



JUNTA INTERAMERICANA DE DEFENSA  
INTER AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD



***15<sup>th</sup> Annual***

***WESTERN HEMISPHERE  
SECURITY COLLOQUIUM***

***21-22 May 2012***

Lieutenant General Guy Thibault  
Chairman, Council of Delegates  
22 May 2012



# Inter American Naval Conference, Cancun





**15<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**Western Hemisphere Security Colloquium**  
*Rethinking Hemispheric Security and Strategy:  
Ten Years after the Mexico City OAS Declaration*



# 2003 Special Conference & OAS~IADB Relation



***"... reiterate the need to clarify the juridical and institutional relationship between the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB) and the OAS."***

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**AG**

THIRTY-SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

March 15, 2006  
Washington, D.C.

OEA/Ser.P  
AG/RES. 1 (XXXII-E/06)  
15 March 2006  
Original: Spanish

AG/RES. 1 (XXXII-E/06)

STATUTES OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD

(Adopted at the first plenary session held on March 15, 2006)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on the juridical and institutional link



# Ongoing Debate IA Defense System?

- ... given the distinct nature of traditional and nontraditional threats to security, continue the process of study and assessment of the hemispheric instruments and cooperative mechanisms for collective security and peaceful settlement of disputes

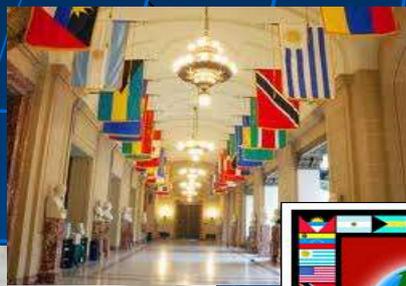
*Paragraph 48 of the Declaration  
of Security in the Americas*



# Realizing the Full Potential of the Oldest Regional Multilateral Defense Cooperation in the World:

*La Junta Interamericana de Defensa*  
*The Inter American Defense Board*

# "IADB 101"





# Mission

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



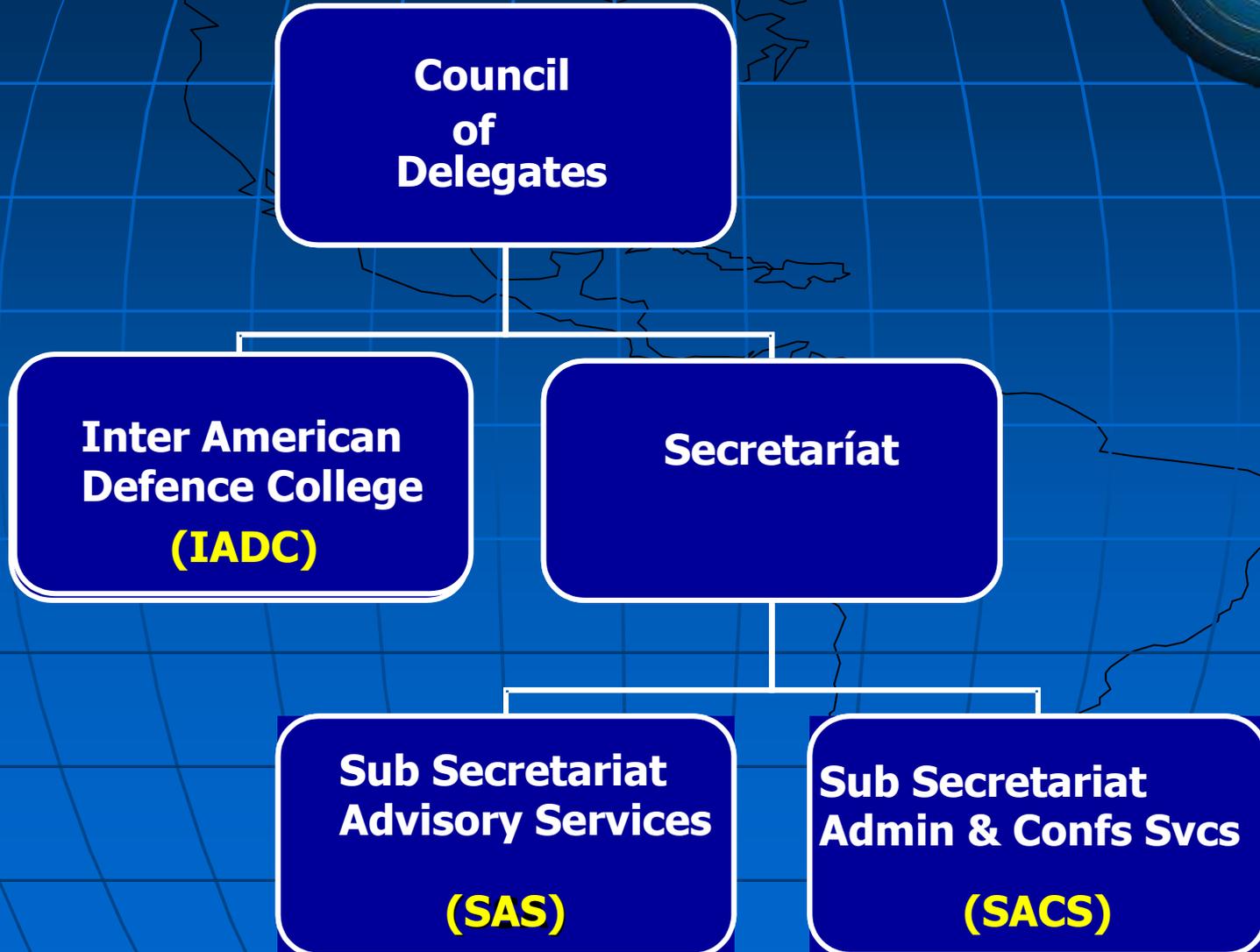


# Roles and Functions

- Education on themes relating to military, defence and security affairs
- Promote the inter-relationships and build greater trust between military and civilian officials
- Enhance national, sub-regional and hemispheric defence information sharing and cooperation;
- Develop and help coordinate Confidence and Security Building Measures.



# IADB Organization





# Services Current Focus

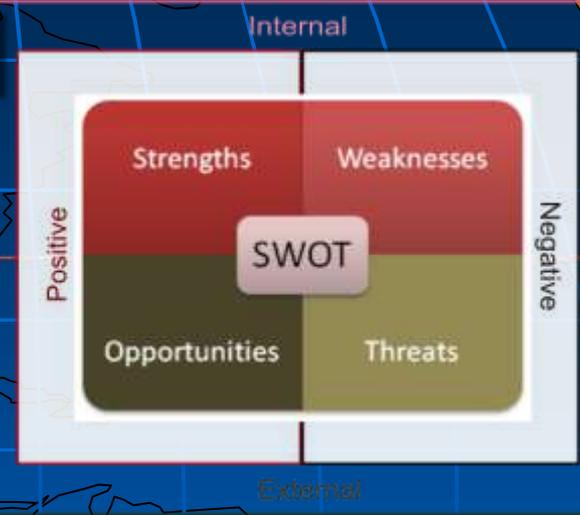


Advanced Courses and Education	✓
<b>Military-Civilian Interrelations and Cooperation</b>	➔
Mine Action	✓
Store, Control, destruction of Conventional Weapons	●
<b>Analysis and Studies of defense doctrine and policies</b>	➔
Studies and analysis of military/defense issues	●
<b>Development of Confidence-Security Bldg Measures</b>	➔
Humanitarian and disaster relief activities	✓
Search and rescue	●
<b>Maintenance of CSBM reports and data</b>	➔
Analysis of CSBM efforts	●
Cooperation and inter-relations with other D&S orgs	✓

Good results	✓
In progress	➔
Monitoring only	●



# Diagnostic August 2011



## SWOT – Strengths



- We have clear role, mandate and mission based on statutes fully agreed by the OAS nations
- IADB Council is an exclusive network of Military and Defense expertise and contacts within the Hemisphere
- We offer a unique educational program (IADC) focused on Hemispheric Defence and Security issues ~ critical for capacity building
- Our permanent staff is highly motivated

Chairman IADB Initial Perspectives (Draft for Discussion Purposes Only ~ 9 August 2011)



## SWOT – Weaknesses



- Lack of unity and alignment (agreed priorities and unified planning) with OAS and SMS
- Insufficient financial resources to sustain program or transform
- Limited staff capacity and expertise, not representative
- Lack of continuity (leadership and council of delegates)
- Organization is too bound by Rules, Regulations and Orders which distracts from important topics
- Ineffective strategic communications
- Fundamental divide on issues of Multi-Dimensional Security versus Defense/Military Affairs

Chairman IADB Initial Perspectives (Draft for Discussion Purposes Only ~ 9 August 2011)



# Council of Delegates

## “Las Tres 3 Ps”



- **Proactivity** – to increase visibility and actively seek out opportunities to contribute
- **Positioning** – as a respected partner and leader international organization to help coordinate, synchronize and deconflict activities within the hemispheric defense environment
- **Prioritizing** – deliver value-added services and products on the most important issues and where there is consensus



# Council Priorities

- Enhancing military readiness and international response to assist civilian authorities in complex disasters;
- Analysis, Development, Coordination and Implementation of Confidence and Security Building Measures in the Americas;
- Enhancing Information Sharing and Situational Awareness in the hemisphere;
- Education and helping improve military-civil relations and building institutional capacity in hemispheric defense and security affairs

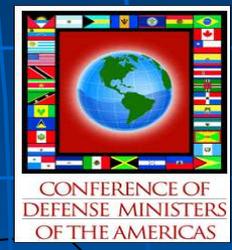


# “La JID: Entre dos mundos”





# "Stuck in the middle"



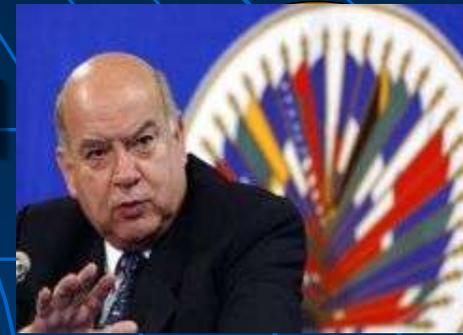
**Regional Security Mechanisms**

- SADC
- CFAC
- CARICOM
- CANUS

**Hemispheric Defense and Armed Forces Conferences**



# OAS Secretary General Vision for the OAS...



- ***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.*



# Pessimists

- Fundamental **changes to the IADB unlikely** given OAS need for consensus;
- Competition versus Cooperation serves to **distract from the most important issues** and undermines potential
- Resources are currently insufficient to deliver on the mission, let alone to reform and modernise the IADB – and the **budgetary situation is only going to get worse.**
- When **'everyone owns the problem ~ no-one owns the problem'** – who is going to champion these issues?





# Optimists

- Stakeholders see the IADB as important to their national interests and to promote multilateralism:
- Many common interests in the following areas which could be given to the champion:
  1. Enhanced cooperation and coordinated **response to complex emergencies** in the hemisphere;
  2. Sharing of lessons, best practices and development of international cooperative mechanisms for **defense and military support to civil authorities in combating emergent threats**;
  3. Cooperative programs that contribute to **defense institutional capacity building and professionalization of armed forces**
  4. Harmonization, **alignment, synchronization, coordination and de-confliction of the strategic issues** and work activities within the hemispheric defense and security environment





# IADB: the Ultimate CSBM in the Americas



While there may be competing views and uncertainty in how to confront the security challenges in the Americas – there is **general agreement on the nature of the threats and the especially the need for multilateral cooperation** sub-regionally and across the hemisphere, including within the defense/military realm. This gives us ***much common ground to work on, and as a minimum the Board is on everyone's 'radar screen'***



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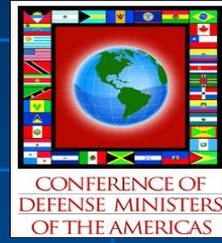
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# Vision for Enhancing Defense and Security Institutional Alignment in the Americas?



Thematic Alignment

Direction

Direction

Coordination

Support  
Permanent Secretariat

- Regional Security Mechanisms**
- SADC
  - CFAC
  - CARICOM
  - CANUS

Mutual Support  
Alignment  
Coordination  
Synchronization

**Hemispheric Defense and Armed Forces Conferences**