

Joint Communiqué
**Signing of Trilateral Agreement on the Pilot Project for an Integrated
Control System for the Reduction of Excess Coca Cultivation**

La Paz, November 18, 2011

The governments of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Federal Republic of Brazil, and the United States of America on November 18 signed the Pilot Project for an Integrated Control System for the Reduction of Excess Coca Cultivation. This trilateral project gives priority to strengthening international counternarcotics cooperation under the principle of shared responsibility. The project will promote technical and scientific coordination among the signatory countries to implement better monitoring and achieve greater measurement precision in the areas of surplus coca cultivation for eradication.

Bolivian Minister of Government Wilfredo Chávez, Brazilian Ambassador to Bolivia Marcel Biato, and U.S. Charge d'Affaires John Creamer signed the project in a ceremony held in La Paz today.

This project will implement an integrated monitoring system for the reduction of excess coca cultivation and will provide technical support to enable Bolivia to identify new areas of coca expansion.

The project will be carried out by the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Federal Republic of Brazil, and the United States, with the participation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Bolivia.

The project specifically seeks to develop methodologies for the detection of new areas of expansion of surplus coca cultivation; to verify the measuring methodology, to monitor crops, and to provide technical support for the reduction of surplus coca cultivation in areas under eradication and rationalization; to provide

regular feedback for effective planning; and to prioritize new areas of intervention and to ensure that relevant information is available in a timely manner.

The pilot project will also provide training for Bolivian technical personnel, who will be in charge of collecting data in the field with improved technology.

The project will support the use of high-precision measurement equipment, such as state-of-the art GPS and laser-enabled measuring equipment, satellite imagery, and digital-processing software for the analysis of geo-referenced data. The trilateral agreement establishes that the equipment and necessary training will be provided by the United States. Images and the training necessary to obtain and interpret them will be provided by Brazil, while Bolivia will conduct the field work and provide the necessary infrastructure.

The participant countries intend to engage in a dialogue to develop drug demand reduction efforts, including activities related to a situational diagnosis of consumption, as well as to develop prevention and intervention actions by the Bolivian and Brazilian authorities in border cities from both countries. Also, the signatory countries, recognizing that drug trafficking represents a common threat, will continue to cooperate to face this scourge.