



MECHANISM FOR FOLLOW-UP ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN
CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION
Twenty-ninth Meeting of the Committee of Experts
11 to 14 September 2017
Washington, D.C.

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MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE MECHANISM FOR FOLLOW-UP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

I. BACKGROUND

In accordance with the schedule for the Fifth Round of Review established by the Committee of Experts of the Mechanism for Follow-up on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC), the Twenty-ninth Meeting of the Committee was held at OAS Headquarters in Washington, D.C. from September 11 to 14, 2017.

The following representatives of the States Parties attended: Laura Geler (Argentina); Krissy Hanna (Bahamas); Katty Peredo Malpartida (Bolivia); Elizabeth Cosmo (Brazil); Mathilda Haykal Sater, Dough Breithaupt, Stan Lee, Kathleen Clarkin, Matthew Sreter, Ricardo Seoane, Peter Waisberg, Jenny Etmanskie, Lorna Prosper, Jehan Casey (Canada); Felipe Sepulveda (Chile); Alice Berggrun, Jose Alberto Salas Sanchez (Colombia); Miguel Cortes Chaves, Linyi Baidal Sequeira (Costa Rica); Juan Peña, Carlos Contreras Pacheco (Ecuador); Gabriel Aguilar, Libna Bonilla, Mauricio Bernard (Guatemala); Aubrey Heath Retemyer (Guyana); David Basile, Nicolás Maynard Paul (Haiti); Jose Juan Pineda, Ricardo Rodriguez, Jorge Medina (Honduras); Deon Lloyd Williams (Jamaica); Luis Alfonso de Alba, Rafael Guillermo Sanchez González, Alejandra Garcia Brahim, Olivera West, Pablo Villareal (Mexico); Luis Alvarado (Nicaragua); Angélica Maytín Justiniani, Antonio Lam, Agustín Miranda, Gabriela Obarrio (Panama); Federico Espinoza, Justo Apodala (Paraguay); Vicente Rodolfo Walde Jáuregui, Virna Ruiz (Peru); Rafael Basora, Ramón Reví Matos (República Dominicana); Everson Hull, Kemoy Liburd Chow (San Kitts y Nevis); Juanita Lont (Suriname); David Grier, Marianne Toussaint, Schuyler Miller, Jane Ley, Patrick Shepherd, Andrew Stevenson (United States); Hugo Cayrús, Ricardo Gil, Jorge Rodríguez Pereira, Carlos Rodríguez Brianza (Uruguay); and Zhaybel Cárdenas (Venezuela).

II. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

The Assistant Secretary General of the OAS, Ambassador Néstor Méndez, participated, making a statement at the meeting's opening.

Addressing the first item on the agenda and the schedule (Annexes I and II), the Technical Secretariat presented a report on agenda items to be taken up at this meeting.

Next, under agenda item 2, pursuant to the provisions of Article 4 of the Rules of Procedure, the agreement of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Committee, and the note received from the Permanent Mission of Peru (MESICIC/doc. 512/17) indicating that Mrs. Rosmary Cornejo's responsibilities on

the High-level Anticorruption Commission (CAN) had concluded and that the Commission had therefore “indicated that Mrs. Cornejo Valdivia would no longer be the lead expert of Peru on the MESICIC”, the procedure for nominating candidates for the Vice Presidency of the Committee was commenced.

The Committee proceeded to take up item 3 of the agenda, considering, in order, the preliminary draft reports of Colombia, the Dominican Republic, and Canada.

In considering the preliminary draft country reports, the Committee proceeded according to the provisions contained in Article 25 of the Rules of Procedure. Thus, in each case, the review subgroup presented the contents and scope of its preliminary draft report; next, the State Party under review issued a statement about the draft report; and the Committee then considered the respective draft report, presenting the experts’ observations and comments in the same order as the chapters and sections.

The Committee agreed on modifications to each draft report considered, requesting that the respective changes be made and the revised versions of the respective reports submitted to the plenary for final consideration and approval.

Next, taking up agenda item 4.1., the representatives of the following States gave presentations on matters of general interest and good practices: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, and Uruguay.

Next, under agenda item 4.2., the Inter-American Dialogue and the International Monetary Fund, respectively, presented studies; next, representatives of the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank discussed the investigation and sanctioning of acts of corruption in projects financed by these multilateral financial institutions; and finally, representatives of the OAS General Secretariat and the World Bank gave presentations on transparency in public contracting.

The electronic versions of the presentations by the States and non-governmental and international organizations that were provided will be published on the Mechanism’s website.

Next, addressing agenda item 5, recommendation 39 of the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the States Parties to MESICIC, and the agreement at the previous meeting, the Technical Secretariat presented the revised version of the proposed methodology for facilitating the presentation of good practices for preventing and fighting corruption. In this regard, various delegations issued comments and suggested changes. It was agreed that by October 20, 2017 at the latest, the delegations would send their specific proposals for changes in the text of the revised version of the methodology considered at this meeting, which is included as Annex III, and that the Secretariat would take them under advisement and prepare a new revised version for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee.

The Committee then took up the final review of the draft country reports of Colombia, the Dominican Republic, and Canada, which, after considerations formulated with respect to each of them, were approved by consensus. The approved texts of these country reports are included as Annexes IV, V, and VI of these minutes.






Next, the Committee took up agenda item 6. Pursuant to Article 4 of the Rules of Procedure, the Committee elected Laura Gelar, lead expert of the Argentine Republic, Vice President by acclamation.

Then, taking up item 8, “other matters”:

- a) Since this was the last meeting that David Grier would attend as lead expert of the United States, the Committee expressed its appreciation to Mr. Grier and thanked him for his contribution to its work, wishing him success in his future endeavors.
- b) Honduras requested that the members of the Committee share their good practices in implementing Article IX on Illicit Enrichment.
- c) The Dominican Republic distributed a copy of Decree 350-17 regarding the use of the Transactional Portal for Government Procurement and stated its intention to furnish information about it in its next progress report.
- d) In response to the proposal by the delegation of Argentina, the Committee approved by consensus a motion to congratulate the Technical Secretariat of MESICIC and express its support for it.

Before declaring the meeting closed, the Technical Secretariat read these minutes to the Committee sitting in plenary, which approved them by consensus together with all the annexes, which are an integral part of the minutes.

Washington, D.C., September 14, 2017

ANNEXES		
No.	Title	Link
I	Meeting Agenda	
II	Meeting Schedule	
III	Proposed methodology for facilitating the presentation of good practices for preventing and fighting corruption	
IV	Report of the <u>Republic of Colombia</u>	
V	Report of the <u>Republic of the Dominican Republic.</u>	
VI	Report of the <u>Republic of Canada.</u>	