

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

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AGENDA

SPECIAL MEETING ON THE EXCHANGE OF BEST PRACTICES
AND EXPERIENCES WITH PUBLIC DEFENDERS AS A GUARANTEE
OF ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR PERSONS IN SITUATIONS OF
VULNERABILITY

March 3, 2016

Simón Bolívar Room
Organization of American States
Washington, D.C.

(Adopted by the Committee at its meeting of December 10, 2015)

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Resolution AG/RES. 2821 (XLIV-O/14), "*Toward Autonomy for and Strengthening of Official Public Defenders as a Guarantee of Access to Justice*," adopted by the General Assembly in June 2014, requested the Permanent Council to hold a third special meeting in the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs in order to exchange best practices and experiences in implementing resolutions AG/RES. 2656 (XLI-O/11), AG/RES. 2714 (XLII-O/12) and AG/RES. 2801 (XLIII-O/13).

The General Assembly requested that the meeting examine the issues of access to justice and the autonomy of, and cooperation among, public defender offices.

The General Assembly requested, likewise, that member states and their respective official public legal aid institutions, as well as members of the Inter-American Association of Public Defender Offices (AIDEF), scholars, experts from civil society, and international organizations be invited to attend said meeting.

This special meeting has been scheduled for March 3, 2016.

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| 2:00 to 2:15 p.m. | Remarks by Ambassador Pablo Barahona Kruger, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the OAS and Chair of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP). |
| 2:15 to 2:30 p.m. | Presentation by the Department of International Law on implementation of General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 2821 (XLIV-O/14) |
| 2:30 to 3:00 p.m. | Presentation by the AIDEF on comprehensive protection for persons deprived of their liberty. Dr. Andrés Mahnke, Vice Coordinator of the AIDEF |
| 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. | Exchange of best practices and experiences in relation to access to justice and the autonomy of and cooperation among public defender offices |

I. Presentations by the representatives of the AIDEF:

Access to Justice

Juan de Dios Moscoso, Argentina Institucional

The Importance of Functional Guarantees for Public Defenders

Gustavo Kollmann, Argentina Asociativo

Virtual Tour

Edson Marques, Federal Public Defender Office of Brazil

Indigenous Peoples: Criminal Defense Challenges

Andrés Mahnke, Chile Institucional

Penitentiary counselling model in the Chilean Public Defender system.

Humberto A. Sánchez Pacheco. Chile Asociativo.

Best Practices in the National Public Defender System: Academic Support Groups

Alfonso Cajiao Cabrera, Colombia Institucional

Public Defender Investigation Experiences: Criminalistics and Forensic Laboratories and Technology

Alexandra Cárdenas Castañeda, Colombia Institucional

Significant measures in favor of persons deprived of their liberty and vulnerable groups to ensure protection for their rights

Marta Iris Muñoz Cascante, Costa Rica Institucional

Best practices in providing assistance to indigenous persons in criminal proceedings

Alicia Pedrozo, Paraguay Institucional

II. Member states