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### REPORT ON BOLIVIA

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION

Summits Coordination Unit Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship May 15, 2007

### REPORT ON BOLIVIA

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION OF MAR DEL PLATA

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#### REPORT ON BOLIVIA

#### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION OF MAR DEL PLATA

Pursuant to the agreement reached at the XLV meeting of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG), held at the OAS in March 2007, Bolivia is presenting its report on implementation of the mandates from the Plan of Action of the Fourth Summit of the Americas, where the Declaration and Plan of Action of Mar del Plata were signed. The theme of the Declaration and Plan was "Creating Jobs to Fight Poverty and Strengthen Democratic Governance."

This document was prepared in close coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship and various ministries in the executive branch of government.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The neo-liberal policies pursued in recent decades had accentuated the already considerable economic and social inequalities in Bolivia. Mindful of that fact, President Evo Morales introduced a fundamental shift in government policy in order to build Bolivia as a nation of well-being, sovereign and inclusive, and able to implement policies that improve the standard of living of its people, especially among those sectors that for centuries have been socially marginalized and economically excluded.

This is the backdrop against which the National Development Plan was crafted. The Plan rests on four pillars: "Bolivia digna, democrática, productiva y soberana para Vivir Bien" [A Decent, Democratic, Productive and Sovereign Bolivia in order to Live Well] (PND 2006).

A decent Bolivia in which poverty will have been eliminated, along with any form of exclusion, discrimination, marginalization and exploitation; where social, political, cultural and economic rights are fully exercised and enjoyed; where solidarity and reciprocity materialize in an equitable distribution of income and wealth, and a citizenry that is better off socially, economically and politically.

A democratic Bolivia is participatory, with a pluri-national and community-oriented society in which the people exercise political power from the regions, with the involvement of community organizations and indigenous and social movements. The people elect officials to office, but also remove them from office as well; they monitor the State's performance and have a voice in decisions relating to their own development.

A productive Bolivia is one that has transformed, integrated and diversified its productive model as a function of a new development paradigm. The new productive model is more inclusive and all encompassing, capitalizing on the potential available in every area and region of the national territory and building up productive clusters; a productive Bolivia is one that creates Bolivian-branded products, both material and intellectual, that has industrialized its natural resources and increased the value added of its exports with the State acting as promoter and protagonist of development, pushing for productive policies and a stronger domestic market. A productive Bolivia is generating surpluses, building up domestic stockpiles and distributing them equitably.

A sovereign Bolivia is one that takes its own decisions independently, informed by its needs, prospects and identities and interacts on the world stage with dignity and success, preserving harmonious and balanced relations among countries, while strengthening its food security and energy independence in order to "live well".

Bolivia is focusing on building a society and a State in which Bolivian men and women "live well" and to whom Bolivia is a common, decent and sovereign home that cultivates a cosmocentric ethic and holistic way of thinking and emphasizes community life in which material, spiritual and affective assets generated by the State and society are enjoyed. The goal of the National Development Plan is to eliminate the vestiges of colonialism and neo-liberalism and to build an alternative development paradigm that preserves the best of humanity and ensures the sustainability of the planet.

The Plan's long-term objective is to eradicate poverty and any and all forms of social, political, cultural and economic exclusion and marginalization by creating national policies for integral development that work to bring about an equitable distribution of income, wealth and opportunity, full observance and enjoyment of human dignity and the rights of individuals and social groups.

#### 1. NATIONAL COMMITMENTS

## 1.1. Creating decent work $\frac{1}{2}$

1. To eliminate forced labor before 2010 by strengthening measures and policies, to enable those countries that have not already done so to achieve this goal. To this end, promote the creation of national plans of action with the support of the International Labour Organisation (ILO)

With technical assistance from the ILO and a team of officials from the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of the Office of the Presidency, the Ministry of Sustainable Development, the Office of the Deputy Minister of Lands and union leaders from affected sectors (harvesting of Brazil nuts, sugar cane and the Guaraní people), the Ministry of Labor is in the process of putting together a National Plan for the Elimination of Forced Labor. The component for captive Guaraní communities —in which entire families are being held in virtual servitude- will feature measures specifically geared at protecting the rights of children and adolescents.

<sup>1.</sup> Information supplied by the Ministry of Labor.

2. To eradicate by 2020, at the latest, the worst forms of child labor and reduce the number of children that work in violation of national laws. We shall continue strengthening national policies that enable achievement of these goals. In addition to providing quality basic education, we undertake to build bridges between child labor eradication programs and other support programs, such as income support programs, extracurricular activities and training. To meet this objective, countries shall set national goals and deadlines based on the local situation.

The measures taken by the Ministry of Labor to eradicate the worst forms of child labor and reduce the number of working children are as follows:

- The policies established by the Bolivian State for children and adolescents make eliminating child labor a priority, and ratify ILO Conventions 138 and 182.
- The Convention Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, 1999 (# 182 ratification recorded on June 6, 2003) is backed up by laws and regulations that apply the Convention's provisions.<sup>2</sup>/
- Under the decree regulating the Child and Adolescent Code (CNNA by its Spanish acronym), the Ministry of Labor is responsible for formulating and implementing policies aimed at eradicating any form of labor that, under the CNNA, is prohibited, dangerous, unhealthy or unlawful for children and adolescents to perform.
- Pursuant to ILO Convention Nos. 138 and 182, **Supreme Resolution No. 220849**, adopted on June 7, 2001, approved the National Plan for the Progressive Eradication of Child Labor and assigned the Ministry of Labor the function of heading up and implementing the Plan. The resolution establishes the Inter-Institutional Commission for the Progressive Elimination of Child Labor, composed of officials in the three branches of government, the Ombudsman, the Office of the First Lady, the Bolivian Confederation of Private Entrepreneurs (CEPB), the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB), NGOs and civil society, the Bolivian Catholic Bishops Conference, multilateral organizations and agencies of international cooperation.

<sup>2.</sup> The laws through which the provisions of Convention 182 are applied are as follows: the Bolivian Constitution. Law No. 2650 of April 13, 2004. Articles 6, 157, 177, 178, 179 and 180 concern child labor. The Child and Adolescent Code. Law No. 2026, October 27, 1999. Articles 2, 3, 5, 6, 115, 116, 121, and 124 to 156; 269, paragraph 4), transitory provision 2; Supreme Decree No. 27443 of April 2004. Regulations of the Child and Adolescent Code, Articles 47 to 56; General Labor Law. Supreme Decree No. 224 of August 23, 1943. Articles 21, 22, 27, 52 to 58; Decree Law of August 19, 1936, Articles 1, 2 and 4; Penal Code. Decree Law No. 10426 of August 23, 1972. Amended by Law No. 1768 of March 10, 1997, Articles 245, 246, 247, 291, 313, 318, 319, 320 to 325; Civil Code, Article 4, amended by Law No. 2089 of May 5, 2000; Family Code, Article 130, paragraph 3; Supreme Decree No. 21290 of January 30, 1999. Rights and Duties of Youth; Ministerial Resolution No. 442/04 of September 7, 2004, Regulations for Adolescent Labor under the General Labor Law, the Law on Hygiene, Occupational Safety and Welfare and the ILO Conventions ratified by Bolivia.

- The Ministry of Labor is behind **Ministerial Resolution NO. 597/02** of December 26, 2002, which creates the Office of the Commissioner for the Progressive Elimination of Child Labor (CEPTI), within the framework of the government policy for children and adolescents and Supreme Resolution No. 220849. The Office is part of the Ministry of Labor and is to provide support and technical coordination to the National Commission for the Progressive Elimination of Child Labor. This resolution calls for the Commissioner's Office to be included in the Ministry of Labor's Annual Plan of Operations, which implies an obligation to earmark funding for the Office within the Ministry's budget and provide it with the infrastructure needed for CEPTI to begin operating in 2003.
- The National Plan for the Progressive Elimination of Child Labor has been underway since 2002 and is a 10-year plan. It includes short-, medium- and long-term functions along four main lines of activity: promotion, prevention, inspection, and direct care, focused on three strategic areas of intervention:
  - Reducing child labor among those under the age of 14.
  - Protecting working adolescents over the age of 14.
  - Eliminating the worst forms of child and adolescent labor.
- Execution of the National Plan for the Progressive Elimination of Child Labor (PNEPTI) began in 2002 and in June 2005 a mid-term evaluation was done to make the adjustments needed to achieve the planned goals within the established timeframe.
- As a result of that evaluation, a Three-Year National Plan for the Progressive Elimination of Child Labor 2006-2008 was drawn up, which seeks to promote effective and sustainable measures to heighten the impact of the elimination of the worst forms of child and adolescent labor, to establish policies and measures aimed at job and social protection for adolescents, and to reduce child labor among children under the age of 14.
- Through the Office of the Commissioner for the Progressive Elimination of Child Labor, set up for the plan's implementation, the Ministry of Labor is coordinating activities established under three subcommittees: the Mining Subcommittee, the Harvest Subcommittee, and the Urban Subcommittee.

The **Mining Subcommittee** is composed of public and private institutions, among them the following: the Ministries of Labor, Education, Health and Sports, the Office of the Vice Minister of Youth, Children and the Elderly and the Office of Vice Minister of Mining, the Offices of the Mayors of Potosí and Llallagua, the *Fundación Arco Iris*, the Bolivian Center for Educational Research and Action (CEBIAE), the Potosí Departmental Education Service, UNICEF, ILO-IPEC, Canada's Center for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI), the Mining Promotion Center (CEPROMIN), the Foundation for the Environment, Mining and Industry (MEDMIN), and CARE-Bolivia.

With the support of ILO-IPEC and a grant from the USDOL, CEPROMIN conducted the Program of Action for the Elimination of Child Mine Labor in Siglo XX, Llallagua (2001-2004 periods).

Since October 2002, CARE-Bolivia and CEPROMIN have been conducting the Educational Project for the Progressive Elimination and Prevention of Child Mine Labor (PETIM) in the Cerro Rico of Potosí and Llallagua. As part of the project, direct measures have been taken targeting 4,650 children working in mining-related activities (as tour guides, as vendors of mineral samples, and as 'hand pickers' who select and gather scrap). Of these, at least 682 between the ages of 6 and 17 work underground in the mines or in the mills (to assist with drilling or haul the material), under dangerous and unhealthy conditions.

The *Potosí Action Program*, focused on children working underground in the Cerro Rico of Potosí (from the age of 12 they haul rocks on their backs, break up rocks [llampiris], collect rock by hand at the entrance to the mine and carry them to be processed, or pile rocks; from age 15 they work as drilling assistants, cart pushers or load haulers).

The Action Program for Institutional Strengthening with a view to the Elimination of Child Labor in its Worst Forms, conducted by the Fundación Arco Iris under the ILO Subregional Program to Prevent and Progressively Eliminate Child Labor in Small-Scale Mining in South America, is being carried out in the areas of Potosí, Siglo XX and Tipuani. Training is targeting local leaders and authorities.

The *Sugar Cane Harvest Subcommittee* (headquartered in Santa Cruz) is chaired by the Office of the Departmental Director of Labor of Santa Cruz and composed also of the Federation of Harvest Workers of Bolivia, Santa Cruz branch, Social Pastoral Office (CARITAS), Office of the Director of Social Development, Departmental Health Services (SEDES), Departmental Educational Services (SEDUCA), and Departmental Social Management Service (SEDEGES) of the Office of the Departmental Prefect, municipal governments and Child and Adolescent Protective Services in the sugar cane municipalities and the UNAGRO Corporation, Program for the Care of Children Under the Age of Six (PAN). In 2005, the program was expanded to include 9 municipalities: General Saavedra, Montero, Mineros, Cotoca, La Guardia, Portachuelo, Okinawa, El Torno, and Warnes.

This Subcommittee's Intervention Plan encompasses activities involving promotion, prevention, direct care, and inspection, with funding from UNICEF.

**Promotion and Prevention.** Since 2003, a team effort has been underway with the Offices of Child and Adolescent Protective Services in municipalities involved in the sugar cane harvest (four at the outset and twelve since 2005) and the judge of the Santa Cruz juvenile court system. The effort features workshops to heighten awareness among parents, officials, sugar cane workers, sugar mill executives and the general public.

Advocacy visits were made to various municipal and departmental authorities to get commitments to undertake joint actions to eliminate child labor. Nine municipal mayors pledged to team up with the Subcommittee.

Radio programs. "La Voz del Zafrero" (The Harvester's Voice) program, broadcast by Radio María Auxiliadora, and the "El Amanecer" (Dawn) program broadcast over Radio Auténtica FM 101.1, report the activities being conducted and address issues related to the rights of children and adolescents, the importance of getting an elementary education, and other issues of interest.

School support. In order to assist families of harvest workers, school materials are being supplied to enable their children to attend school. In order to receive this assistance, however, parents must pledge that their children will not work.

**Inspection.** Inspectors from the Office of the Director of the Santa Cruz Department of Labor conduct monthly inspections of the harvest workers' camps to check on working conditions, to make certain that children are not working in the harvest and to ensure that those adolescents who are working do so under conditions appropriate to their abilities and circumstances.

Workshops were held on labor law, with the emphasis on child labor laws. The workshops were attended by harvest workers, cane producers, entrepreneurs and municipal authorities.

**Direct Care.** Families of workers in the program receive health care through the teams that provide free health care services. Children and adolescents attending the schools serving the harvest workers' camps also receive primary health care.

The Bermejo Sugar Cane Harvest Subcommittee is composed of the Office of the Regional Director of Labor, the Catholic Church's Social Assistance Organization, the PAN Centers, SEDEGES, SEDUCA, the Health Network, the Civic Committee, the Offices of Child and Adolescent Protective Services, the Office of the Mayor, the Federation of Harvest Workers and the Bermejo Federation of Sugar Cane Producers. This Subcommittee's work is conducted with UNICEF's technical and economic assistance. It focuses on promotion, prevention, direct care, and inspection. The Office of the Bermejo Regional Director of Labor is in charge of implementing the measures taken to assist children and adolescents in the harvest workers' camps.

**Urban Labor Subcommittee (La Paz and El Alto).** State and private institutions participate on this subcommittee and include the *Iniciativas Maya Paya Klimsa*, the *Fundacion VIDA*, *Aldeas Infantiles S.O.S.*, *Alalay, Compation Internacional, Fundación Arco Iris, ENDA-Bolivia, Misión Adula*, the Ministry of Labor, the Office of the Prefect of the Department of La Paz (SEDEGES and the Office of the Director of Social Development), the offices of the municipal mayors of La Paz and El Alto, *Asociación de Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes Trabajadores* (NNAT), La Paz Social

Management Mechanism, ILO-IPEC, Ministry of Education, Confederation of Private Entrepreneurs).

Strategic Planning and a 2006-2008 Work Plan are in place. They focus on reducing the worst forms of child labor in the urban area and protecting the rights of working children and adolescents. Plans are to create urban subcommittees in all Bolivian departments, coordinated by the departmental heads of the Ministry of Labor.

- In cooperation with the ILO and UNICEF, the Ministry of Labor prepared a Child Labor Training Module (February 2006) to strengthen the lines of action of the Ministry's departmental and regional chiefs and inspectors. The module concerns the elimination of child labor and protection for working adolescents.
- 3. To reduce youth unemployment and significantly lower the percentage of young people that neither study nor work. We shall strengthen our efforts in the development of specific policies for training, vocational training, reinsertion into the educational system and promotion of access of young people of either gender to their first job. In this respect, some countries promote youth employment in non traditional sectors such as in the conservation and rehabilitation of the environment and in areas of public-private partnerships to enable access to formal education and introductory professional courses in the workplace. We shall promote targeting these programs, in particular, towards youths that are most vulnerable, whether because of low levels of education or low income.

Bolivian adolescents and youth play a significant role in the country's economic and social activity and enter the labor market at a very early age. The data show that out of every 100 adolescents and youth, 48 have some kind job, although there is a significant difference between the number of young males with jobs (56%) and the number of young females (44%).

As for working status, 48% work, suggesting that a large percentage of the youth are part of the economically active population. However, this does not necessarily mean that working youth are receiving an income or any other form of economic remuneration.

Children, adolescents and youth account for an increasing share of the economically active population, as more and more females join the work force. In the 15-24 age bracket, the figure went from 30% to 40%, which reveals increased participation on the part of those young people who do not go on to university, technical or other studies. By 2005, 38.47% of those who remained in school up to the secondary level were in the work force, while 61.53% of young people who pursued post-secondary studies were in the work force.

Wages and salaries paid to youth in the work force have remained more or less unchanged, with some slight changes, mainly associated with gender and the traditional differences associated with women's place in the work force. The job profile for women is mainly in the informal sector and domestic service. While the job profile for men is more varied, their presence within the informal sector has increased. In response to young people's labor situation, the government has stepped up efforts to conduct specific measures with public and private institutions, aimed at training and on-the-job training, and improving their place in the work force to ensure decent jobs.

In this connection, the La Paz Municipal Government announced the "**My First Decent Job**" Program, in which 1,730 young professionals applied for 150 posts to join the work force through government. This program will invest 45 thousand dollars for the salaries of the junior professionals. The latter will work for three months in various units of City Hall, for a monthly salary of US\$100.

The AUTAPO Foundation devised a program that will improve the conditions under which young people join the work force. To this end, a Technical Job Training Program was set in motion, targeting young high school graduates from low-income families.

The program was launched in May 2006 and is set to last three years. The Technical Job Training for Young High School Graduates matches the training to the employment and self-employment jobs being created. It does this through formal training and job experience by supplying training in skills that are in demand on the job market.

The initial results are as follows: 1,928 young people applied with the municipal governments of La Paz, El Alto, Sucre and Santa Cruz. Of these, 1,115 participated in the program (644 males and 471 females) between the ages of 17 and 25. Underway at the present time are 44 actions (30 production-related and 14 in services) in technical vocational training.

Similarly, the Ministry of Labor plans to execute the "My First Decent Job" Pilot Program whose main purpose is to make it easier for young urban high school graduates of modest means, between the ages of 18 and 24, to enter the work force in greater numbers, by making them more employable on the job market. The Pilot Program will feature youth apprenticeship and entrepreneurship programs.

In practice, the Pilot Program will target the cities of El Alto, La Paz, Santa Cruz de la Sierra and Cochabamba. Working through the Ministry of Labor's Job Exchange, the program will provide registration, counseling and information services to young people seeking jobs, classify them and direct them to training institutes (*institutos de capacitación* – ICAPS). The training activities will be matched to labor demand in the productive sector and businesses with jobs to offer.

During the pilot year, the "My First Decent Job" Program will benefit 4,014 young people in four cities: 2,870 in training and apprenticeships, 1,040 in entrepreneurial training, and finally 104 in community youth businesses.

## 7.- To implement policies that provide equal pay for equal work or, as appropriate, for work of equal value.

Policies promoting equal pay for equal work are informed by the Constitution, Article 157 of which clearly provides the following: "Labor and capital are protected by the State. The law shall regulate their conditions and terms by establishing rules on individual and collective contracting, minimum wage, maximum work day, work by women and minors, paid semi-annual and annual leave, holidays, the annual extra month's pay, bonuses or other systems of sharing in company profits, compensation for years of service, termination, vocational training and other social benefits and protections for workers. The State must create conditions that guarantee job stability and fair pay for every employment opportunity."

Clearly, as is the function of government, the necessary policies have been introduced. The national minimum wage was increased (13.63%) in administration year 2006, from Bs. 440 to 500; during this administration, the minimum wage rose 5%. As workers must receive fair pay for their work, Supreme Decree 29116 ordered that salary increases for the present administration should be determined by agreement of the parties, using 5% as the baseline figure.

## 8. To significantly reduce the levels of unregistered work by implementing or strengthening mechanisms that ensure enforcement of national labor laws in the workplace.

To achieve broader coverage and strengthen mechanisms that ensure enforcement of and compliance with the country's labor laws and reduce levels of unregistered work, the Office of the Superintendent of Business has established direct contact with the executive echelons of various businesses to make them aware of and apprise them of the project. The latter will establish an enterprise register so that all businesses nationwide, in both rural and urban areas, are able to formally document their existence.

This register will allow all businesses (large, medium, small and micro businesses, including those in rural areas), to document their participation in the economy and their productive capacity. Later, once the businesses have listed themselves on the enterprise register, training will be given to provide guidance on the formalities of setting up businesses. Then, businesses already formally registered will be allowed to apply for financing channeled through the Productive Development Bank and other institutions.

The Ministry of Labor has been taking measures in this area since April 2007, in the form of a Project on Implementation of the National Enterprise Register. This will be a four-month project, the main purpose of which will be to arm the Ministry of Labor with reliable and timely data on businesses and workers, thus helping it to strengthen the inspection and dispute-settlement services it provides nationwide. The project will expand coverage for purposes of tracking and updating employer information to check for compliance with regulations and laws, inspection related to labor, employment, industrial safety issues, the cooperative movement, unions and other related matters.

In the end, 34,000 businesses and 680,000 workers will be registered in all the departmental directorates and regional offices of the Ministry of Labor.

# 9. To promote goals for the gradual registration of workers who are wage earners but not covered by social protection, especially domestic workers.

Within the limits of its budget and staff, the Ministry of Labor is conducting labor-related and technical inspections to check for the observance of the workers' labor rights; however, the only penalty the employer receives is a fine, following the corresponding court proceeding.

An inter-ministerial commission has been created to craft new policies on the issue of decent jobs.

A law was enacted on April 3, 2003 recognizing the labor rights of domestic workers. However, regulatory legislation has still to be enacted. The Ministry of Labor is attentive to this sector of the work force and to enforcement of and compliance with this law.

11. To promote tripartite and inclusive social dialogue and cooperation among social partners and governments and call on the ILO for support as needed.

In recent years, the issue of three-way dialogue has not been given the attention it deserves. Therefore, the strategic program for this administration features a series of measures aimed at promoting social dialogue with entrepreneurs and workers, emphasizing discussion of the issue of employment.

14. To increase the proportion of the active population, both employed and unemployed, that participates in occupational training activities to acquire or update their skills, including those required in the knowledge-based economy, making use of the good practices developed by CINTERFOR/ILO in various countries in the region.

To increase the number of economically active persons—both employed and unemployed—participating in vocational training activities and to update skills, the National Center for Labor Training (INFOCAL), recognized by the Inter-American Centre for Knowledge Development in Vocational Training (CINTERFOR/ILO), is conducting vocational training activities in the following formats:

**A dual-track training system,** which is training in both theory and practice, conducted in two places: the National Center for Labor Training (INFOCAL) and the labor center for the specific area of study concerned.

A fixed-center training system, which is vocational training targeting high school graduates, presented as an excellent alternative to a traditional university education. INFOCAL also provides job training, to develop participants' skills through instruction in theory and practice.

During the 2005 period, 49,123 training certificates were handed out nationwide; the number of those benefited increased to 57,621 in 2006.

The number of graduates from the dual-track vocational training and fixed center formats increased nationwide, from 484 benefited in 2005 to 551 in 2006.

Another important area is that of certification of job skills. The Ministries of Education and Labor, as state institutions, are preparing a pilot proposal for coordinating and directing activities undertaken by public and private entities.

16. To promote occupational health and safety conditions and facilitate healthy work environments for all workers, and, to that end, ensure effective labor inspection systems. For this purpose, it is essential to foster strategic alliances between the labor, health, environment and education sectors.

To the extent that budget and staffing allow, this duty is carried out through training, inspections and other measures in the area of industrial safety (specifically, occupational health and hygiene). The meetings of the Andean Committee on Workplace Safety and Health have resumed. Accordingly, progress is being made on internal regulations and standards with a view to their

implementation and as a means to determine what rules and standards the member countries must observe. Finally, the Ministry of Labor has training programs for employers and workers on the subject of occupational safety, health and hygiene. It also plans to amend and update Decree Law No. 16998.

18. To adopt measures to encourage the full and effective exercise of the rights of all workers, including migrant workers, as well as application of core labor standards, such as those contained in the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its follow-up, adopted in 1998. Explore ways for the ILO to provide technical advisory services to member states to help them accomplish that objective.

Operating through its departmental and regional labor offices, the Ministry of Labor promotes the rights of workers. These offices answer worker's inquiries. This year, workers' rights are being protected through the project to educate workers and employers on labor-related matters.

#### 1.2 GROWTH WITH EMPLOYMENT

24. To promote an inclusive social tripartite and transparent dialogue as an instrument for the proposition of policies and resolution of labor conflicts in order to strengthen the representation and stimulate the participation of unions and of employer organizations in the formulation and implementation of national policies for the promotion of decent work.

Pursuant to the provisions of Law No. 3351 on the Organization of Bolivia's Executive Branch of Government, dated February 21, 2008, the Ministry of Labor is responsible for guaranteeing effective protection of the rights of Bolivian workers, monitoring for enforcement and observance of Bolivian labor laws and international conventions on labor-related matters, and preserving the right of all workers to unionize. To that end, under this administration, in 2006 the Ministry of Labor spearheaded a number of measures to serve workers' interests. Salient among these were enactment of the Law on Organized Labor's Authority, which protects union leaders of workers' organizations, and repeal of Article 55 of Supreme Decree No. 21060 and Article No. 39 of Supreme Decree No. 22407, thereby restoring workers' job stability. Another development in which the Ministry took the lead was the recovery of the minimum wage's purchasing power.

To undertake, when pertinent, an analysis of the structure of employment at the national, regional, and local level and of the sectors and sub-sectors that might have a higher potential impact on increases of income, employment and poverty reduction.

According to the employment structure contained in the National Development Plan, there were 4,614,773 jobs in the Bolivian economy in 2005, distributed as follows:

### NUMBER OF JOBS BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY 2005

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE SHARE (%)	
Agriculture and livestock	31.12	
Mining, gas and petroleum	2.15	
Industry and manufacturing	9.57	
Construction	6.91	
Electric power and water	0.65	
Business	14.66	
Services	34.94	
TOTAL	100.00	

This table shows that the productive sectors—agriculture and livestock, mining, gas and petroleum, industry and manufacturing, and construction—do not account for 50 percent of all jobs. This means that small business units account for over 60 percent of all jobs.

Among the economically active population, the unemployed number 261,000. Of these, 231,000 are from urban areas and 29,000 are from rural areas. Among unemployed young people, 71,000 are seeking jobs for the first time: 63,000 are from urban areas and 8,000 from rural areas.

Among the ranks of the employed, at least 2,600,000 are non-wage-earners. Of these, 1,125,171 are from urban areas and 1,482,061 from rural areas. These figures suggest that the modern sector of the economy is unable to generate jobs that are satisfactory from the economic and social standpoints

The main purpose of job creation will be to reshape the productive configuration. Scale of transformations is in the main sectors of industry, manufacturing and craftsmanship, agriculture and livestock, tourism, construction and housing.

At the time the National Development Plan was drawn up in mid 2006, various studies were done as input for the document in question. The studies were about job creation up to 2011. Based on the information available at the time, the National Development Plan estimates that some 90,000 new jobs would be created each year of this administration.

26. To make efforts aimed at facilitating the incorporation and/or enlargement, as appropriate, to our national statistics systems, of the information on the contribution to the generation of added value, reduction of poverty, fostering of social welfare by productive cooperatives and other independent labor categories.

Bolivia is one of the Latin American countries where the levels of informality are highest, with the result that a sizeable sector of the population lives in structural poverty. In order to examine ways to bring these people out of poverty, more variables have been introduced into the household surveys conducted by the National Institute of Statistics of Bolivia (INE). The 2005 and the 2006 household surveys included a special section on employment, which has been made available to researchers at the INE's web site.

27. To promote increased communication between ministries responsible for economic, social, and labor policies at the national level with the objective of coordinating policies centered on job creation and poverty reduction.

Supreme Decree No. 28631 of March 2006 created the National Council on Economic and Social Policy (CONAPES), composed of the Ministers in the Economic and Social Area<sup>3/</sup> and chaired by the President of the Republic. Its mission is to formulate and propose policies, general strategies and legal provisions, and to coordinate measures on issues related to economic and social development.

The National Development Plan also creates two inter-ministerial liaison bodies to monitor the creation and improvement of jobs in the quest to "Live Well." They are described below:

"Program 1: System for monitoring employment and observance of rights. The Technical Secretariat of CONAPES will introduce an economic policy monitoring system with the accent on jobs and employment, and craft a permanent mechanism for compiling, organizing, and analyzing data on jobs and employment, their nature and the determining or causal factors; the system will also feature projections or forecasts, which will mean coordinating with the agencies responsible for compiling data and the ministries involved, such as the Ministry of Production and the Ministry of Labor. It will also develop the economic policy baseline and the employment baseline of the National Development Plan and conduct specialized studies related to employment policy and management thereof. It will set up communications mechanisms so that the employment and jobs data can be made public. This will be the foundation of a "labor observatory," to which end the CONAPES Technical Secretariat will be strengthened. A total of one million dollars will be invested in the five-year period to enable the CONAPES Technical Secretariat to conduct these activities.

Program 2: The National Employment Committee (CONEM). CONEM is an advisory body in which the public and private sectors and social and labor organizations participate. It is a means to build consensus on the direction of employment policy and the direction of the economic policy that impacts employment policy. The ministers in the economic sector, and the ministers of education, health and justice, could figure among the membership of this Committee; society could be represented by labor and territorial organizations; and national organizations of micro-, small, medium and large-scale enterprise could represent the business sector. Briefly, the Committee could do the following: i) give its opinion on employment-related public policy proposals; ii) identify and articulate proposals and demands from the economic sectors: state, private and community; iii) monitor and suggest corrections to employment-related public policies.

Medium term efforts will be directly geared at effecting regulatory and institutional changes to ensure the creation of decent jobs; but they will also be geared at promoting labor organizations, employment and job training, and at ensuring that activities are carried out to promote enterprise.

<sup>3.</sup> The following ministries serve on this Committee: the Ministry of Labor; the Ministry of Planning and Development (DUF, NAFIBO); the Ministry of Production and Micro-Enterprise; the Ministry of Defense; the Ministry of Rural Agricultural Development and Environment; the Ministry of the Office of the President; and the Ministry of Public Works.

# 28. To encourage investment in basic infrastructure having a high positive impact on employment in order to promote growth and productive employment

In the National Development Plan, the National Government has prioritized public investment in basic infrastructure, mainly in transportation infrastructure as a factor that will be critical to the country's productive connectivity. Obviously, the condition of the country's infrastructure will be one of the factors shaping its productive sectors' ability to compete. The National Development Plan factors in the importance of the transportation infrastructure and services to the country's productive development. The National Government has worked to build up the PROVIAL-Bolivia Program, whereby roads in the basic highway network can be maintained by micro-enterprises composed of persons living near the roads being maintained. Being labor-intensive, one of the pillars of this program is the creation of productive employment.

# 29. To promote and encourage, when pertinent, the creation of agencies and fora for the identification and feasibility assessment of investment projects in basic infrastructure.

Enactment of Law 3507 on October 27, 2006, created the new Bolivian Highway Administration (replacing the National Highway Service), thereby strengthening institutions in that sector. The purpose of the new agency is to build roads that contribute to the country's development and to pave roads, since only 29% of Bolivia's roads are paved. There are also plans to create a National Investments Council to evaluate and rank the projects to be carried out.

30. To promote training and technical and credit assistance services, and professional training, and to strengthen the development of business, technological, and management skills for micro, small, and medium-sized companies, facilitating their inclusion as local suppliers.

Supreme Decree 28938, of November 22, 2006, created the National Productive Development Service (SENADEPRO), whose purpose is to: i) improve productivity and competitiveness; ii) renew and improve productive organizations' access to technological development; iii) strengthen productive and management processes; iv) get Bolivian businesses a foothold in local, regional, and export markets, and v) enhance the professional qualifications, technical skills, specialization and practical training among workers.

SENADEPRO will conduct programs and projects involving training, technical assistance and technology transfer, with urban and rural productive sectors actively participating. It will also organize networks of prototype organizations into programs and projects in business development. The approach will be one of mutually supportive economics and fair trade.

32. To stimulate the design or strengthening of mechanisms or initiatives for access to credit by, among other measures, the fostering of the property registry and cadastre, in which legal certainty is expressed, among other means, through the verification of the title and the use of it, ensuring that the property rights benefit all people without discrimination

Plans are that the National System for Financing Productive Development provided for in the National Development Plan will make credit more accessible to business and social organizations in rural and urban areas, thereby enabling economic diversification.

Under Supreme Decree 28999 of January 1, 2007, the *Banco de Desarrollo Productivo* (SAM) (BDP – Productive Development Bank) is to organize the *Nacional Financiera Boliviana SAM* (NAFIBO) as a second-tier bank. The new entity's priority is to actively participate in promoting and financing national productive development in partnership and with mutual encouragement, by establishing interest rates, guarantees, repayment periods, and other financing terms that are accommodating and fit into the production cycle of the productive sectors. The BDP will begin operations on May 2, with 60 million dollars in its own capital, offering interest rates of less than 1% and with repayment periods that are longer than those offered on loans now available to the productive sector.

33. To favor the research, development, and adoption of renewable and efficient energy sources and the deployment of technology for cleaner and more efficient energy sources, including among them, those that foster the intensive use of labor, which, together with the promotion of sustainable development, and addressing climate change concerns, permit the reduction of poverty.

In the area of renewable energy the Electric Power Company has suggested that a locally targeted wind map be drawn, although the Office of the Vice Minister of Electric Power and Alternative Energy Sources believes that a nationwide map is essential. The work to assess the windenergy potential must go hand-in-hand with efforts to modernize the laws and regulations governing the sector if the goal is to make wind energy a public utility. There are also plans to conduct studies on the geothermal potential in Laguna Colorado, in conjunction with Mexico and ECLAC. The CAF has suggested a study to exploit the hydroelectric potential of the Río Madera.

### 34. To stimulate policies that improve income distribution

As part of the effort to promote a decent and prosperous Bolivia, the PND sets out policies designed to improve income distribution. One focus of the plan is eradicating poverty and any form of exclusion, discrimination, marginalization and exploitation, ensuring that all people are able to fully exercise their social, political, cultural, and economic rights, thereby strengthening a sense of solidarity and reciprocity that **materializes in a more equitable distribution of income and wealth** and leaves the people better off socially, economically, and politically.

The following are some of the specific policies that the Plan pursues: i) development banking; ii) distribution of the resources obtained through nationalization so that they benefit those most in need; and iii) implementation of the social safety net.

Other important initiatives include the steps taken to restore the purchasing power of the minimum wage in May 2006, establishment of a new salary scale within the public sector for a better distribution of income within that sector, one that more closely approximates income distribution in the private sector.

36. To encourage the exchange of experience with regard to the role of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises and access to procurement programs, in the creation of productive jobs, development of competitive skills, reduction of the informal sector, and the fight against poverty.

Supreme Decree No. 27328, dated January 31, 2004 (Buy Bolivian) provides that the State has an obligation to play the role of protagonist in the country's economy. The highest-ranking

executive authorities must therefore take measures to ensure that their respective entities modernize the capacity and characteristics of the national production of goods, works and services.

COMPROBOL was re-launched under this administration, this time with a new vision, different from the one used in the past. COMPROBOL was reconfigured from the legal standpoint (decrees and laws), as were its operations and its scope. COMPROBOL now focuses on national production, with emphasis on small urban and rural producers supplying the State's needs.

39. To substantially improve the capacity at the national, regional, and hemispheric levels for risk mitigation; to implement cost-effective and robust early warning systems, and to enhance disaster recovery and reconstruction capabilities in collaboration with relevant international and regional institutions. To explore with relevant international and regional institutions the coordinated development of effective public-private catastrophic risk insurance systems.

To improve the capacity for risk mitigation, the Office of the Director of Emergency and Relief Services, which is part of the Ministry of National Defense, is coordinating its own activities with institutions involved in measuring and disseminating climate data at the national level. The objective is to improve the performance of early warning systems when emergencies occur. The Office of the Director of Emergency and Relief Services is also taking measures to support emergency-preparedness and relief coordination centers in order to strengthen the National System for Disaster Preparedness and Prevention.

As for disaster recovery and rebuilding, no measures have as yet been taken to enhance recovery capabilities. However, the Office of the Director for Prevention and Reconstruction is in the process of classifying, by sector, the damages caused by the 2006/2007 *El Niño* phenomenon so as to then be able to prioritize projects by sector, region, and socioeconomic impact. The idea here is to develop a Global Approach that is consistent with the thrust of the National Development Plan.

Once this Global Approach has been achieved, an analysis will be done of the measures needed to enhance disaster recovery and reconstruction capabilities.

### 1.3 SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT<sup>4</sup>/

49. To promote efforts to ensure, by 2010, completion of quality primary school education for all children, and promote the setting of goals, before 2007, for the completion of quality middle-school education.

Supreme Decree 28,899 of October 26, 2006, created the Juancito Pinto Bonus the purpose of which is to stop school drop-out and pay children who attend school regularly from grades 1 to 5. As a result of the nationalization of hydrocarbons, on May 1, 2006, oil companies began to pay new taxes and royalties totaling 31 million dollars. That money was earmarked to pay the sum of Bs. 200 to every student. Estimates are that some 1,200,000 children nationwide received the bonus.

<sup>4.</sup> Web, Ministry of Education and Culture

### 1.4 STRENGTHEN DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE<sup>5</sup>/

63. To urge member states, as necessary, to consider signing and ratifying, or adhering to the additional Protocol of the Inter-American Convention on Human Rights in the Area of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, "Protocol of San Salvador" and to collaborate in the development of progress indicators in the area of economic, social, and cultural rights, in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 2074 (XXXV-0/05) of the thirty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly.

Through Law 3293, enacted on December 12, 2005, Bolivia ratified the Additional Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights in the Area of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, "Protocol of San Salvador." The Protocol establishes a monitoring mechanism, which the OAS now has under discussion. Bolivia's support for the establishment of this mechanism was reported to the Bolivian Mission in late 2006.

#### 2. OTHER MANDATES

### 2.1 MIGRATION-RELATED ISSUES<sup>6</sup>/

Declaration of Mar del Plata – Mandates 26, 27 and 28 Plan of Action – Mandates 17, 18, 20, and 21

In recent years, the number of Bolivians emigrating to the traditional destinations (Argentina, Brazil, and the United States) has increased sharply, as has the number emigrating to other new destinations like Spain and Italy. Many Bolivian émigrés have encountered discrimination in some countries and regions of countries. This is primarily the experience of émigrés of indigenous origin or descent, although *mestizo* émigrés have also experienced discrimination in some countries.

The present administration has prioritized problems like the emigration issue, which affect society. Through its Consular Service, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship has set up a social safety net whose goal is to find real solutions, in an efficient and transparent way, to the many needs of Bolivians around the world. The programs being conducted to serve Bolivian citizens abroad are as follows:

Negotiation of Immigration Regularization Agreements. As of the present time, Bolivia has signed four Immigration Regularization Agreements with the neighboring countries of Argentina, Brazil, Peru, and Paraguay, as these are principal receiving countries of Bolivian émigrés.

The main purpose of the Program to Assist Bolivian Citizens Abroad is to increase and improve the assistance that the embassies and consulates of Bolivia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship provide to Bolivians living abroad. The program involves the following measures:

<sup>5.</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship

<sup>6.</sup> Idem

- Documenting Bolivians abroad (by providing birth certificates, background information, passports, identification cards, etc.). The program to document Bolivian émigrés in Argentina has been underway since 2006 and has had great success. The goal is to facilitate regularization of their immigration status under the "Patria Grande" Program.
- To work to get the Bolivian Associations actively engaged in organizing Bolivians abroad to defend their rights.

Program to Promote and Respect the Human Rights of Bolivian Immigrants, which publicizes and circulates human rights conventions and the Palermo Protocol.

The National Strategy for a Frontal Attack against Prostitution and Trafficking in Persons, which the Government of Bolivia approved in 2006, is run by the Ministry of Justice. The Government also approved the Law against Prostitution and Trafficking in Persons.

Under section 6, titled "A Sovereign Bolivia," the National Development Plan prioritizes the "Program for Protecting and Serving Bolivian Citizens Abroad," whose objectives are, *inter alia*, to document Bolivians abroad, help regularize their immigration status, defend their rights, and ensure their participation in elections.

The Government of Bolivia plans to set up a system to enable Bolivians living abroad to vote, thereby complying with the provisions of the Constitution, the Electoral Code and the Law on Convoking the Constituent Assembly and responding to the justifiable demands that thousands of Bolivians have long been making to be able to exercise their right to vote and be regarded as active members of Bolivian society.

# 2.2 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT<sup>7/</sup> Declaration of Mar del Plata – Mandate 39

The First Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities on Sustainable Development was held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, December 4 and 5, 2006. The meeting approved the "Declaration of Santa Cruz + 10."

With the State's active participation, Bolivia will make sustainable use of its timberland and biodiversity, both in primary production and industrialization, the goal being to improve the population's living conditions, mainly among indigenous and native communities. This policy is premised on the principle of restoring the balance between the need to preserve nature and the economic demands of national development, in order for the population to "Live Well": "To take only the necessary from nature; use it, replace it and preserve it."

In keeping with the decisions agreed upon in the Declaration of Santa Cruz + 10 and the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development, Bolivia is developing programs in rehabilitation and sustainable reconstruction, cleaner production, establishment of national capacities

<sup>7.</sup> Office of the Vice Ministry of Territorial and Environmental Planning.

to achieve total elimination of the substances depleting the ozone layer and environmental mitigation in mining.

# 2.3 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES<sup>8</sup> Declaration of Mar del Plata – Mandate 31

The Indigenous Caucus was held in La Paz on April 20, 2007. The Tenth Meeting of Negotiations in the Quest for Points of Consensus on the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was held on April 23, 2007.

At the meeting, the Chair's approach was to read the Section Three articles in the Plenary. The Chair formed a Drafting Group, coordinated by Bolivia (the Ministry of Justice). The texts that the Working Group drafted were then approved by the Plenary:

- Two paragraphs of Article XIV, and another approved *ad referendum* of the Indigenous Caucus.
- One paragraph of Article XV (indigenous spirituality)
- Two paragraphs of Article XVII (health).

An important part of the consensus building in the drafting group was to remove bracketed text, leaving the text with fewer comments and with a better chance of passage.

The Government of Bolivia enacted Law No. 3364 on Convocation of the Constituent Assembly. Once the constituents were elected on July 2, the Assembly was installed on August 5, 2006. The Assembly is composed of 256 representatives whose express mandate is to draft a new Constitution, which will launch a process of reshaping Bolivia's foundation and agenda to include, *inter alia*, the demands of the indigenous peoples, the regions, and the grassroots movement.

The Continental Summit of Indigenous Peoples and Nationalities of Abya Yala was held from October 8 through 12, 2006. More than a thousand indigenous leaders met in La Paz, Bolivia. The objectives of the event were to enable the indigenous peoples and nationalities of the Hemisphere to meet and interact, create bridges enabling their organizations to partner for the defense of their rights, actively participate in building the peoples' and nationalities' diplomatic relations, and put together the basics of an agenda of actions and activities that indigenous peoples and nationalities must undertake in response to neo-liberal policy.

Law No. 3545, titled "Law on Community Redirection of Agrarian Reform," was enacted on November 28, 2006. The new law amends the National Agrarian Reform Service Act, No. 1715, of October 18, 1996. The Agrarian Reform Redirection Law amends several articles in Law No. 1715, among them the definition of the Social and Economic Function, which must now be established in field. Under the new law, unfertile land may be expropriated and title to lands may be given to indigenous and rural communities. The Regulations governing this Law are pending approval. Once they are approved, expropriations will begin and title to land will begin to revert back to indigenous and rural communities.

<sup>8.</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship

### 2.4 CULTURE<sup>9/</sup>

#### Declaration of Mar del Plata – Mandate 38

The following are among the laws enacted to help preserve and protect Bolivia's historical and cultural heritage:

Law 3616 – March 12, 2007 – The Municipality of Todos Santos, Section Two of Puerto de Mejillones province in Oruro department, is declared "Departmental Garlic Capital."

Law 3611 – February 28, 2007 – The "Oruro National Bands Festival," held in Oruro, is declared part of Bolivia's national cultural heritage.

Law 3610 – February 28, 2007 – The Thousand-year Chipaya Culture in Sabaya province in Oruro department is declared part of Bolivia's cultural heritage.

Law 3607 – February 28, 2007 – The "ORURO'S ANDEAN ANATA" [a dance festival in which groups representing villages dance through the streets of Oruro] is declared part of Bolivia's Living, Natural, Material and Intangible Heritage.

Law 3603 – January 17, 2007 – The Tsimané (Chimane-Mosetene) Language, with its own unique alphabet, is declared part of Bolivia's intangible cultural heritage, along with the musical and folklore of the Tsimané-Moseten indigenous peoples of Bolivia.

Law 3543 –November 27, 2006 – The Municipality of Pocoata and its cantons of Campaya, Quisinpuku, Chayala, Tacarani, Arroz Pata, Senajo, Tomoyo and San Miguel de Kari in Chayanta Province of the department of Potosi, are declared part of Bolivia's cultural heritage and a tourism area.

Law 3539 – November 27, 2006 – The May 3 (De La Cruz) Festival of the Municipalities of Colquechaca, Macha, Pocoata and Ocurí in Chayanta province in the department of Potosí is declared part of the regional cultural heritage.

Law 3538 – November 27, 2006 - The Municipality of Colquechaca and its cantons of Guadalupe Surumi, Chairapata, Rosario Bombori, Macha and Aullagas in Chayanta province in the department of Potosí are declared part of the cultural heritage and a tourism area.

Law 3537 – November 27, 2006 – The Municipality of Ocurí and its cantons of Maragua and Marcoma in Chayanta province in the department of Potosí are declared part of Bolivian heritage and a tourism area.

Law 3486 – September 22, 2006 – The Autonomous Municipality of Roboré, Section Three of Chiquitos province in the department of Santa Cruz, is declared "The Pearl of the Bolivian Orient."

Law 3475 – September 19, 2006 – The Festival of the Virgin of Guadalupe, Patron of Sucre, is declared part of the Nation's Cultural and Religious Heritage.

<sup>9.</sup> The Official Gazette of Bolivia.

Law 3466 – September 12, 2006 – The religious festivals celebrated in the capitals of Carrasco, Mizque, Campero and Arani provinces are declared part of Bolivia's cultural heritage.

Law 3464 – September 4, 2006 – The Prefecture of the Department of La Paz is instructed to act on Law 3463 – August 17, 2006 – declaring the San Francisco de Tarija Convent Complex to be part of the National Historical and Cultural Heritage.

## 2.5 TERRORISM $\frac{10}{}$

#### Declaration of Mar del Plata - Mandates 68 and 69

Bolivia condemns and combats terrorism, in keeping with its policy of renouncing any act of terrorist and irrational violence that violates the basic laws established in international conventions. Bolivia plays an active role in the mechanisms that the United Nations has established to prevent and combat terrorism, through the Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee.

In regional organizations such as the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) and subregional organizations like the Andean Community of Nations (CAN) or MERCOSUR, Bolivia is coordinating initiatives examining the deep-seated causes of modern-day terrorism and its relationship to poverty, drug trafficking, the illicit traffic in weapons, the illicit movement of nuclear, chemical, biological, and other potentially lethal materials in order to agree upon effective reciprocal assistance measures to prevent all forms of terrorism. There was also significant judicial cooperation, since the international dimension of terrorism is now beyond the individual capacity of any single state to deal with it.

Bolivia is taking the following factors into account:

- All states must agree upon a definition of terrorists or terrorist groups.
- Prevention is essential to those states that do not have the terrorism problem within their borders, which means developing a response capability in the event of an outbreak of these criminal acts.
- The penalty imposed to punish terrorists or terrorist groups must be commensurate with the harm they cause to civil society and institutions of the state.
- With an eye to the future, modernization of the countries' laws should be encouraged to punish terrorist acts not contemplated and criminalized in the states' legal systems, as these acts can cause serious harm to the state, as in the case of cyber-terrorism.
- Customs Services, the Police, the Army, intelligence services, INTERPOL and other institutions need to beef up immigration and customs controls to identify and detain members of terrorist groups attempting to enter their countries.

<sup>10.</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship.

- Institutions that monitor and check for radioactive materials, nuclear materials, chemical and biological substances, and others, need to be enlisted into these control systems. To that end, it was proposed that countries should join international conventions and organizations on issues like unconventional weapons like chemical and biological weapons. Because they are inexpensive and easy to manufacture, such weapons are easier to use in terrorist acts than conventional high-cost weapons, which are not readily available on the market.
- Ethnic clashes, racism, corruption, and grassroots movements are among the factors that can breed terrorism and therefore need to be analyzed and monitored.

## 2.6 Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)<sup>11/</sup> Mandate 53

In keeping with the mandate established in the Plan of Action of the Fourth Summit of the Americas, progress has been made to strengthen regional cooperation and marshal resources to advance in the fight against the production, trafficking, and consumption of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances. In the specific case of Bolivia, this mechanism has been instrumental in winning approval for and implementation of the Project to Decentralize the Drug Prevention and Use Programs in Bolivia, with the support of CICAD and other donor countries. In developing a treatment system, the emphasis has been on a holistic approach to prevention systems and treatment and rehabilitation.

An agreement was signed with CICAD this month to jointly conduct the survey study on drug use in the home.

In the area of supply reduction, support has been received to implement integral development programs in the La Paz Yungas, as well as training programs for national coordinating agencies, prevention of consumption, money laundering, and so on.

At the 40th and 41st sessions of CICAD, Bolivia introduced its Strategy for Fighting Drug Trafficking and Revaluation of the Coca Leaf 2007-2010, and supported a request from countries in the region to add the topic of alternative development to the agendas of those sessions, so that CICAD would make it one of their priorities and provide technical and financial support on this issue.

<sup>11.</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship.