of national, sub regional, regional, and international organizations and mechanisms to participate in IACNDR meetings with voice but without vote.[[2]](#footnote-2)/
2. [~~Coordinates the preparation of the reports that the IACNDR will submit to the Permanent Council;~~ Submits and presents an annual report on its activities to the Permanent Council**.**]
3. [~~Coordinates cooperation among National Coordination Authorities of the states parties to the Inter-American Convention to Facilitate Disaster Assistance and offers states affected by a natural disaster to notify the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA);~~ Assists in coordinating the cooperation among OAS member states, when invited to do so by the interested parties, and assists states affected by a natural disaster in notifying OCHA.]

1. Performs such duties as required under Article VII of the Statutes of the InterAmerican Emergency Aid Fund (FONDEM), and

i. Solicits voluntary contributions for the purposes established in this Statutes and in accordance with article 13.

CHAPTER [~~IV~~ III]

MEETINGS

# Article [~~7~~ 6]

The IACNDR shall meet at least twice a year. At the discretion of the Chair, more frequent meetings may be called.

# Article [~~8~~ 7]

The necessary quorum for a meeting of the IACNDR shall be more than half its members.

# Article [~~9~~ 8]

Should the Secretary General of the OAS be absent from all or part of a meeting of the IACNDR, the other members present shall decide by a majority of votes on a replacement to direct its discussions during his or her absence.

# Article [~~10~~ 9]

A member of the IACNDR may, under special circumstances, appoint another high-level officer of the agency to which he or she belongs to represent it at those meetings that the member cannot attend.

# Article [~~11~~ 10]

Each member of the IACNDR shall have the right to one vote. The Committee shall do everything possible to adopt decisions and recommendations by consensus. Should it not be possible to adopt decisions and recommendations by consensus, the Committee shall adopt them by a majority vote of the members.

# Article [~~12~~ 11]

[~~The IACNDR shall meet at the OAS headquarters, except when it decides on an alternative venue for any of its meetings.~~ The IACNDR shall meet at the Headquarters of the General Secretariat of the OAS, except when it decides on an alternative venue or format for its meetings, which could be virtual.]

CHAPTER [~~V~~ IV]

SECRETARIAT SERVICES

# Article [~~13~~ 12]

The General Secretariat of the OAS shall provide secretariat services to the IACNDR, in accordance with the resources allocated in the Regular Fund program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

CHAPTER [~~VI~~ V]

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

# Article [~~14~~ 13]

[~~The IACNDR shall fund those activities that pertain to Article 4 of these Statutes by soliciting specific contributions from the member states of the OAS and from other states and international intergovernmental organizations, or by seeking to establish the necessary specific and trust funds, pursuant to Articles 69 and 70 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat of the Organization.~~ [The IACNDR through the Secretary General, and without prejudice to the individual competence of its members, shall solicit voluntary contributions from member states and permanent observer states of the Organization and from other member states of the United Nations, as well as from individuals, or public or private institutions, whether national or international, and/or seek to establish the necessary specific and trust funds, pursuant to the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat of the Organization to assist OAS member states consistent with article 2**.**]

In addition to financial contributions obtained pursuant to the foregoing paragraph, for purposes of emergency aid under Article V of the FONDEM Statutes, financial resources shall be made available pursuant to Article IV.b of the FONDEM Statutes for such purposes.

CHAPTER [~~VII~~ VI]

AMENDMENTS AND ENTRY INTO FORCE

# Article [~~15~~ 14]

These Statutes may be amended by the General Assembly either at its own initiative or at the request of the IACNDR.

# Article [~~16 15~~]

These Statutes shall enter into force on the date of their adoption by the OAS General Assembly**.**

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1. \* ( Foot Note June 18, 2020) ; [said organizations could include, among others, the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), **International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (**[**ECLAC**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.eclac.org%2Fdefault.asp%3Fidioma%3DIN&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131465578&sdata=1Y22da1GPmvtOkRct91Wt853P3U4nVfGm64mRfElvOs%3D&reserved=0)**), the Inter-American Development Bank (**[**IDB**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.iadb.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131465578&sdata=A%2BfUH5W3sFRG4LSXF9S6kDFpUWKPD2bvWrEyyqcehts%3D&reserved=0)**), the**[**World Bank**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.worldbank.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131465578&sdata=ABr4CDcV6zzPc1oTsyKljVk7qNt5qZvC19QSk%2BYG90w%3D&reserved=0)**, the Andean Corporation for Development (**[**CAF**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.caf.com%2Fview%2Findex.asp%3Fms%3D17&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131475534&sdata=QWH6HCJwjoMYyCxRNYyErqyOKKAggXrPO3uUz4DlUrU%3D&reserved=0)**), the Caribbean Development Bank (**[**CDB**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.caribank.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131475534&sdata=78vdQJGLnMwPXsw3gA8%2BDUMwhR3yn8Ot%2BksbbPXV9Kw%3D&reserved=0)**), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (**[**CABEI**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cabei.org%2Fenglish%2Findex.php&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131485479&sdata=4REgGBrp8A5%2BOPuNy10AOeV88V3MiUjZ9oM6CjUIiic%3D&reserved=0)**), International Organization for Migration (**[**IOM**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.iom.int%2Fjahia%2Fjsp%2Findex.jsp&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131485479&sdata=OkXyt4YEBCa%2BIDRMV7LDWmV2Jxx3nAB7B%2Ba9ai26yMo%3D&reserved=0)**), the International Labor Organization (**[**ILO**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ilo.org%2Fglobal%2Flang--en%2Findex.htm&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131485479&sdata=lvXKTaxGUO5JphPniOyMhYVuIf%2BPwXp%2B%2Bw6fsFc5rQI%3D&reserved=0)**), the United Nations Development Programme (**[**UNDP**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.undp.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131495443&sdata=dN5n66DRsH58QlGUGzB3wVOIEeOsGUawgcKcrKtE3QE%3D&reserved=0)**),** the White Helmets Initiative, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC), the Andean Committee for the Prevention and Attention to Disasters (CAPRADE) and the Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities of Integral Risk Management of MERCOSUR (RMAGIR)];  [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. \* ( Foot Note June 18, 2020) ; [said organizations could include, among others, the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), **International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (**[**ECLAC**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.eclac.org%2Fdefault.asp%3Fidioma%3DIN&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131465578&sdata=1Y22da1GPmvtOkRct91Wt853P3U4nVfGm64mRfElvOs%3D&reserved=0)**), the Inter-American Development Bank (**[**IDB**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.iadb.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131465578&sdata=A%2BfUH5W3sFRG4LSXF9S6kDFpUWKPD2bvWrEyyqcehts%3D&reserved=0)**), the**[**World Bank**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.worldbank.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131465578&sdata=ABr4CDcV6zzPc1oTsyKljVk7qNt5qZvC19QSk%2BYG90w%3D&reserved=0)**, the Andean Corporation for Development (**[**CAF**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.caf.com%2Fview%2Findex.asp%3Fms%3D17&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131475534&sdata=QWH6HCJwjoMYyCxRNYyErqyOKKAggXrPO3uUz4DlUrU%3D&reserved=0)**), the Caribbean Development Bank (**[**CDB**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.caribank.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131475534&sdata=78vdQJGLnMwPXsw3gA8%2BDUMwhR3yn8Ot%2BksbbPXV9Kw%3D&reserved=0)**), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (**[**CABEI**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cabei.org%2Fenglish%2Findex.php&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131485479&sdata=4REgGBrp8A5%2BOPuNy10AOeV88V3MiUjZ9oM6CjUIiic%3D&reserved=0)**), International Organization for Migration (**[**IOM**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.iom.int%2Fjahia%2Fjsp%2Findex.jsp&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131485479&sdata=OkXyt4YEBCa%2BIDRMV7LDWmV2Jxx3nAB7B%2Ba9ai26yMo%3D&reserved=0)**), the International Labor Organization (**[**ILO**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ilo.org%2Fglobal%2Flang--en%2Findex.htm&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131485479&sdata=lvXKTaxGUO5JphPniOyMhYVuIf%2BPwXp%2B%2Bw6fsFc5rQI%3D&reserved=0)**), the United Nations Development Programme (**[**UNDP**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.undp.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7CAynesJM%40state.gov%7C740d4aa7f583474226b808d80b4efad8%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637271781131495443&sdata=dN5n66DRsH58QlGUGzB3wVOIEeOsGUawgcKcrKtE3QE%3D&reserved=0)**),** the White Helmets Initiative, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC), the Andean Committee for the Prevention and Attention to Disasters (CAPRADE) and the Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities of Integral Risk Management of MERCOSUR (RMAGIR)]; [↑](#footnote-ref-2)