

April 16, 2014

Re: Advisory Opinion Request 14-09

Dear Commissioners:

Below is an advisory request from Barbara Brohl, Executive Director of the Department of Revenue. She is asking for an advisory opinion regarding travel, and other expenses, to attend an event hosted by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission.

The material consists of the original request via email and answers to additional questions. The invitation and draft agenda are attached separately. Ms. Brohl, or a representative, has been asked to attend the meeting on April 14, 2014.

Maureen Toomey

IEC Assistant Director

Advisory Opinion Request 14-09

Mia Tsuchimoto - DOR

Mar 27 (5 days ago)

to me, Barbara

Hi Maureen,

We have an item to add to the agenda for the next meeting. Our Executive Director Barbara Brohl has been invited to speak at an event on April 30 in Washington DC. The entity inviting Barb mentioned that all logistics would be paid for. We are expecting to receive additional information tomorrow, which I will provide to you once I receive it.

Because the event is at the end of the month, I wanted to make sure that we have time to receive an opinion and be placed on the agenda.

Apr 2 (7 days ago)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Mia Tsuchimoto
Executive Director's Office
Colorado Department of Revenue

Hi Maureen,

I have attached the formal invitation and draft agenda we received from the Organization of American States for Barb to attend the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) Fifty-fifth Regular Session on April 29th through May 1st. I have also put together an information sheet from the correspondences and conversations that I have had with our CICAD contact person.

I trust this information will help the committee come to a favorable decision regarding this travel. If you have any questions, or if there is additional information that I can provide, please feel free to let me know.

Thank you, Mia

Organization of American States

www.cicad.oas.org

- Nonprofit organization
- The Organization of American States is the world's oldest regional organization, dating back to the First International Conference of American States, held in Washington, D.C., from October 1889 to April 1890. That meeting approved the establishment of the International Union of American Republics, and the stage was set for the weaving of a web of provisions and institutions that came to be known as the inter-American system, the oldest international institutional system.
- The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) is the Western Hemisphere's policy forum for dealing with the drug problem.
- Statutorily, CICAD must hold two regular sessions per year, one an ordinary session, the other to address specific technical topics determined by the Commission or such other matters that require its special attention. This latter meeting may take any form that the Commission decides.

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Fifty-fifth Regular Session of CICAD

April 29, 2014 – May 1, 2014

****All travel expenses will be paid by CICAD****

Those that will likely be speaking on the same panel as Ms. Brohl are Dr. Beau Kilmer from RAND, Julio Calzada from the National Drug Board of Uruguay and one other speaker who we have not yet decided on.

The audience will be the 34 technical and political heads (or drug czars) of the relevant drug control bodies of our member states and their staff and other observers from multilateral organizations, countries, and civil society. Typically there is an audience of about 150-200 people, though only the 34 member states have the privilege of asking questions or interacting with the chair or panelists.

Apr 7 (2 days ago)

Tsuchimoto - DOR, Mia

to me, Barbara

Hi Maureen,

Here are the answers to your questions for the CICAD session in Washington DC:

1. Is CICAD American or foreign?

It's neither. It's intergovernmental. We have 35 member states that make up the OAS/CICAD, one of them is the United States. We're an international organization headquartered in Washington, DC. It's no different from the UN, headquartered in New York.

2. Does it receive less than 5% of its revenue from for-profit organizations?

CICAD is funded entirely by member state regular and special funds. We receive no funding from private entities, for profit or otherwise.

3. What is its purpose? "Dealing with the drug problem" Anything more specific?

What is CICAD's purpose or specifically how we deal with the drug problem? CICAD works in many specific programmatic areas related to the drug problem: supply reduction, demand reduction, anti-money laundering, multilateral evaluation, collecting and analyzing statistical data, improving member state institutions, and more.

4. Is there a final agenda?

The agenda has not yet been finalized.

5. What panel is Ms. Brohl going to be on? How long and what will she be speaking on?

See the proposed objective and questions of the panel. It's slated for 2 hours. Again, this is tentative but probably won't see many further changes.

Panel: "The challenges and impacts on cannabis regulation"

Panelists:

- **Julio Calzada, Secretario General, Junta Nacional de Drogas, Uruguay**

- **Barbara Brohl, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Revenue, State of Colorado**
- **Peter Reuter (tentative)**

Moderator: Beau Kilmer, Co-Director, RAND Drug Policy Research Center

Objective: To provide commissioners with a brief understanding of the background and developments related to regulating cannabis in Uruguay and Colorado, while detailing some of the different potential challenges and impacts of each.

Questions:

1) What have been some of the most significant challenges or primary concerns in designing laws and regulations regarding legally available cannabis?

2) Though early, what are some of the expected or actual impacts of these legal changes?

3) What steps are jurisdictions taking to monitor and measure the impacts of the law, keeping in mind the importance of protecting public health and safety?

4) What are your opinions on the need for adaptability within the law? Given so many unknowns, how should jurisdictions address externalities?

5) In your jurisdiction, what has been the reaction so far from the general public, stakeholders and other interest groups?

6. What is the perceived benefit to DOR or to the State of Colorado?

First, representatives from Uruguay will be in attendance and have begun their rollout of regulated marijuana. They are rolling it out in a little different manner than we did. One thing they have required is that marijuana cultivated in Uruguay contain genetic markers, which will allow them to be able to track all marijuana and its location of cultivation. That is something we might be interested in exploring. Since this is such a new endeavor and is not done anywhere else, it is important that we continue our conversations with this country. We can learn a great deal from each other -- what works and what doesn't.

Second, there will be many countries in attendance and it is critical that countries from all over the world understand just how seriously Colorado takes this responsibility, so we take every opportunity to ensure that we keep on message and that we continue to show that we have developed a robust regulatory and enforcement program.