THE INTER AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD
JAMAICA & CARICOM STATES

Meeting

The Honourable Peter Bunting
Minister of National Security
Government of Jamaica

&

LGen Thibault - Chairman IADB

Kingston, Jamaica
Wednesday, 18 July 2012
Aim

- Provide an overview and update on activities of the Inter American Defense Board and to discuss:
  - Current situation vis-à-vis participation in IADB activities from CARICOM members of the OAS
  - Relations with the OAS and Ministries of Defense and the upcoming CDMA meeting of Defense Ministers in Uruguay
  - Potential support from Jamaica
Part I – IADB Update
Inter American Defense Board
Junta Interamericana de Defensa
The IADB~OAS Relationship

- The IADB is the oldest mutual defence cooperation organization in the world.
- Created in 1942 – part of the nascent Inter-American security regime created in the context of WWII with an organizational mandate on preparations for collective defence.
- The Board was established as an official “entity” of the OAS in March 2006.
OAS Pillars

1. Democracy
2. Human Rights
3. Security
4. Development

Democracia para la paz, la seguridad y el desarrollo
Democracy through peace, security and development
Mission

- Provide the OAS, and members states with **advisory, technical and educational services** in areas of defence and military affairs within the hemisphere.
Chairman’s Perspectives

The potential of the IADB is not being fully leveraged or exploited by the OAS, member states or by respective Ministries of National Defense

Board needs to work on the “Three P’s”:

- **Proactive** in communication and offering services and soliciting support
- **Position** the IADB for exercising greater leadership within the IA system
- **Prioritize** work and efforts on value-added strategic tasks
Council of Delegates

Key ‘Value-Added’ Focus Areas

- **Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief**
  - focus on improving readiness where gaps exist
  - enhanced HADR response coordination

- **Conflict and Crisis Prevention**
  - Assessment of effectiveness of Confidence and Security Building Measures (CSBM)
  - Coordination of CSBM by national, sub-regional and regional orgs to promote transparency, cooperation and build trust
Increased Situational Awareness & Information Sharing

- Provide OAS leadership and member nations with relevant hemispheric defence and security information, analysis and advice on routine matters and during crisis situations to enable strategic and political decision making.

Education, Training and Capacity Building

- Serve as a recognized international leader for education and training of defence and security professionals within the Inter American system.
Part 2 – CARICOM States Participation in the IADB
OAS General Assembly in San Salvador passed a resolution to support the activities of the IADB including:

- To urge those member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) that are not yet members of the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB) to become members; and
- To urge all OAS member states to continue promoting the participation of at least one student per year from their country in the advanced academic courses and seminars offered by the Inter-American Defense College (IADC)
Member Countries

Antigua y Barbuda*
Argentina
Barbados
Belize*
Bolivia
Brasil
Canadá
Chile
Colombia
Ecuador
El Salvador
Guatemala
Guyana*
Haití*
Honduras
Jamaica*
México
Nicaragua
Panamá
Paraguay
Perú
Rep. Dominicana
Surinam*
Trinidad y Tobago
United States
Uruguay
Venezuela*

* Inactive/infrequent members
OAS Members, but not currently members of the IADB:
- Bahamas
- Dominica
- Grenada
- Costa Rica

IADB Members, but not active participants:
- Belize
- Guyana
- Jamaica
- Haiti
- Suriname

Caribbean Region Currently Under-Represented
Implications

- Caribbean regional issues not sufficiently considered within the IADB’s mandate
- No active voice to explain and advance national interests within multilateral forum
- Overall IADB credibility, and value to OAS and nations is lessened due to unbalanced representation from within the hemisphere
- Failure to fully leverage, and contribute to the potential of this unique hemispheric institution
Potential Reasons Why the CARICOM Region is Under Represented?

- Lack of awareness or visibility of the IADB?
- Organization is seen as irrelevant to regional security realities?
- No national armed forces and no perceived defense threats driving cooperation
- Capacity of modest staffs posted in Washington
- Language barriers given current dominance of Spanish/Portuguese speaking nations
- Financial limitations
Why Join the IADB?

- Information Sharing and Lessons Learned
- Access to objective professional analysis and assessment of hemispheric issues
- Increased situational awareness (Information and Reporting)
- Access to Specialist/Technical Services and Training
- Leverage Capacity for Strategic & Operational Planning and Coordination
Why Join the IADB?

- Use of facilities for Conference and Working Group
- Networking opportunities with senior security and defense officials from across the Americas
- Partnership opportunities for regional and other hemispheric government and non-governmental organizations
- Participation in military cultural, professional development and historical activities
Why Join the IADB?

- Dedicated channels of communication and privileged access to National Defense and Armed Forces leaders, officials and institutional capacities

- A permanent international forum for engagement with national senior security and defense authorities and military leaders

- A conduit for important bi-lateral and multi-lateral contacts and engagement within the Hemisphere

- Access to programs at the Inter American Defense College (IADC)
• Only International, Interagency, Joint Service, JPME granting, Multi-Language, Senior Service College in the World
• Belongs to the Organization of American States
  • 15 Countries Represented (2012)
• 11 Month academic program with optional Masters degree
• No permanent faculty
• 60 Students
  • 5 Civilian
  • 49 Military
  • 6 National/Federal Police
• 27 Advisors
  • 17 Military
  • 2 National Police
• 30 Staff
  • 5 Civilians
  • 25 Military
Inter American Defense College

**Curriculum Elements**
- Academic Courses
- Elective Program
- Conferences
  - Large Scale Emergencies & Disaster Relief
  - Disarmament & Nonproliferation in the Hemisphere
  - Peace Support Operations
  - Human Rights & International Humanitarian Law
  - Cybersecurity
- Speakers
- Exercises & Simulations
- Trips & Visits

**Themes**
- Ethics & Human Rights
- International Relations
- International Institutions & Institutional Leadership
- Strategic Analysis
- Strategic Culture and Leadership
- Civil-Military Relations
- Conflict Resolution & Negotiation

**Research Program**
- Strategic Planning & Analysis
- Team Projects
  - The World Situation
  - The Hemispheric Situation
  - Country Study
  - Future Prospects for Hemispheric Security and Defense
- 15 Written Assignments
  - 11 individual
  - 4 group
### Inter American Defense College Graduates by Country

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### Notes
- The numbers represent the count of graduates from each country.
- The image shows a group of students, possibly graduates, in front of a building with flags.
- The Inter American Defense College is a military education institution in the Americas.
CARICOM & The IADB

Conclusions

- Membership is automatic for OAS states who request it
- Only real commitment and cost to member states is participation
- Many potential benefits to the IADB, to the OAS and hopefully to the Caribbean Region and its nations
Part 3 – Relations with the OAS & Ministries of Defense
“La JID: Entre dos mundos”
The Inter-American Defense Board is something of a case apart since it has been brought into the OAS fold without the members having reached a clear determination as to its functions, its funding, and who it reports to. Notwithstanding the discussions that await us in the coming year on these topics, I believe that we could request the Defense Ministries of the Hemisphere, which actually design and steer the activities of the Inter-American Defense Board and its College, to create a special fund to finance it, thus disencumbering our Regular Fund of that cost.
Positioning the IADB

- Strengthen the institutional relationship between the OAS, the IADB and the ministries of defense by establishing the IADB as the Permanent Technical Secretariat to the hemispheric ministerial Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas (CDMA)
IADB Support ~ Conference of Defence Ministers of the Americas

- Forum created in 1995 for the purpose of increasing cooperation in the areas of Defense and Security.
- Provides Ministers of Defense with a venue to discuss topics such as confidence and security building measures, peace support operations, civil-military relations, and emerging threats such as transnational organized crime and terrorism.
- **IADB proposal seeking role as permanent technical secretariat**
Strategic Issue

- There is currently weak institutional alignment and linkages between the Hemispheric Organization of American States (OAS) and the other pan-hemispheric defense and military mechanisms:
  - Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas (CDMA)
  - Service Conferences (CAA, IANC and SICOFAA)
  - Sub-Regional Security Mechanisms (SADC, CFAC, CARICOM, North America)
Nature of the Problem

- No consistent alignment of CDMA thematics with OAS programs, priorities or processes
- Lack of consistent and progressive consideration of defense with hemispheric security issues
- No overall synchronization of work within the hemispheric defense and security orgs (CHS, SMS, IADB, SADC, CFAC, RSS, CARICOM, SOUTHCOM, NORTHCOM, etc.) in support of OAS programs
- Failure to fully leverage the resources, capacities and capabilities of the Defense and Armed Forces institutions (CAA, SICOFFA, IANC) towards OAS goals
Conclusions

- The IADB is a unique institution within the Americas that could/should be better leveraged by our nations.

- Given the threats and challenges, strengthening the IADB is in our collective national interests.

- To add better value the Board must be reformed to:
  - Have a clear mandate within the Multidimensional Security Agenda
  - Be formally recognized as the primary linkage between the OAS and Defense Ministries and Armed Forces
  - Be assigned a permanent role to support the Hemispheric Defense Ministerial process
  - Be recognized as the hemispheric lead coordinating organization between the sub-regional defense and security organizations and armed service conferences
  - Be fully accepted as an important and valued member of the OAS family.
Potential Support from Jamaica for the IADB

- Support for IADB through OAS Mission
- Increased visibility within the IADB
  - Active Delegate/Delegation
  - Nomination of candidates for elected leadership posts
  - Full time staff for Secretariat
  - Student or Advisor at IADC (participation in seminars)
  - Visit by Minister or CDS
- Consider requesting services from IADB
- Leadership voice within CARICOM to promote greater sub-regional participation
- Support for IADB proposal at upcoming CDMA