PARAGUAY
PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Inter-American Network for the Prevention of Violence and Crime was created following the Resolution 2866 approved during the 44th General Assembly of the Organization of American States, held in Paraguay, in 2014. The Resolution reaffirms that the prevention of violence and crime is a strategic priority for the region and instructed the General Secretariat to establish a Network to provide assistance to Member States on the enforcement and implementation of public polices, programs and initiatives in the area of violence and crime prevention. Since then, the OAS Department of Public Security has been working on the creation and implementation of the Network and its activities, which has been officially launched on November 29th, 2017.

The interaction among the members of the Network takes place on in-person meetings that are carried out across the Americas and through its Website, where members can exchange experience and knowledge in the discussion forums, chats and learn more about different initiatives, policies and program in the area of crime and violence prevention around the world. The Website also features a variety of multimedia resources such as news, blog posts, videos, etc., available to its members.

Following the same Resolution a Fund for voluntary contributions was created to cover direct and indirect costs, which will not generate interest and is non-refundable. The Fund is managed by the DPS.

OBJECTIVES

To establish a dialogue and consultation mechanism, and foster the exchange of experiences, information, best practices, data and points of view among member states and different stakeholders on the issue of crime and violence prevention.

To facilitate the interaction and cooperation among different sectors to increase knowledge and promote the development of more efficient and effective policies, initiatives and programs to prevent violence and crime and to create safer and more peaceful societies in the hemisphere.

RESULTS

In 2016, the Network was officially launched during the event “Latin America and the Caribbean in action to reduce homicides” that took place at the OAS Headquarters. Additionally, in the same occasion, the Website of the Network, where the members have the opportunity to access a variety of publications, best practices, news, videos, among other materials and interact with other experts, professionals and people interested in the area of crime and violence prevention was made available through the OAS Website.

In the next months and years, it is expected, through the Network, to provide technical assistance to member states for the development and evaluation of actions, policies, and programs; provide inputs for the formulation of actions, policies, and programs; increase horizontal cooperation among States in the framework of prevention and promote interaction and exchange of knowledge and practices among different actors and stakeholders.
OBJECTIVES

To contribute in a systematic and ongoing manner to the strengthening of professional development of OAS Member States’ police institutions. Its specific goals are: (i) to develop a police knowledge management system based on on-site and virtual training; (ii) to promote a comprehensive and holistic approach that includes continuous training and exchange of knowledge and best practices among police institutions, as well as certification in police management; (iii) to generate greater coordination among Member States to address present and future public security challenges; and (iv) to add scientific value in the professional development of police officers through accreditation of the courses by renowned universities.

RESULTS

In the framework of the Interamerican Police Network, with the support of strategic partners, the DPS has carried out a needs assessment to identify the main challenges and gaps in police training; an educational guide for the on-site police training was developed based on the conclusions of the needs-assessment. The curriculum and the material for this training are being finalized and they will be validated by the strategic partners of the Police Network. Simultaneously, the first edition of the training is being organized and it is expected to take place at the Police Academy of Honduras in 2017. The DPS has also elaborated a mapping of the police institutions and their processes certified in quality management in the hemisphere.

It is expected that in the following years the Interamerican Police Network trains at least 340 police officers to promote the program in the OAS Member States during a one-month on site police course and 200,000 officers on the virtual platform, who will be connected through a network for police cooperation and exchange of experiences. The police network also aims to add scientific value in police professional development through accreditation of the courses offered by renowned universities and foster horizontal cooperation among police institutions in the Americas.
PROGRAM SUMMARY

Through the UNSCR 1540 (2004) Implementation Program, CICTE offers legislative assistance and fortifies Member States capacities in order that they adapt their legal framework to comply with the obligations contained in Resolution 1540 (2004) of the United Nations Security Council. The program addresses legislation regarding material typically related to crimes of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their financing, strategic trade regulations and export control of dual use materials and regulations regarding contraband of chemical, biological, radioactive and nuclear materials (CBRN), in addition to supporting the drafting of National Action Plans in accordance with Resolution 1977 (2011). Similarly, CICTE assists Member States in facilitating peer review exercises directed at exchanging best practices and experiences regarding the national implementation of Resolution 1540. Through this program, CICTE regularly participates in the United Nations Security Council open debates regarding Resolution 1540, in seminars, regional conferences and workshops about preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in the hemisphere. CICTE collaborates closely with the UN 1540 Committee, its Group of Experts and the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs and has participated in the revision of Resolution 1540 that culminated in the unanimous approval of Resolution 2325 (2016) by the UN Security Council.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the program are to strengthen national legislative frameworks in Member States through drafting, passing and applying adequate laws regarding CBRN materials in order to prevent and combat the risk of non-state actors acquiring, building or using weapons of mass destruction; to increase the capacities of government authorities and high ranking officials regarding the national level implementation of Resolution 1540 in order to guarantee compliance with its mandates; and to foment the coordination and cooperation at the regional and sub-regional level in preventing and combatting the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction through the establishment of a regional 1540 coordinator, the creation of a network of points of contact, the execution of regional conferences and peer review exercises.

RESULTS

The program team will assist in drafting the reform of the penal code to criminalize proliferation related offenses, the law to counter- financing of terrorism and proliferation of WMDs and the draft of reform of the custom legislation (border control and transport of WMD and nuclear smuggling).

The program team plans to continue coordinating with Paraguayan 1540 points of contact to maintain a 1540 regional network, collaborate in regional efforts and share best practices and lessons learned with other Member States.