



V CONFERENCIA DE MINISTROS DE DEFENSA DE LAS AMERICAS

SANTIAGO DE CHILE 18 AL 22 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2002

THEMATIC LINE 2: MUTUAL CONFIDENCE IN THE AMERICAS

CONCLUSIONS

MODERATOR : MEXICO

SUB-THEME 2A: COMMON STANDARDIZED METHODOLOGY FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF DEFENSE EXPENDITURE

SPEAKER: ARGENTINA

1. We recognize the work carried out by Chile and Argentina, with the important contribution of the ECLAC, in proposing a common standardized methodology for the assessment of defense expenditure as a measure of mutual confidence-building, which promotes the conduction of further studies in the region aimed at making progress in defense expenditure transparency policies.
2. The development of said methodology in other countries in the region requires the definition of common factors and elements among such countries, as well as the consideration of their specific problems. In this sense, expenditures made by the armed forces associated with the productive and social development in each country may be highlighted.
3. We call on countries in the region to disclose their defense expenditure, in compliance with UNO and OAS's resolutions, which contributes to promoting mutual trust, security and transparency in this field.



V CONFERENCIA DE MINISTROS DE DEFENSA DE LAS AMERICAS

SANTIAGO DE CHILE 18 AL 22 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2002

SUB-THEME 2B : THE ROLE OF DEFENSE BOOK AS A MEASURE OF MUTUAL CONFIDENCE

SPEAKER: BOLIVIA

1. The publication of the Defense Book is a sovereign decision made by each State. This document should contain the defense policy, in accordance with the unique characteristics of each country, and promote civil participation with a view to contributing to the strengthening of democracy.
2. The Defense Book is a tool to inform civil society and other States about aspects of national defense policies, and also constitutes a measure of transparency that contributes to building trust in relations among States.
3. The publication of a Defense Book, according to the specific reality of each country, is a token of international cooperation and a contribution to the stability achieved in the region. In such sense, we compliment countries that already have published Defense Books, recognize the efforts made by those that are in the process of preparing one, and encourage the rest to consider this initiative.
4. We take note of the document "Guidelines for the Preparation of Documents on National Defense Policies and Doctrines" prepared by the OAS Commission for Hemispheric Security, for the consideration of countries attending the Fifth Conference of Ministers of Defense of the Americas.



V CONFERENCIA DE MINISTROS DE DEFENSA DE LAS AMERICAS

SANTIAGO DE CHILE 18 AL 22 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2002

SUB-THEME 2C : COMBINED FORCES IN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

SPEAKER : CANADA

1. We recognize the efforts made by countries that participate in Peacekeeping Operations, thereby cooperating with the United Nations Organization in maintaining peace around the world.
2. We support the voluntary participation in peacekeeping operations, stressing the training of civilian, military and police personnel, as well as the exchange of information; and invite countries in the region to increase their contribution to this type of operation.
3. We take note of the initiatives to discuss regional approaches regarding participation in Peacekeeping Operations mandated by the United Nations Organization.
4. In the light of the BRAHIMI report, each country shall discuss its recommendations, based on national legislation and the interests of each country, including the development of rapid reaction regional capacities, to contribute to the United Nations Organization's efforts to maintain peace in the world.