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**REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT OF
THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM**

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I. INTRODUCTION

I am pleased to present this Report on the Activities of the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) for the year 2006, in accordance with Article 17.h of the Statute and Article 11.e of the Rules of Procedure of CICTE.

This has been a year of transition for the CICTE Secretariat, but one in which we have made considerable advances and improvements, especially in the areas of program and administrative management; international coordination and partnerships with other international, multilateral, and regional organizations; and implementation of capacity-building programs and technical assistance.

II. IMPROVEMENTS IN PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

During late 2006, the Secretariat instituted a program management approach, with a focus on annual objectives and long-term budget planning, organizing all existing and projected activities under broad program areas. Program Managers have begun developing an entire year's program, with anticipated training activities and budgets for all of 2007, as opposed to organizing individual events. This advance planning will not only rationalize Secretariat activities into distinct programs, with clear goals and objectives, but facilitate communication with donors concerning funding for these programs. Serving as a model for all Secretariat programs in the future, our new cyber-security program was approved by the OAS Project Evaluation Committee (CEP) in December 2006 and was submitted to a donor in January for potential funding. The Secretariat also began incorporating evaluation mechanisms into all its training activities in 2006 and will focus increasingly on this important area in 2007. Similarly, the Secretariat is restructuring its budget planning, execution, and monitoring work towards this program-oriented focus. After five years of growth in volume, this new program management approach reflects a significant advance in our technical assistance and capacity-building programs which are now reaching maturity.

The Secretariat also saw significant changes in personnel this year. With the departure in September of former CICTE Secretary, Steven Monblatt, who provided four years of excellent service to CICTE since creation of the Secretariat in 2002, the Secretary General appointed Carol Fuller as the new Secretary in October. Similarly, Pablo Martinez became the Assistant Secretary and Program Coordinator, replacing Kevin Newmeyer. Reflecting the strong commitment of CICTE Member States to combat terrorism, eight Member States have detailed personnel or paid for a total of 13 individual Secretariat staff members in the last five years. Since last March, the Governments of Brazil, Colombia, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States, and Canada have detailed new personnel. In an important demonstration of political commitment, Uruguay extended until 2010 the detail of Pablo Martinez, who joined the Secretariat in 2002. This represents a significant contribution to continuity and stability in the program area of CICTE. With the support of the Secretary General, the CICTE Committee Secretary, Gillian Bristol, was transferred to the CICTE Secretariat, effective November 1, 2006. Today, the Secretariat consists of a staff of 10: seven Associate Staff Members detailed by their governments; two OAS Staff positions funded by the

Regular Fund and one contractor, funded by the Government of Spain. General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 2257 (XXXVI-O/06) approved establishment of a General Services position (G-6 level) in the CICTE Secretariat in the 2007 Program-Budget of the OAS, which when implemented, will represent a significant advance in stability in the administrative area of the CICTE Secretariat.

III. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND NEW PARTNERSHIPS

As part of our new Policy Development and Coordination Program, the Secretariat strengthened existing partnerships and developed new ones with several countries and other international, multilateral, and regional organizations during 2006. By promoting partnerships with larger or better-funded organizations, such as the United Nations, we join forces and leverage their financial and personnel resources to the advantage of CICTE Member States.

The Secretariat's highly successful partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) enables us to continue assisting Member States in the drafting or adaptation of counter terrorism legislation and ratification of the inter-American and universal counter terrorism conventions. We also coordinate with UNODC on legislation related to financial controls, such as terrorist financing.

Following the initiative of the former CICTE Chair, Vice-Minister Alejandro Borda Rojas of Colombia, the Secretariat developed a new partnership with the United Nations Interregional Institute for Crime and Justice Research (UNICRI). The Secretariat participated in a conference at the United Nations in December which launched the new International Permanent Observatory (IPO), a mechanism created in 2005 by resolution of the Economic and Security Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations to coordinate international cooperation for the provision of technical assistance with respect to security for major events. A five-day seminar held at the Spanish Training Center in Cartagena, Colombia, February 12-16, 2007, organized by the Government of Spain in coordination with UNICRI and with the support of the Government of Colombia, launched the IPO in the Western Hemisphere. The Secretariat contributed significantly to this seminar which included participants from Latin America responsible for security preparations for major events, such as Summits and international athletic events, as well as representatives from the Caribbean preparing for the Cricket World Cup 2007. This partnership represents a major step forward in international cooperation and will facilitate greater coordination among the CICTE Member States and with other regions, as well as between the CICTE Secretariat and providers of technical assistance from within and outside the Hemisphere.

In order to promote another area of the CICTE Work Plan related to support for efforts of the CICTE Member States to comply with their obligations under United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 on weapons of mass destruction, the Secretariat formed a new partnership with the United Nations Regional Office for Peace, Disarmament and Economic Development in Latin American and the Caribbean (UN-LiREC), located in Lima, Peru. The Secretariat gave two presentations at a regional meeting organized by UN-LiREC in November 2006. In 2007, we will cooperate with UN-LiREC in the organization of several other regional events on the topic, including a meeting for scientists and academics on implementation of UNSCR 1540, in compliance with the mandate to the CICTE secretariat.

Other institutions with which the Secretariat expanded or renewed partnerships include the cyber-security and maritime ports committees of the Asia and Pacific Economic Cooperation Committee (APEC), the Anti Terrorism Unit of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and the Executive Directorate of the UN Counter Terrorism Committee (UNCTED). In July, the Secretariat participated in a crisis management exercise based on a bioterrorism scenario, organized by INTERPOL in Santiago, Chile. We have begun coordination with various institutions in the hope of organizing another crisis management exercise for CICTE Member States somewhere in the Hemisphere in 2007.

I am pleased to note the increased support of several governments to Secretariat programs during 2006. Canada provided funding for translation into English of a portion of the Secretariat's extensive training manual on combating terrorism financing which was distributed widely in 2006 in Spanish. Canada also detailed a Canadian citizen to work in the Secretariat in February 2007. In December, Transport Canada joined with the CICTE Secretariat, the Executive Secretariat of CICAD, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL) of the U.S. Department of State to establish a new partnership to develop programs on port security in 2007. Canada has also assisted in the technical development of the Secretariat's cyber security program. In addition to offering the use of its training centers in the Hemisphere for various CICTE programs, Spain made a first-time financial contribution in December. Our coordination with Spain is growing and we look forward to cooperating on several projects in 2007. Financial contributions were also made by the Governments of The Bahamas, Chile, Colombia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, the United Nations, and the United States.

The CICTE Secretariat has also strengthened its relationship with other secretariats and dependencies of the OAS, especially with the Executive Secretariat of CICAD. In December, these two Secretariats began developing plans for a joint training course on terrorism financing held in Colombia, from February 19-22, 2007. Although CICAD has used the CICTE Training Manual in its previous courses on money laundering, this seminar was the first such training held specifically on this topic. Our new partnership with that Executive Secretariat on port security led to initial discussions with the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) about mutually beneficial coordination in the future.

We have initiated discussions on future coordination with the Office of Science and Technology of the OAS General Secretariat on a possible crisis management exercise in bioterrorism and with the Division of Trade, Tourism, and Competitiveness, also of the General Secretariat, on the tourism security project. This kind of coordination within the OAS General Secretariat offers additional options to form partnerships and bridge the gap between multidimensional security and integral development issues to the benefit of OAS Member States.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Secretariat's programs of technical assistance and specialized training remained focused on the highest priorities of the Work Plan and on areas where CICTE can make a valuable contribution. We have increased our outreach to other partners to avoid duplication, to join forces where appropriate, and to help Member States locate training providers where the Secretariat does not offer a particular advantage.

Our ten programs are now organized in six main areas: border controls, financial controls, critical infrastructure protection, counter-terrorism legislative assistance, terrorism crisis management exercises, and policy development and coordination.

In the last year, providing training assistance to the nine Caribbean countries hosting the Cricket World Cup in March and April 2007 remained a high Secretariat priority.

Border Controls

In the *Port Security Program*, we conducted assessments of vulnerabilities in port installations and training needs for port security personnel in Belize, Antigua and Barbuda, and St. Kitts and Nevis, as part of the emphasis on enhancing security in the nine countries hosting the Cricket World Cup 2007. Based on these assessments, 98 officials were trained in Belize on increasing security in port facilities in compliance with the international standards established in the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS) approved by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). During the training course conducted in Belize, authorities discovered narcotics in the front hold of a boat and consequently three crew members were arrested and convicted. The contract for assessments and training was awarded for five major ports of the Dominican Republic in 2007. Port assessments were conducted in January 2007, and 40 days of follow-on training will be delivered in April/May. In addition, bids were received for the Grenada project and a contractor selected in February 2007. A training needs assessment for the port of St. George's, followed by targeted training, is being planned for the second quarter of this year. Later in 2007, the Secretariat will solicit bids for a port security assessment and follow-on training for Jamaica, Guyana, and The Bahamas. In another instance of cooperation with the Government of Spain, the Secretariat participated in a seminar on Port Management and Security at the Spanish training center in Cartagena, Colombia.

The greatest growth in training occurred in the *Airport Security Program*. More than 600 officials from 18 countries were trained through 31 courses on special aspects of the security standards of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The Secretariat implemented fully in 2006 the training agreement signed with the U.S. Transportation Security Agency (TSA), provided scholarships to various participants to attend training courses offered by ICAO, and funded two ICAO training courses in airport security in Jamaica and Nicaragua. In addition, the Secretariat presented its airport security program in a regional seminar organized by the Government of Spain at its training center in Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

Under the *Fraudulent Documents* program, the Secretariat organized a regional seminar in Miami in July on Passports and International Travel Documents and Systems of Issuance, in collaboration with the International Organization for Migrations (IOM), for 24 English-speaking participants from CICTE Member States. The objective was to improve capacity to detect fraudulent travel documents and thereby enhance border security and links between immigration and border security agencies, in order to promote international cooperation in combating and controlling fraud. The Secretariat is currently developing new project proposals under this program for training courses on document fraud to be presented to donors for funding in 2007.

Lack of funding prevented implementation of training courses in 2006 under the *Customs and Immigrations* program. However, new funding from the United States permitted initiation of a new project of cooperation with the Customs and Border Protection Service (CBP) of the U.S.

Department of Homeland Security. The CBP assessed customs and immigration capacity at ports of entry in Jamaica, St. Lucia, and Grenada, and subsequently conducted four capacity-building courses linked to vulnerabilities identified in those countries in early 2007. The Secretariat plans to conduct similar assessments and follow-on training for six other Caribbean countries within the next few months.

Financial Controls

Under the *Terrorism Financing* program, the Secretariat contracted for production in CD format of a Spanish-language manual on terrorism financing which was distributed widely to the Financial Intelligence Units (FIU) of CICTE Member States and also to other multilateral and international organizations working on the topic. This constitutes a pioneering effort which unites legislation, analysis of different financing methods, early warning indicators, case studies, and best practices. This manual has been used in the last year in training courses organized by CICAD on money laundering. The two Secretariats formed a partnership, as mentioned above, to organize a new course in Bogotá, Colombia, in February 2007 on the specific topic of terrorism financing. Translation of this CD into English for use in courses for English-speaking Member States is expected to be completed in the next few months. Finally, the Secretariat participated in a seminar in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on terrorism financing organized by the Central Bank of the Republic of Argentina.

Legislation and Legal Assistance

The program of *legislative assistance and consultations*, implemented in coordination with our partner, the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC), has grown in the last year and provided technical assistance to CICTE Member States which are reviewing their counter terrorism legislation in order to adjust it to their commitments under the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, the international counter terrorism conventions of the United Nations, and the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council. To date, 22 CICTE Member States have ratified the Inter-American Convention –most recently, the Government of Uruguay in February 2007.

The CICTE Secretariat and UNODC organized a Ministerial Conference in Panama in April 2006 and a workshop in the Dominican Republic in July 2006. Costa Rica, Mexico, Guatemala and Uruguay also received technical assistance. Similar efforts are under way to organize a Ministerial Conference in the Dominican Republic in March 2007 to provide technical assistance to the 10 Caribbean countries which are not yet States Party to the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism. Targeted assistance is planned for St. Lucia following the Ministerial Conference. Also under this program, the CICTE Secretariat and UNODC provided technical assistance, in coordination with the Government of Spain, for a seminar to train judges and prosecutors on legal tools and methods used in prosecuting cases of terrorism.

Critical Infrastructure Protection

Under the *Cyber Security* program, the Secretariat organized, in cooperation with the U.S. Secret Service, a seminar in Miami in April 2006, on cyber crime and terrorism for 32 intelligence, police, and military sector officials from 14 CICTE Member States. This training complements the efforts of the Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA) and the Inter-American Telecommunications Committee (CITEL) to implement the Inter-

American Strategy to Combat Threats to Cyber Security, adopted by the OAS General Assembly in 2004 in AG/RES. 2004 (XXXIV-O/04). All CICTE Member States received a DVD of the training event.

In 2006, the Secretariat established a partnership with the Asia Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APCERT), participating as a speaker in its regional meetings in March 2006 and February 2007. In November 2006, the Secretariat also addressed two technical seminars in Brazil on cyber-security and critical infrastructure protection: a conference on cyber crime (III ICCyber) and a conference on government security (SecGov 2006).

The Secretariat's highest priority under this program is to help each CICTE Member State establish a 24/7 national Computer Cyber-Security Incident Response Team (CSIRT) and to train those officials designated by their governments to work in these teams. To date, only nine CICTE Member States have created a national CSIRT. At the end of 2006, the OAS Project Evaluation Committee approved CICTE's new two-year training program to help Member States, and the Secretariat is seeking funding from a donor to implement the program.

The Inter-American Tourism and Recreational Facilities Security Program (ITRS)

The Inter-American Tourism and Recreational Facilities Security Program (ITRS) was approved as a pilot project by CICTE in March 2006 at its Sixth Regular Session. The project began in August, funded by the United States. We believe this program to be unique in its field. It has already filled an important gap in hemispheric security and had a positive impact on the preparations by the countries hosting the Cricket World Cup 2007. During the pilot project, 253 security officials from both the public and private sectors of 10 English-speaking countries of the Caribbean received training. As part of the training, participants learned how to assess security vulnerabilities of the tourist sector (hotels, transportation, cruise ships, and recreational stadiums and sites).

In January 2007, the Secretariat entered into a new partnership with the U.S. Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) to provide advanced training in Grenada to 36 security and law enforcement officials in the tourist sector of the host countries. This new course emphasized security, surveys, and risk assessments, *inter alia*, for hotels, tourist sites, buildings, recreational centers and stadiums, and cruise ships. The objective was to develop greater capacity to evaluate security as a legacy of the Cricket World Cup.

The Secretariat presented this tourism security program in February 2007 to the aforementioned UNICRI seminar in Cartagena, Colombia, on enhancing security for major events. As a result, UNICRI has expressed its interest in coordinating with CICTE and the Secretariat in this growing area of tourism security in order to facilitate sharing of information and experiences through UNICRI's International Permanent Observatory (IPO) with other regions of the world.

V. CHALLENGES AHEAD

Despite significant advances in program and management areas, the Secretariat faces several challenges in order to continue meeting the objectives set for it by the Member States. Overcoming them satisfactorily and in a timely manner requires the attention of the Member States.

Financial

Since its creation in 2002, the Secretariat has received only minimal funding from the OAS Regular Fund. This has required unusual and often creative efforts to locate other sources to cover administrative costs. The solution—which is not at all desirable—has been to use external funds not restricted by the donors to specific programs or activities. Those amounts do not adequately cover the Secretariat's daily operational financial requirements and donors are increasingly tying their contributions to specific projects, leaving the Secretariat with little financial flexibility. The result is that, until financial support from the OAS Regular Fund is increased, there will continue to be a lack of stability in the financial operations of the Secretariat. In the meantime, all financial contributions from Member States can make a difference in the ability of the Secretariat to carry out the CICTE mandates and implement training courses throughout the Hemisphere.

Associate Staff

During the next year, at least four of the seven Secretariat staff detailed by their governments will finish their assignments. This will leave the Secretariat in a dire situation, since there is, as yet, no commitment from any Member State to replace them. Since the process of bringing an associate staff member on board can take up to a year after a pledge by a Member State, I ask that Member States urgently consider detailing additional staff to the Secretariat or, alternatively, providing funding to hire technical contractors.

VI. CONCLUSION

In closing, I wish to offer you my promise to manage the Secretariat's programs well, in accordance with the CICTE mandates in the Work Plan, and to keep our training focused on our highest priorities and on areas where CICTE can make a noticeable and valuable contribution. The CICTE Member States have committed themselves to strong cooperation and concrete measures to prevent, combat, and eliminate terrorism. You may count on the CICTE Secretariat to assist you in meeting those commitments.



Carol S. Fuller
Secretary
Inter-American Committee against Terrorism

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