

PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
COMMITTEE ON JURIDICAL AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS

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COURSE ON INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE LAW^{1/2/}

October 20, 2011

Padilha Vidal Room
Organization of American States
Washington, D.C.

PROGRAM

Resolution AG/RES. 2678 (XLI-O/11), "Protection of Asylum Seekers and Refugees in the Americas," instructed the Permanent Council to organize, through the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs and with support from the Department of International Law of the General Secretariat and the technical and financial collaboration of the UNHCR, a course prior to the forty-third regular session of the General Assembly on international refugee law for staff of the permanent missions of the member states and of the General Secretariat as well as for other interested parties.

Schedule:

8:45 – 9:30 a.m. Registration

9:30 – 10:00 a.m. **Opening remarks**
Ambassador María Isabel Salvador, Permanent Representative of Ecuador
and Chair of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs of the
Permanent Council of the OAS
UNHCR
Secretariat for Legal Affairs, OAS

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1. AG/RES. 2678 (XLI-O/11)
 2. The course will be transmitted via webcast on the Organization's website. Please click on the following link to access the live transmission on the day of the event:
http://www.oas.org/en/media_center/webcast.asp.

- 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. **Commemorating the UNHCR in the Americas: Challenges and opportunities.** The global process to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the role of the Americas and the OAS in particular.
Speaker: Louise Aubin, Assistant Director, Department of International Protection, UNHCR, Geneva
- 10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Question-and-answer session
- 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. **International protection of refugees: Trends, challenges, and recent theoretical developments.** Non-state agents of persecution, transnational organized crime, and individuals possibly protected under human rights instruments as supplementary forms of protection
Speaker: Louise Aubin, Assistant Director, Department of International Protection, UNHCR in Geneva
- 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Question-and-answer session
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- 2:30 – 3:00 p.m. **Climate change, natural disasters, and international protection**
Speaker: Vincent Cochetel, Regional Representative for the United States and the Caribbean, UNHCR
- 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. Question-and-answer session
- 3:30 – 4:00 p.m. **Mixed migration and considerations for international protection of refugees.** Developments and responses in dealing with mixed migration flows in the Americas. Trafficking in, and smuggling of, persons and international protection of refugees
Speaker: Juan Carlos Murillo, Regional Legal Advisor, Regional Legal Unit, UNHCR in Costa Rica
- 4:00 – 4:30 p.m. Question-and-answer session
- 4:30 – 5:00 p.m. **Closing remarks**
Ambassador María Isabel Salvador, Permanent Representative of Ecuador and Chair of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs of the Permanent Council of the OAS