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**RAPPORTEUR'S REPORT
ON THE FOURTEENTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM**

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In my capacity as Rapporteur of the Fourteenth Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), I have the honor to submit this report on the proceedings and decisions adopted during this session.

INTRODUCTION

The Fourteenth Regular Session of the CICTE was held on February 20, 2014 at the headquarters of the Organization of American States in Washington, D.C., and was attended by 27 delegations of the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS). Also attending were special guests, permanent observers, and representatives of international organizations and civil society.^{1/}

During the preparations, the member states decided that the Fourteenth Regular Session would be held over a period of one and a half days, on February 20 and 21.

The Draft Agenda^{2/} and the Draft Schedule^{3/} for the Fourteenth Regular Session were approved ad referendum of the quorum during the Second Preparatory Meeting, held on January 24, 2014.

MINUTES

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

The inaugural ceremony of the Fourteenth Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) began at 2:00 p.m. on February 20, 2014, in the Simón Bolívar Room at the headquarters of the Organization of American States in Washington, D.C.

Remarks by the Chair of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism – *His Excellency Andrés González Díaz, Permanent Representative of Colombia to the Organization of American States*

The Honorable Andrés González Díaz, Permanent Representative of Colombia, presided over the inauguration and declared the Fourteenth Session open. During his remarks ^{4/}, Ambassador

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1. CICTE/RP/doc.5/13 rev. 3, Guest List for the Fourteenth Regular Session of CICTE (approved at the Second Preparatory Meeting, held on January 24, 2014, ad referendum of the quorum).
 2. CICTE/RP/doc.3/13 rev. 2, Agenda for the Fourteenth Regular Session of CICTE (approved at the Second Preparatory Meeting, held on January 24, 2014, ad referendum of the quorum).
 3. CICTE/RP/doc.4/13 rev. 3, Draft Schedule for the Fourteenth Regular Session of CICTE (approved at the Second Preparatory Meeting, held on January 24, 2014, ad referendum of the quorum).
 4. CICTE/INF.6/14.

González Díaz reaffirmed his Government's intention and commitment to fully support CICTE's work to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. He also pointed out that CICTE had deservedly earned international recognition as a model of efficient and effective multilateral cooperation. One should never forget that terrorism has broadened its scope and crossed both physical and virtual borders and poses a grave threat to peace, security, human rights, and individual liberties. He pleaded for a results-oriented discussion that would benefit all states and boost their capacity to confront terrorism. At the same time, he reminded his audience that terrorism was not an isolated phenomenon. Rather it had become globalized, in the sense that terrorists had established networks that allowed them to coordinate their attacks and exploit advances in information and communication technology. The Ambassador added that terrorism was also tied in with transnational organized crime networks. He mentioned that isolated efforts to combat this threat were insufficient, which was why the member states needed to pool those efforts.

Finally, Ambassador González Díaz thanked the member states on the Committee and the Executive Secretariat for their support during his term as Chair and reaffirmed Colombia's commitment to fully support work undertaken to fight terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

**Remarks by the Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of American States,
His Excellency Ambassador Albert R. Ramdin**

The Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of American States, Ambassador Albert R. Ramdin, agreed with the CICTE chairman on the importance of continued cooperation and the need for member states to work together, with a common approach, to adapt to newly emerging challenges.

Ambassador Ramdin vehemently condemned terrorism, regardless of its origin. He said that our region has suffered from terrorism, and outlined its history here, from the attack on the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires in 1991 to the airline attacks in Panama, Colombia, and Barbados, all of which cost the lives of hundreds of persons. He also referred to September 11, 2001, the date of the terrorist attack that most profoundly shook our Hemisphere.

Addressing the issue of the availability of resources, the Assistant Secretary General acknowledged that government budgets and investments give priority to economic and social development programs, to creating jobs and affordable housing, and to health care. This makes it more difficult to obtain funds for fighting terrorism.

He added that during the Fourteenth Regular Session of CICTE, member states would also have an opportunity to begin a dialogue on CICTE's strategic vision beyond 2014, including a key discussion on how to better ensure the financial sustainability of CICTE.

Finally, Ambassador Ramdin once again urged member states that had not yet done so to ratify or adhere to the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, as applicable, and to effectively implement it. Afterwards, he thanked Mr. González Díaz, the Chair of CICTE and Permanent Representative of Colombia, and its Vice-Chair, Ambassador Culham, Permanent Representative of Canada.

The CICTE Chair took the floor again to introduce the Executive Director of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee.

Remarks by the Special Guest Expert, *Jean-Paul Laborde, Executive-Director, United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee*^{5/}

Mr. Laborde began his presentation by referring to recent developments, such as the expansion of terrorism to new geographical areas, the use of technology by terrorist groups, and the need to create response mechanisms to take into account the practices of terrorist groups and their reactions to government counter-terrorism policies. He also referred to the need to build resilience in communities and respect for human rights, as critical elements to ensure the legitimacy of any counter-terrorist strategy, and to criminalize the persons who commit terrorist acts.

He pointed to the importance of creating a bridge between the development and security agendas, to facilitate sustainable, long-term responses among our youth that are not integrated in political and social life.

He went on to say that despite new challenges, most member states are reporting progress with their counter-terrorism agenda, as seen, for instance, in their efforts to prevent and combat terrorist financing, which is one of the top priorities of the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee. But he expressed concern over the fact that security and legislative measures have not been implemented or updated.

Finally, Mr. Laborde pointed to the importance of the joint work being done by UNCTED [UN Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate] and CICTE to fight terrorism and its financing.

Mr. González Díaz, Ambassador of Colombia and Chair of CICTE, took the floor to thank the United Nations expert for his presentation and to announce a recess before initiating the first plenary session.

FIRST PLENARY SESSION

The first plenary session was called to order by the Chair, Ambassador González Díaz, Permanent Representative of Colombia to the Organization of American States.

Adoption of the Draft Agenda and Draft Calendar of the Fourteenth Regular Session

i. Draft Agenda of the Fourteenth Regular Session

The draft agenda was presented for consideration and approved without amendment.^{6/} The agenda comprises the following items: “Cooperating to Counter the Criminal Activities that May Exacerbate the Threat of Terrorism,” “Strengthening Criminal Justice Responses to Acts of Terrorism,” and the “Strategic Vision for CICTE Beyond 2014: How to Strengthen the National Points of Contact.”

5. ICTE/INF.7/14.

6. CICTE/RP/doc.3/13 rev.2, Draft Agenda of the Fourteenth Regular Session of CICTE (approved at the Second Preparatory Meeting held on January 24, 2014, ad referendum of a quorum).

ii. Draft Calendar of the Fourteenth Regular Session

The Draft Calendar was presented for consideration and approved without amendment.^{7/}

2013-2014 Report of the Chair of CICTE

Ambassador González Díaz presented the 2013-2104 Report of the Chair of CICTE,^{8/} summarizing the principal achievements and activities in the programming areas of CICTE that were realized by its Secretariat in the course of 2013. He praised the work of the CICTE Executive Secretariat, which implemented capacity-building and training programs in all member states, through 113 events to strengthen and enhance the professionalism of approximately 4,181 officials in the region.

Ambassador González Díaz commented on the broad scope of CICTE's work, covering the following areas: securing borders; protecting airports and maritime facilities; preparing for emerging threats; providing security for tourists; detecting fraudulent documents; curbing the proliferation of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials; protecting cyber networks; providing security for major public events; and, drafting adequate legislation for the prevention of terrorism financing. All of these activities are helping to strengthen security in our member states.

Finally, Ambassador González Díaz congratulated CICTE on its achievements and urged member states to continue their efforts to form strategic public and private alliances, and above all, to pursue the determination of all member states not to take one step backwards in the fight against terrorism. He also invited member states to make financial contributions to the Secretariat so that it can resolve its current difficulties.

Election of Officers

a. Chair of CICTE

The delegation of Brazil nominated Canada to chair the Committee for the 2014-2015 term. This nomination was seconded by the delegation of Panama. Canada was then elected by acclamation as the new Chair. Ambassador González Díaz congratulated the newly elected CICTE Chair, Ambassador Allan Culham, the Permanent Representative of Canada to the Organization of American States.

The Mexican delegation took the floor to congratulate Ambassador González Díaz, the outgoing CICTE chair, on the work he accomplished during his term of office. He also welcomed the incoming CICTE chair.

Ambassador Allan Culham, the Permanent Representative of Canada to the Organization of American States, thanked the delegations of Brazil and Panama, and all the others as well, for their

7. CICTE/RP/doc.4/13 rev.3, Draft Calendar of the Fourteenth Regular Session of CICTE (approved at the Second Preparatory Meeting held on January 24, 2014, ad referendum of a quorum).
8. CICTE/doc.5/14.

support of Canada to chair CICTE, accepted the election on behalf of his government, and took over the chairmanship of the session.

b. Vice-Chairman of CICTE

The delegation of Barbados nominated Paraguay as vice-chair of the committee for the 2014-2015 term. The nomination was seconded by the Guatemalan delegation. At the request of the Guatemalan delegation, Paraguay was elected by acclamation to that office.

Ambassador Elisa Ruiz Díaz, the Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the Organization of American States accepted the office on behalf of her country, and expressed her government's appreciation for this vote of confidence. Ambassador Ruiz also referred to the Paraguayan government's commitment to promoting CICTE mandates to fight terrorism.

c. Rapporteur of the Fourteenth Regular Session of CICTE

The Mexican delegation nominated Mr. Vitaliano Gallardo Valencia, the Alternate Representative of Peru to the Organization of American States, for the position of rapporteur of the Fourteenth Regular Session of the Committee. The candidate was approved by acclamation.

Mr. Vitaliano Gallardo, Ministro Delegado took the floor to express his thanks for his nomination and election as rapporteur of the Fourteenth Regular Session of CICTE.

Remarks by the Chair of CICTE for 2014-2015 – Ambassador Allan Culham, Permanent Representative of Canada to the Organization of American States

Upon assuming the chair of CICTE on behalf of the Government of Canada, Ambassador Culham began his remarks^{9/} by accepting the honor of presiding over the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism and thanking the member states for their support and confidence. He also welcomed the Government of Paraguay to the vice-chairmanship for the 2014-2015 term.

Ambassador Culham began by highlighting Canada's historic commitment to support both implementation of CICTE programs and the sustainability of its budget. Its government has already contributed about \$10 million, primarily in the areas of port security, border controls, security for major events, and cybersecurity, among others, with a view to making the Hemisphere more secure.

Ambassador Culham then proceeded to report that as a result of the challenges to its financial sustainability, the CICTE Secretariat was unable to engage in a long-term planning process. He pointed to the need to develop a strategic vision for CICTE beyond 2014, in order to determine the committee's priorities in light of the currently limited financial resources, and to expand its donor base. The strategic vision of CICTE proposed by Canada for discussion converges with the ongoing process in the OAS Permanent Committee. The Canadian ambassador emphasized the importance of this discussion in the Organization, based on a frank exchange of views on the objectives, priorities, and institutional structures of CICTE for the future.

9. CICTE/INF.5/14.

The Chair went on to express his interest in cooperation in activities to counter crimes that could exacerbate the threat of terrorism. He cited a series of crimes that were committed and documented that established at least some sort of link with Canadian citizens. Ambassador Culham voiced his concern over the presence of terrorist groups or terrorist activities in the Hemisphere and reiterated the importance of adequate and organized action to strengthen legislation to counter terrorism and transnational crime.

Ambassador Culham ended his remarks by reiterating the need for other member states—in addition to the United States and Canada—to contribute actively and financially to the work of CICTE.

Remarks by the CICTE Executive Secretary, *Neil Klopfenstein*

Neil Klopfenstein, the CICTE Executive Secretary, began his remarks by thanking and congratulating both the outgoing and the incoming chair and vice-chair of CICTE.^{10/} He also informed delegates that in the next few days, the CICTE Secretariat would be distributing a full report of the activities carried out in 2013.

During his remarks, Secretary Klopfenstein highlighted four of the various programs that the CICTE Secretariat implemented during 2013 and that, according to him, it will continue to implement in 2014. They are as follows: cybersecurity; aviation security; security for major events; and, support for implementation of UN Resolution 1540.

Secretary Klopfenstein said that the CICTE Secretariat would continue its efforts to fulfill the mandates entrusted to it, with the support of donors whose contributions to the specific funds are used entirely to implement the CICTE Work Plan. He further indicated that despite insufficient resources to complete all of the projects included in the work plan, the Secretariat was making every effort to comply with the priorities of member states.

Before completing his presentation, Secretary Klopfenstein referred to the government of Trinidad and Tobago, as an example of a contributor to CICTE, for its constant financial cooperation and its commitment to the Committee, and he invited other member states to follow suit. The Secretary announced that for 2014, the target of one million dollars had been set for contributions from member states that have not generally participated in funding CICTE in the past. This target accounts for about 20 percent of the operating budget.

Once the CICTE Secretary completed his report, it being 5:00 pm, the chair adjourned the first plenary session.

SECOND PLENARY SESSION

On opening the plenary, Ambassador Culham, as Chair, announced a change in the agenda. He proposed the addition of a presentation by the Brazilian delegation on its preparations for major events hosted by Brazil. The proposal was accepted.

10. CICTE/Inf.4/14

Dialogue of Heads of Delegation on the theme “Cooperating to Counter the Criminal Activities that May Exacerbate the Threat of Terrorism”

- **Presentation by the Guest Speaker, Mr. Steven Dudley, Director and Chief of Investigation for Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean of *InSightCrime* ¹¹**

Mr. Dudley began his remarks by narrating a series of events involving documented criminal activities connected with international criminal groups. He referred to the issue of detecting crimes that are reported by the authorities of some countries and not handled by the authorities of other countries. He added that criminal groups are interconnected with terrorist groups operating internationally. Mr. Dudley also indicated that there are degrees of danger, and that we need to be able to identify them before determining a course of action. Some of them present a risk to society. In the Americas, it is the long-standing terrorist organizations that continue to pose the greatest threat.

Mr. Dudley went on to say that the second type of danger posed by these organizations is that of undermining democracies, in some cases, when they are present in large numbers in a country and can replace government functions.

He noted that the third danger, and perhaps the greatest of all of those faced by the region, has to do with the movements of illegal organizations, including: creating spaces for meeting; interacting with other criminal groups, and providing a safe haven for them to devise their strategies; and opening legitimate and illegal businesses, facilitating money laundering and other important logistical issues.

He ended his remarks by thanking delegations and wishing them success.

Intervention by Member States

The Permanent Representative of Peru, Ambassador Juan Jiménez Mayor, recalled the massacre of the Shining Path terrorist group in Lucanamarca, where children, women, and older people were killed. The heads of the Shining Path and Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) were subsequently captured, thereby curtailing their activities and narrowing their scope. The remnants of the Shining Path continued their operations on the Huallaga Valley. Recently, one of its ringleaders was captured and convicted, for drug trafficking as well. Peace has been restored to that region and crop substitution following the San Martín Model has been developed. However, in the valley of the Apurímac, Ene, and Mantaro Rivers (VRAEM), the largest coca leaf producing area, the Shining Path has a sporadic presence. This is where the government has been focusing its comprehensive effort to prevent criminal activities, including money laundering. Thirty years later, the link between the remnants of the terrorist movement and drug trafficking is clear. The ambassador also referred to the importance of closely monitoring the resources generated from illegal mining, which is financing terrorism. Finally, he drew the committee’s attention to the 1987 case involving the release of hostages at the Japanese Embassy or the “Chavín de Huántar” case considered by the IACHR, which recommended that Peru pay reparations to MRTA terrorists. This is clearly inconsistent with CICTE activities, as the IACHR is seeking compensation for a terrorist

11. CICTE/Inf.8/14

who took over an embassy, and died in the midst of a military operation, that is still part of an investigation being conducted by the Peruvian Public Ministry.

The United States delegation took the floor next. Ambassador Lanier of the State Department's Bureau of Counterterrorism thanked the governments of Colombia, Canada, and Paraguay, and the CICTE Secretariat, for their counter-terrorism efforts. He reiterated that the US government would continue to support CICTE by assigning personnel and providing financing. He added that multilateral entities also have a key role to play, and, by way of example, he cited UNODC APEC, OSCE, and OAS, as organizations that could work together to design the strategies and mechanisms needed to combat terrorism and crime.

The Colombian delegate, Rodrigo Amaya, then took the floor, and reiterated his government's commitment to pursue the fight against terrorism. The Colombian government acknowledges the symbiosis between terrorism and drug trafficking referred to earlier by the delegate of Peru, as well as the problem of illegal mining.

Minister Breno Da Costa of Brazil noted that Mr. Dudley's presentation referred to an automatic link between all the criminal groups. He indicated that the widespread and indiscriminate use of the term "terrorism" is troubling to the Brazilian government. He added that some people's "terrorists" are other people's "freedom-fighters." The term can even be used to describe government opposition forces. Thus, he suggested that a clear difference be established between popular movements and terrorist movements. He reiterated the need to exercise caution in this regard, especially as regards possible evidence of a link between organized crime and terrorism. He repeated that there is no automatic link. Finally, he added that Brazil too attached great importance to international cooperation in the fight against terrorist financing.

The next speaker was Counselor Mario Puga of the Mexican delegation, who referred to his government's understanding of the symbiosis between terrorism and drug trafficking identified by Colombia, and the currently widespread and indiscriminate use of the word "terrorism," which is of concern to Brazil. As far as links between terrorism and organized crime are concerned, Mr. Puga said that we do not know where this relationship begins and where it ends, or even if it actually exists, or at what point it participates in terrorist financing. Mexico's concern centers on the possibility of developing an erroneous idea of what terrorism is and of confusing it with organized crime. International cooperation is also very important to Mexico.

Then Mr. Lerena, the Director of Argentina's Special Office for Terrorism and other Related Crimes, took the floor to say that his delegation takes a preventive approach to the problem. It is important to adopt appropriate measures to ensure that the population does not take extremist positions through any kind of discriminatory acts that could foment violence. He also referred to the importance of education and respect for diversity, as the main priority of his government.

Subsequently, Mark Berman, Director of the Division of International Crime and Terrorism in the Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, spoke to emphasize his government's concern over the presence of criminal groups linked to terrorism which have been identified.

The next speaker, Minister Alvarado of Nicaragua, appealed to member states to examine closely terrorism cases, to avoid confusion that could lead to errors and the danger of generalizations.

Finally, Mrs. Rocío Figueroa of Venezuela took the floor to reaffirm her government's defense of national sovereignty and respect for internal proceedings.

The Brazilian delegation then introduced Rômulo Dantas, who delivered a presentation.

Presentation by Rômulo Rodriguez Dantas, Special Advisor to the Director General of the Brazilian Intelligence Agency (ABIN)

Speaking on the issue of security to cover the major events that will take place in his country, Mr. Dantas said that the Brazilian government had focused on strengthening national, provincial, and local intelligence structures and security establishments, through integrated national and regional centers offering intelligence, defense, and public security services.

He went on to say that in the government intelligence sphere, efforts were focused on the Brazilian Intelligence System (SISBIN), which is coordinated by the Brazilian Intelligence Agency (ABIN) in the Office of Institutional Security under the Office of the President of the Republic. He added that the intelligence structure model takes into account experience acquired during major past events in Brazil, such as the Pan-American Games in 2007, the Military World Games in 2011, the UN Rio Conference in 2012, the 2013 FIFA Confederations Cup, and World Youth Day in 2013, as well as the upcoming 2014 World Cup and Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2016. On that occasion, cooperation with transit countries will be very important to Brazil.

As regards risk assessments, Mr. Dantas indicated that although terrorism is a constant source of concern, his government is also worried about other aspects of security that could affect important events, such as natural disasters and organized crime. Thanks to the creation of intelligence centers with the participation of the entities comprising SISBIN, as well as representatives of foreign intelligence services, the Brazilian government has the capacity to monitor events and respond, even in real time, in order to reduce to a minimum any obstacles to their normal development.

Intervention by Permanent Observers

Mr. Dmitry V. Feokstistov, the Assistant Director of the Department of New Challenges and Threats in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, then took the floor to voice his many concerns over the close links between international terrorism, transnational organized crime, illicit drugs, money laundering, illegal arms trafficking, the movement of potentially lethal materials, and other criminal threats. He also referred to UN Resolution 1373 adopted in 2001. That resolution urges all member states to improve coordination of efforts to strengthen a global response to this serious challenge to international security. He went on to say that there is evidence indicating links between the different types of organized crime.

Mr. Feokstistov said that the objective of the Russian Federation's initiative in the FATF is to compile and carefully analyze data on financial flows resulting from drug trafficking by identifying bank transactions, shell companies, and the recipients of money transfers, as well as other relevant information that would help to uncover and thus undermine the drug industry's management system.

He reported that the project is in operation. Experts are now evaluating the responses received from nearly 30 countries, including CICTE members, such as Argentina, Canada, and the

United States. According to what he indicated, preliminary results show that there are strong links between terrorism and drugs, as well as various financial centers, including at least one in the Western Hemisphere, which has been laundering billions of drug-related dollars.

He concluded his comments by saying that in 2010, the FATF issued its first report on maritime piracy and kidnapping for extortion. However, this was only the first step in outlining the financial implications of these illicit activities, and the conclusions of the report were preliminary. He said that Russia was working with its partners to deal with this important matter. He added that no country is immune to the phenomenon of organized crime, which operates across national borders. The bloody terrorist acts committed by suicide terrorists in Volgograd at the end of December once again demonstrated that Russia is directly exposed to the terrorist threat. Consequently, we assign the highest priority to establishing a reliable system to counter this serious challenge to our national security.

A recess followed.

THIRD PLENARY SESSION

Dialogue of Heads of Delegation on the theme “Strengthening Criminal Justice Responses to Acts of Terrorism”

- **Presentation by the Invited Guest, Mr. John Sandage, Director of the Division of Treaty Affairs of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)^{12/}**

Mr. Sandage began his presentation by saying that terrorist activities continue to shake the world, and pose one of the main threats to the security of countries and their citizens. He added that terrorism endangers democracy, tolerance, the rule of law, and human rights, and directly challenges the principal values at the core of the United Nations.

Mr. Sandage went on to say that the problems of governance and the weakness of criminal justice systems frequently go hand in hand with instability, conflicts, crime, and sometimes terrorism. Effective and accessible criminal justice systems, he said, are a prerequisite for ensuring the security and peace of the citizens of the world. He added that fair and effective justice systems need to be developed and maintained to underpin any strategy for preventing and combating terrorism.

He referred to the United Nations and its global counter-terrorism strategy to assist member states in developing and maintaining a national criminal justice system based on the law. He further stated that regional organizations have been working together to offer technical assistance, and have established an informal cooperation mechanism known as MECOOR, or the *Mesa de coordinación*, to provide coordinated technical assistance and avoid duplication of effort. He added that through this initiative, UNODC is offering technical assistance to countries that so request, together with the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED), and the Financial Action Task Force for South America (GAFISUD).

12. CICTE/INF.9/14.

He concluded his remarks by highlighting the importance of the political and financial support of member states, and by thanking them for their continued support of UNODC and its efforts to prevent terrorism.

- **Intervention by Member States**

The delegations of Mexico, Canada, Argentina, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Panama, Brazil, Colombia, and Peru took the floor, and they all agreed on the importance of the coordination initiative and the joint effort to implement effective, uniform civil and criminal legislation covering a broad spectrum of crimes, including drug trafficking and terrorism, among other international crimes.

The representatives of the member states spoke of the importance of Mr. Sandage's presentation, and noted that governments should try to strengthen their criminal justice systems to increase stability and reduce crime in the Hemisphere.

A recess followed.

FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

Dialogue of Heads of Delegation on the theme "Strategic Vision for CICTE beyond 2014: How to Strengthen the National Points of Contact"

- **Remarks by the Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, Mr. Neil Klopfenstein**

Secretary Klopfenstein listed some of the articles contained in the Terms of Reference outlining the functions of the National Points of Contact (NPC), who were named by their governments to serve as intermediaries between the CICTE Secretariat and their governments. Among other things, Secretary Klopfenstein referred to the triple role they play as a political, technical, and logistic liaison. He then invited delegations to begin the discussion.

- **Intervention by Member States**

The United States proposed increased dialogue among member states, with a view to expanding technical experience. He suggested that CICTE should promote this type of meetings, and if participants cannot be physically present, that the meetings be carried out virtually.

Peru supported the suggestion by the United States regarding recourse to virtual meetings. In addition, it proposed FODA analysis, and emphasized its strengths, such as the exchange of information and the experience acquired over the years, as well as the availability of technology for the member states, that could be disseminated and shared for counter-terrorism purposes. The delegate added, however, that it is important to bear in mind that use of this technology and the evolution of terrorism mean that the points of contact will have to redouble their efforts to remain up to date, and CICTE will have to continue to provide institutional capacity. Account should also be taken of the fact that government priorities are constantly changing, and so it is important to be in tune with their interests. It is also worth noting that officials are rotated, and so the "know-how" they acquire is lost.

Argentina then made suggestions on how to relieve the Committee's financial burden. It proposed the creation of a network of contacts, whose interests are not necessarily shared by all member states, so that these smaller groups interested in specific priorities would be the ones that would promote and contribute financially to implement these common interests.

Ecuador supported what Peru had to say about changing priorities and Argentina's proposals on funding. It suggested additionally that CICTE be reformed, to meet biannually, so that member states could generate and propose changes and advances, as well as follow up on and monitor progress.

Colombia took the floor to acknowledge the value of the CICTE Secretariat. The delegate reflected on other challenges facing the Committee, ones that are not usually tackled. Colombia said that CICTE needs to be strengthened and revitalized. He noted the reduced participation of national points of contact and the lack of financing of the CICTE Secretariat.

Next, Canada reiterated the proposal to develop a five-year strategic plan, and referred to the need for CICTE meetings to be more efficient and more frequent.

Brazil echoed what was said by other delegations, and added that the area of multidimensional security should be analyzed with a view both to reducing duplication of effort and to measuring and integrating the many perspectives being developed by various groups on the same topics, such as cybersecurity and cybercrime. Brazil also noted that some OAS committees are working on the same topics, and suggested that they should organize their work.

Trinidad and Tobago then took the floor to refer to the CICTE strategic plan. The delegate urged member states to pay special attention to CICTE activities and to examine the achievements realized to date. She also noted the importance of observing the technical policy and the functions of the Executive Secretariat, and of measuring efficiency at the time projects are delivered to member states.

Paraguay took the floor to emphasize that its government attached great importance to CICTE.

Mexico then took the floor again to say that the strategic vision, dialogue, and reforms would have to go further. A strategic vision would have to be analyzed at various levels, taking advantage of the current revision of the OAS, the reorganization of CICTE, and use of national points of contact. The delegation stressed the need to avoid the danger of settling for micro-efforts. Mexico proposed that discussion should begin at the macro-level. He also said that the member states meeting in the room should use dialogue to provide the inputs for this macro-level debate. Finally, he added that reform of CICTE should also take into account that CICTE is part of the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security. This analysis is crucial to efforts to set priorities and coordinate the many programs and projects being developed within that Secretariat.

Finally, Venezuela took the floor to echo what was said earlier by other delegations. The delegate further emphasized the importance of prioritizing issues and of first concluding the work on the Organization's strategic vision, so that it could guide their work.

Following the comments of the member states, Ambassador Culham gave a brief summary of the remarks of each delegation. He then requested the delegations to submit in writing their specific proposals to enhance the efficiency of CICTE, and indicated that the chair and vice-chair would suggest creation of a working group to study the proposals and present recommendations.

FIFTH PLENARY SESSION

The fifth plenary session was opened by Ambassador Culham, who then invited member states to present their comments and views on the Draft Work Plan.

1. Consideration and adoption of the Draft CICTE Work Plan^{13/}

The delegations of Brazil, Argentina, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, United States, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, Chile, and Paraguay took the floor and exchanged views on the current draft work plan. During the discussion, Brazil made three observations, and Argentina had one comment on the draft work plan.

Brazil made the following observations: 1) That the project to set up a database for the cyber network in the cybernet security program should either be spelled out or eliminated from the 2014 Work Plan; 2) In the part on legislative assistance and combating terrorism financing (page 10), the Brazilian government suggested merging programs B and C, and said that it will provide a text to that effect, to be included as a footnote in the 2014 Work Plan, and incorporated into the 2015 work plan; 3) In the part on border control, CICTE will change the name of Program D: “Immigration and Customs” to “Immigration and Customs Controls.” The Brazilian delegate also made some procedural points, such as avoiding use of real countries in the exercises, and the need to clarify private sector participation in the activities.

Finally, the fourth observation was made by Argentina, to the effect that a money laundering workshop should be included in the 2014 work plan.

A break in the meeting was called so that the aforesaid proposals could be discussed. Ambassador Culham sought the advice of Secretary Klopfenstein, and consulted with the delegations that had made specific observations. Ambassador Culham then reported how the three substantive points raised by Brazil would be resolved (the database would be eliminated, as it had no funding; a footnote would be included on the merger of programs B and C on page 10; and the name of the activity would be changed to “Immigration and Customs Controls.”) The addition proposed by Argentina would also be included. Member states proceeded to adopt the Work Plan of the CICTE Secretariat for 2014, as amended orally.

2. Consideration of the venue and date of the Fifteenth Regular Session of CICTE

Ambassador Culham, the Permanent Representative of Canada to the Organization of American States, announced that the place and date proposed for the Fifteenth Regular Session of CICTE is Washington, D.C., March 19 and 20, 2015.

13. CICTE/RP/doc.6/13 rev. 3.

3. **Presentation of the Summary of the Chair^{14/}**

Ambassador Culham, presented a brief summary covering the substantive issues discussed during the fourteenth regular session, and thanked delegates for their active participation in the dialogue. In making this presentation, the Ambassador noted that the discussions centered around three key topics. First, efforts to fight criminal activities that may exacerbate the threat of terrorism, it being understood that the precise nature of the relationship between terrorism and transnational organized crime varies from one member state to another. The second topic focused on strengthening criminal justice responses to acts of terrorism. Here, member states agreed that strengthening the criminal justice system and the rule of law, including respect for human rights, is critical to prevent and respond to acts of terrorism. The third point referred to improving the efficiency of CICTE and its national points of contact. Here member states welcomed the chair's initiative to find ways to make the meeting of national points of contact more effective and to improve the financial sustainability of CICTE in the long run. The Brazilian delegation, while recognizing that the chair's document is not binding, made a few preliminary comments on the Summary of the Chair, who offered to take them into consideration.

CLOSING SESSION

- **Comments by the Chair of CICTE, Ambassador Allan Culham, the Permanent Representative of Canada to the Organization of American States**

Ambassador Culham once again thanked delegations and proceeded to close the Fourteenth Regular Session of CICTE.

- **Closing of the Fourteenth Regular Session of CICTE**

After the meeting was adjourned, the delegation of Brazil asked the Chairman to amend the text of his final presentation, so as to suggest an ambiguous link between terrorism and international criminal activities. The Brazilian delegation requested that only the term "terrorism" be changed. Chairman Culham took note of that additional observation.

It being 5:15 pm, the Chair once again adjourned this Fourteenth Regular Session.

Vitaliano Gaspar Gallardo
Alternate Representative of the Republic of Peru
to the Organization of American States

14. CICTE/doc.6/14.