PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

COMMITTEE ON JURIDICAL AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS

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SPECIAL MEETING ON METHODS BEING IMPLEMENTED BY EACH PUBLIC DEFENDER INSTITUTION IN THE REGION FOR THE PREVENTION OF TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL AND DEGRADING TREATMENT AND PUNISHMENT

Organization of American States Washington, D.C.

March 16, 2017

By resolution AG/RES. 2887 (XLVI-O/16), "Promotion and Protection of Human Rights" (Section ix "Toward autonomous official public defenders as a safeguard for integrity and personal liberty") adopted by the General Assembly on June 14, 2016, the Permanent Council was requested to hold a fifth special meeting of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs on methods being implemented by each public defender institution in the region for the prevention of torture and other cruel and degrading treatment and punishment.

The General Assembly also requested that that meeting be held in the first quarter of 2017, with the presence of member states and their respective official public defender institutions for legal aid, members of the Inter-American Association of Public Defenders (AIDEF), experts from academia, civil society, and international organizations.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

2:00 to 2:05 p.m.	Remarks by Ambassador Jennifer May Loten, Permanent Representative of Canada to the OAS and Chair of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP)
2:05 to 2:20 p.m.	Remarks by the Director of the Department of International Law, Dr. Dante Negro
2:20 to 2:50 p.m.	Presentation by the AIDEF on methods being implemented by each public defender institution in the region for the prevention of torture and other cruel and degrading treatment and punishment Dr. Andrés Mahnke, National Defender of Chile, and AIDEF General Coordinator

2:50 to 4:05 p.m.

Exchange of best practices and experience in relation to methods implemented by each public defender institution in the region for the prevention of torture and other cruel and degrading treatment and punishment

- I. Presentations by regional groups delivered by the following AIDEF representatives:
 - 2:50 to 3:05 Stella Maris Martínez, Defender General of the Nation, Argentina, and AIDEF General Secretary
 - 3:05 to 3:20 Marta Iris Muñoz Cascante, Director of Public Defense of Costa Rica, and AIDEF General Coordinator for Central America
 - 3:20 to 3:35 Mario Alberto Torres López, Federal Institute of the Office of the Public Defender of the Republic of Mexico, and AIDEF Coordinator for North America
 - 3:35 to 3:50 Antonio Maffezoli, President of the National Association of Public Defenders (ANADEP), Brazil, and AIDEF Deputy General Coordinator
 - 3:50 to 4:05 Dr. Laura Hernández Román, National Director, National Office of Public Defense of the Dominican Republic, and AIDEF Coordinator for the Caribbean

4:05 to 5:30 p.m. II. Participation by member states