HEMISPHERIC COOPERATION ON PORTS: AGREEMENTS OF MONTEVIDEO 2016-2018

(Adopted on July 29, 2016, and reviewed by the Style Committee)

WE, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEMBER STATES THAT FORM THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON PORTS (CIP),

HAVING SEEN:


The financial reports of the Inter-American Committee on Ports submitted by its Secretariat on the status of implementation of the Special Port Program of the CIP and the budget for 2015 approved by resolution CECIP/RES. 1/15, “Agreements of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Executive Board of the Inter-American Committee on Ports for 2016”; and

CONSIDERING:

That the CIP is a permanent hemispheric forum of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) established in 1998 by resolution AG/RES. 1573 (XXVIII-O/98), “Proposal to Transform the Inter-American Port and Harbor Conference into the Inter-American Ports Commission,” in accordance with Articles 77 and 93 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) and Articles 5 and 15 of the CIDI Statutes;

That, according to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), 90 percent of world trade is transported by sea and that, therefore, the port sector plays a key role in international trade, hemispheric integration, and physical connectivity in the region;

That the modernization of the port system will result in the growth and increased competitiveness of the economies of the Americas, thus contributing to the reduction of poverty;
That the expansion of the Panama Canal will not only offer significant opportunities for development, but also pose challenges in terms of increasing human, technological, and infrastructure capabilities in the ports of the Americas;

That the Sixth Summit of the Americas (Cartagena 2012) stressed that the integration of physical infrastructure in the Hemisphere is indispensable for integral development, prosperity, and social inclusion; and

That, pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1 (XLVII-E/14) rev. 1, “Guidelines and Objectives of the Strategic Vision of the Organization of American States,” the integral development pillar promotes the establishment and strengthening of strategic partnerships with development institutions, international financial agencies, the private sector (public-private partnerships) and civil society organizations and other social actors, in order to promote and strengthen effective cooperation strategies and facilitate complementary partnership for development; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The commitments made in resolution 66/288, “The Future We Want,” adopted in the framework of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and in the resolution 70/1 “Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” which adopted a comprehensive set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which reflect crosscutting themes that are key to attaining sustainable development in its, social, economic, and environmental dimensions;

Relations with internal and external strategic partners for the creation of synergies in the framework of the OAS, in particular the collaboration between the CIP and the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security or the Inter-American Commission of Women, through the strengthening of programs in related areas to increase training and education opportunities; and

That the Secretary General of the OAS has highlighted the importance of ports for international trade and that the increase in trade in the countries of the Americas will continue to depend in good measure on ports with modern infrastructure to handle larger quantities of goods and services, which falls within the initiative of the OAS Secretary General to bridge gaps in maritime, air, and digital connectivity so as to mitigate structural shortcomings, in terms of both logistics and information and communication technologies, especially in the Caribbean basin,

RESOLVE:

1. To express our utmost sincere gratitude to the Government of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay and, in particular, to its National Port Administration (ANP), for its hospitality and for organizing the tenth regular meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP).

2. To congratulate the Government of Panama on the recent expansion of the Panama Canal, which becomes the new paradigm that will stimulate trade in the region through the modification of trade routes and increased capacity of ports.

3. To reaffirm the importance of the work done by the CIP as a permanent technical hemispheric forum on ports that contributes significantly to regional integration with active private-sector participation. In this context, it is important to highlight the work of the Inter-American Forum
of Successful Experiences in Port Development and its contribution to the dissemination of successful practices in the field of ports.

4. To promote public policies and the establishment of strategic partnerships, in particular those with the private sector that serve to develop port, sea, and land infrastructure that is economically and environmentally sustainable, in line with the new challenges presented by international trade.

5. To recognize the importance of the participation of civil society organizations and other social actors in strengthening democracy, social development, human rights, and security in all member states and to promote their participation in the port sector, particularly in developing public policies and port legislation issues.

6. To urge member states, when framing their port development plans, to take into account those strategic partnerships and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to the work of the Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) of the CIP, as well as the possible interactions existing among them.

7. To thank the representatives of the associate members, strategic partners, international organizations, experts, and special guests for their financial and in-kind contributions, which ensured the success both of this meeting and of the work of the CIP, and to invite them to continue to participate in CIP activities.

WITH REGARD TO THE WORK OF THE CIP AND ITS SECRETARIAT, WE RESOLVE:

8. To adopt the Work Plan of the Executive Board of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CECIP) and approve the CIP budget for 2016, the latter having been approved ad referendum by the CECIP at its seventeenth meeting held in Bridgetown, Barbados, on August 26, 2015.

9. To take note of the “Caribbean Cooperation Framework for Port Facility Security Officials” (CIP/CECIP/doc.18/15), prepared by the CIP Secretariat, and to instruct the TAG on Port Protection and Security to continue working with the CIP Secretariat on the guidelines for the statute of a future Caribbean Association of Port Facility Security Officials and to report to the CECIP at its eighteenth meeting in 2017.

10. To adopt, in accordance with the Action Plan of Cartagena and the Work Plan of the CECIP 2014-2016, the reports submitted by the Chair of the CECIP (CIDI/CIP/doc.15/16) and the chairs of the TAGS on Logistics, Innovation, and Competitiveness (CIDI/CIP/doc.7/16), on Sustainable Port Management and Environmental Protection (CIDI/CIP/doc.8/16), on Port Protection and Security (CIDI/CIP/doc.9/16), on Public Policy, Legislation and Regulation (CIDI/CIP/doc.10/16), on Tourism, Inland Ports and Waterways, Ship Services and Navigation Safety (CIDI/CIP/doc.11/16), and on Corporate Social Responsibility and Women in Ports (CIDI/CIP/doc.12/16), and to urge member states, particularly the members of each TAG, to collaborate actively in their activities.
11. To adopt the report on the activities of the CIP Secretariat (CIDI/CIP/Doc.13/16 rev. 2) within the framework of the Action Plan of Cartagena, as well as the report “The Status of CIP Special Port Program January-December 2015 and First Semester (January-June) 2016” (CIDI/CIP/doc.17/16) submitted by the CIP Secretariat.

12. To adopt with thanks the Plan of Action of Montevideo of the CIP (CIDI/CIP/doc.6/16 rev. 3) and, in order to support the tasks described therein, to approve the budget of the CIP and its Secretariat for the years 2017 and 2018 contained in document CIDI/CIP/doc.16/16.

13. To urge member state port authorities, particularly those with outstanding payments, to make, in accordance with their internal procedures, their contributions to the CIP Special Port Program in the first months of 2017 and 2018. Under Article 82 of the Rules of Procedure of the CIP, the Executive Board may limit the benefits from projects and activities financed from those resources to member states that fail to contribute to the CIP Special Port Program. In addition, the CIP Secretariat will continue seeking additional resources from associate members, international organizations, and cooperating governments to expand and extend the areas of work and coverage of CIP activities and projects.

14. To continue to analyze our respective capacities to accommodate an increase in the annual contribution of member state port authorities to US$9,000, to request those that have outstanding dues to continue efforts to remit their payments, and to report to the CECIP on the results of our efforts before the eighteenth meeting of the CECIP, so that the CECIP may present a recommendation in that regard to the CIP in 2018.

15. To reiterate the request that member state port authorities, particularly those with outstanding payments, make their contributions in the first months of 2017 and 2018, in accordance with their internal procedures.

16. To instruct the CIP Secretariat to continue collecting the annual contributions of member states and associate members and use them in accordance with the approved budget of the CIP Special Port Program for 2017 and 2018; and to continue seeking additional resources from international organizations and governments to expand and extend the areas of work and coverage of CIP activities and projects.

17. To instruct the CIP Secretariat to continue its role in facilitating political dialogue, international cooperation, strengthening of institutional capacities, and promoting exchanges of experiences in order to assist member states in moving forward with their national agendas. In addition, to continue forging strategic partnerships with the private sector in the Americas, international agencies, academia, and other OAS entities with the purpose of enhancing inter-American port dialogue, establishing synergies to promote the collection and the mobilization of resources, and expanding opportunities for cooperation, and to report to the Committee at its eleventh regular meeting.

18. To instruct the CIP Secretariat to manage, expand, and consolidate the availability of training, technical assistance, and other cooperation activities for member state port officials. In addition, to instruct the Secretariat to continue to organize new rounds of the Maritime Award of the
Americas, including recognition for Outstanding Women in the Port and Maritime Sector, in order to promote exchanges of experiences and encourage new models of assistance for CIP members.

19. To commend the delegations of Mexico, Barbados, and Uruguay, elected as Chair and First and Second Vice Chairs of the CECIP, respectively, for the 2016-2018 term. To thank, in addition, the outgoing delegations of Uruguay, Colombia, and Barbados for their leadership and contributions to the CECIP over the past two years.

20. To urge the delegation of Mexico, Chair of the CECIP, as soon as possible and in accordance with Article 62 of the CIP Rules of Procedure, to organize the office of the Chair and furnish it with the necessary resources to enable the CECIP to carry out its duties and functions in full, and to inform the member states as much through the CIP Secretariat.

21. To accept with satisfaction the offer of the Government of Barbados to host the eighteenth meeting of the CECIP in 2017.

22. To accept with satisfaction the offer of the Government of Mexico to host the eleventh regular meeting of the CIP in 2018, and to urge the port authorities of the OAS member states to participate in the meeting and encourage the active participation of associate members of the CIP, the private sector, international agencies, experts, and special guests.

23. To request that the CECIP, with the support of the CIP Secretariat, report to the CIP at its eleventh regular meeting on the implementation of this resolution. Implementation of the activities envisaged in this resolution will be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization, funds allocated to the CIP, and other resources.

24. To remind the port authorities of the member states that, in accordance with Article 80 of the Rules of Procedure of the CIP, they are required to cover the costs of the participation of their respective delegations in the meetings of any organ of the Committee for the proper implementation of the CIP Plan of Action, and to urge them to participate.

25. To refer this resolution to the Inter-American Council for Integral Development for consideration, with a view to its submission to the OAS General Assembly.