



10TH OAS HEMISPHERIC FORUM WITH CIVIL SOCIETY AND SOCIAL ACTORS
“Toward a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas”

Washington, DC
May 9-10, 2013

DRAFT PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

Civil society plays an important role in the annual OAS General Assemblies by providing input into the decision-making process and partnering with Member States for the implementation of the hemispheric agenda.

During the 43rd OAS General Assembly that will take place in Antigua, Guatemala on June 4-6, 2013, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Americas will discuss priority issues for the region and approve resolutions related to the pillars of the OAS, including multidimensional security, with a special emphasis on the fight against drugs; the promotion and protection of human rights; strengthening democracy and citizen participation; fostering integral development; and supporting inter-American legal cooperation.

In preparation for the 43rd Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly, on May 9, 2013 the Department of International Affairs of the Secretary for External Relations, with the generous support of the Governments of Canada, Chile and the United States, will hold the 10th Hemispheric Forum with Civil Society and Social Actors in order to offer its participants an opportunity to exchange ideas and develop proposals and recommendations about the main theme of the upcoming General Assembly, “Toward a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas.”

The recommendations resulting from this 10th Hemispheric Forum will be presented the following day, May 10, by representatives of civil society organizations (CSOs) in a joint Special Session of the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (CISC) and the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly. These recommendations will contribute to the Member States’ deliberations of the Draft Declaration and the resolutions related to the inter-American agenda, to be adopted in the 43rd OAS General Assembly.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The expected results include:

1. A recommendations document to be presented to OAS Member States via the CISC and Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly based on the dialogue and outcomes of virtual and face-to-face consultations on the General Assembly main theme.
2. A negotiation process of the draft Declaration of the XLIII General Assembly that takes into account the perspectives of civil society and other social actors;
3. The exchange of experiences and best practices on projects and programs carried out by civil society and social actors related to the main topics of the General Assembly.

METHODOLOGY AND FORMAT

The Hemispheric Forum will have duration of one day and will be held in Washington, DC. The Forum will be dedicated to addressing the topics related to the General Assembly theme, “Toward a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas,” and their links to the pillars of the OAS and the inter-American system, in particular public health, security, democracy, and access to justice.

The morning will consist of a plenary session that will be composed of three panels representing the OAS organs, the General Secretariat, Member States, partner institutions, and CSO and social actor networks to discuss the work of the OAS political bodies and the efforts carried out in support of the implementation of the theme of the General Assembly and other priority topics in the region. Each panelist will make a brief presentation based on the theme of the session. Following the presentations, there will be time for comments by the participants.

In the afternoon sessions, the participants will have the opportunity to dialogue, exchange experiences and formulate their recommendations in a working group that will focus on the aforementioned themes of the General Assembly. The working group will be moderated by a civil society representative and will have a rapporteur responsible for taking notes of the discussions, as well as compiling the various comments and recommendations in order to produce a final outcome document. The work of this group will be supported and facilitated by the Department of International Affairs.

At the end of the day, there will be a plenary session to share the results of the working group, finalize the recommendations from the Forum, and select a representative(s) to present the document to the Member States.

These recommendations will be consolidated into a document to be presented the following day, May 10, by selected CSO and social actor representatives to the OAS Member States via a joint session of the CISC and the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly.

LANGUAGES

The plenary sessions and working groups of the 10th Hemispheric Forum with Civil Society and Social Actors will be in English and Spanish.

AGENDA

May 9, 2013

Location: Padilha Vidal Room
OAS General Secretariat Building
1889 F Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006

8:30 am Registration (Terrace Level)

9:00 am Inaugural Session

- Alfonso Quiñónez, Secretary for External Relations, OAS
- Ambassador Arturo Ulises Vallarino Bartuano, Permanent Representative of Panama to the OAS, Chair of the OAS Permanent Council, Chair of the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (CISC) of the Permanent Council (*to be confirmed*)

9:10 am Introduction of the Forum Methodology and Objectives

- Jorge Sanin, Director of the Department of International Affairs of the Secretary for External Relations, OAS

9:20 am Presentation of the Theme of the 43rd OAS General Assembly

- Ambassador Jose Rodrigo Viemann de Leon, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the OAS (*to be confirmed*)

9:45 am First Plenary Session: Challenges to Public Health and the Development of a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas

- Representative of the Pan American Health Organization (*to be confirmed*)
- Paul Simons, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), OAS (*to be confirmed*)
- Representative of Civil Society

Dialogue with Participants

10:45 am Coffee break

11:00 am Second Plenary Session: Challenges to Public Security and the Development of a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas

- Paulina Duarte, Director of the Department of Public Security, OAS (*to be confirmed*)
- Representative of Civil Society

Dialogue with Participants

- 12:00 pm** **Third Plenary Session: Challenges to Democracy and Access to Justice and the Development of a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas**
- Jean Michel Arrighi, Secretary for Legal Affairs, OAS
 - Representative of Civil Society
- Dialogue with Participants**
- 1:00 pm** **Lunch**
- 2:00 pm** **Working Group to Prepare Recommendations Document**
- Moderated discussion and formulation of thematic recommendations on the topic of the OAS General Assembly “Toward a Comprehensive Anti-Drug Policy in the Americas”
- 3:30 pm** **Coffee Break**
- 3:45 pm** **Working Group to Prepare and Finalize Recommendations Document (continued)**
- 5:00 pm** **Presentation of the conclusions and recommendations of the Working Group**
- Selection of spokesperson(s) for joint Session of the CISC and Preparatory Committee for the General Assembly
- 5:30 pm** **Sessions conclude for the evening and rapporteurs to submit recommendations to the OAS General Secretariat**

May 10, 2013

**Special Joint Session of the
Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities
and the Preparatory Committee for the General Assembly**

Location: Padilha Vidal Room
OAS General Secretariat Building
1889 F Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006

- 9:00 am** **Opening Remarks**
- Jose Miguel Insulza, Secretary General of the OAS
 - Ambassador Arturo Ulises Vallarino Bartuano, Permanent Representative of Panama to the OAS, Chair of the Permanent Council, Chair of the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (CISC)
 - Ambassador Jose Rodrigo Vielmann de Leon, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the OAS, Chair of the Working Group to Consider the Draft Declaration of Antigua
- 9:20 am** **Presentation of the 10th Hemispheric Forum with Civil Society and Social Actors**
- Alfonso Quiñónez, Secretary for External Relations, OAS
- 9:30 am** **Presentation of the Recommendations of the 10th Hemispheric Forum with Civil Society and Social Actors**
- CSO Representatives (to be selected during the Forum on May 9th)
- 10:00 am** **Interventions by Member State Delegations**
- 10:20 am** **Additional Comments by Civil Society Organizations and Social Actors**
- 10:40 am** **Interventions by Member State Delegations**
- 11:00 am** **Closing**