

**INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM (CICTE)**

EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION  
March 5–7, 2008  
Washington, D.C.

OEA/Ser.L/X.2.8  
CICTE/doc.6/08  
4 March 2008  
Original: English

**REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT OF  
THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM**

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT OF  
THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM

I. INTRODUCTION

I am pleased to present this Report on the Activities of the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) for the year 2007, in accordance with Article 17.h of the Statute and Article 11.e of the Rules of Procedure of CICTE.

In 2007, the Secretariat's programs of technical assistance and specialized training remained focused on the highest priorities of the CICTE Work Plan and on areas where Secretariat training can make a valuable contribution. A new Operational and Strategic Plan for 2007 through 2009 sets clear goals and objectives, training activities and budgets, and evaluation factors for each of our 10 programs organized in six main areas: border controls, financial controls, critical infrastructure protection, counter-terrorism legislative assistance, crisis management, and policy development and coordination. During the year, the Secretariat conducted 61 training courses and technical assistance missions, benefiting some 2,692 participants in the Hemisphere.

2007			
Program	Number of Events	Countries participating	Number of Trainees
Port Security	5	12	1441
Aviation Security	25	12	414
Legislation Assistance and Terrorist Financing	10	29	309
Immigrations and customs	14	6	180
Tourism Security	3	8	158
Cyber Security	2	30	109
Terrorist Financing	2	17	81
Total	61	114	2692

II. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND NEW PARTNERSHIPS

The year 2007 proved to be an exciting one with respect to the development of new partnerships on CICTE training programs and increased cooperation with other international, regional, and sub-regional organizations. By promoting such partnerships, we multiply individual efforts and leverage financial and personnel resources to the advantage of CICTE Member States.

In particular, the Secretariat continued to solidify its position as a central point for facilitating international cooperation against terrorism. Following adoption of CICTE's "Declaration of Panama on Protection of Critical Infrastructure in the Hemisphere" (February 2007) the Secretariat helped facilitate two instances of horizontal cooperation between Member States. The Secretariat also

responded to a number of inquiries on technical assistance areas, forwarding requests to other service providers.

The Port Security Assistance Program (PSAP) partnership, formed in February 2007 with Transport Canada, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Department of State, CICAD, and CIP, tripled program activities (described below) by December. The technical advice and in-kind technical assistance of the two governments which also provide significant financial contributions to the PSAP, demonstrate the value of multilateral training.

Ongoing and successful partnerships with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on counter terrorism legislative consultations and assistance and on terrorism financing and with the United Nations Interregional Institute on Crime and Research (UNICRI) on strengthening security for major events have similarly increased assistance to CICTE Member States both through training and technical assistance programs and sharing of information electronically through our CICTE National Points of Contact network.

Canada and Spain increased financial support to the Secretariat in 2007 joining the United States and Trinidad and Tobago as the largest donors to Secretariat training programs. Thanks to the first major Canadian contribution in early 2007, the Secretariat developed an intensive Cyber Security program that significantly advanced the objectives of the 2004 OAS Cyber Security Strategy. In recognition of the comparative advantage of partnering with the Secretariat multilaterally, Canada tripled its financial contributions in the course of one year and also began providing technical assistance under the CICTE PSAP. In addition to tripling its financial support in 2007, Spain's increasing technical partnership with the Secretariat resulted in cooperation on *three Ibero-American seminars* held for OAS Member States at the Training Center of AECI in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in February, May and June 2007. Other financial donors in 2007 included Chile, France (a first-time donor), and Turkey.

In order to promote another area of the CICTE Work Plan related to support for efforts of the CICTE Member States to comply with their obligations under United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 on weapons of mass destruction, the Secretariat maintained communications with the UN 1540 Committee and the United Nations Regional Office for Peace, Disarmament and Economic Development in Latin American and the Caribbean (UN-LiREC), located in Lima, Peru. The Secretariat gave two presentations at a regional meeting organized by UN-LiREC in November 2006. In June 2007, the Secretariat cooperated with the UN DDA and UN-LiREC on organization of a seminar in Jamaica on UNSCR 1540 implementation and chaired a panel of scientists, in compliance with the mandate to the CICTE secretariat.

Other institutions with which the Secretariat expanded or renewed partnerships include the Asia and Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) working groups on cyber-security (APCERT) and maritime security (MEG-SEC), the Anti Terrorism Unit of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the European Commission, the Council of Europe Experts on Terrorism (CODEXTER), and the Executive Directorate of the UN Counter Terrorism Committee (UNCTED). Participation by the Secretariat in a July APEC Maritime Security Experts Group (MEG-SEC) meeting in Taiwan led to joint facilitation of upcoming training on port security by the US Coast Guard for Peru.

A major new area for the Secretariat involved active participation in international efforts against terrorism in the context of the United Nations Global Strategy against Terrorism and interregional coordination. As the United Nations and other international organizations begin to emphasize the value that regional organizations can provide for implementing international standards, the Secretariat has been asked to represent the OAS in events related to promoting international cooperation under the UN Global Strategy on Terrorism. At the March 2007 Conference in Vienna of the UN Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) and UNODC on the Global Strategy, the Secretariat contributed remarks on the value of partnerships between International Organizations such as UNODC and Regional Organizations like CICTE. The October 27-29, 2007, Fifth Special Meeting of the UN Counter Terrorism Committee (UNCTC) with International, Regional, and Sub-regional Organizations in Nairobi, Kenya, offered the opportunity to share technical information and develop specific activities with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Interpol, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and the World Customs Organization (WCO). (*CICTE had helped the UN CTC organize the First Special Meeting in 2002 and then hosted the Second Meeting Washington DC in 2003.*)

The Secretariat has also pursued a strategy of strengthening relations with other regional organizations, such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Council of Europe, and greater technical coordination with international organizations such as INTERPOL and ICAO. A Workshop organized by the Action Against Terrorism Unit of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Vilnius, Lithuania, in June 2007, for Regional Organization Counter Terrorism Practitioners focused on best practices and information sharing, in preparation for the UN meetings. The Secretariat also participated in a technical OSCE Workshop on Border Security in Vienna in July and presented a summary of CICTE activities to the Council of Europe Experts on Terrorism (CODEXTER) meeting on cyber terrorism in October. These networking events always produce greater understanding and opportunities for joint projects.

The Secretariat is increasing international cooperation with other entities, including the European Commission, the Commonwealth Secretariat, and the CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS), which we expect to further in 2008. Finally, the presentations which the Secretariat is often asked to make to a variety of academic institutions, private sector organizations, and security and law enforcement associations have offered the opportunity to increase awareness of CICTE programs and develop new partnerships. These included presentations on security and migration management to a special session of the OAS Permanent Council, on security and terrorism to the Association of Caribbean Chiefs of Police and the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and on border security, commerce, and trade to the Technical Implementation Committee of the seven countries participating in the Free Trade Agreement between the United States and Central American and the Dominican Republic (CAFTA-DR).

Finally, the Secretariat has continued its outreach to other secretariats and dependencies of the OAS, especially within the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS) which became fully functional in early 2007 under the leadership of Brazilian ambassador Alexandre Addor-Neto. The CICTE and CICAD Secretariats cooperated throughout the year, jointly organizing two training workshops for Latin American countries on terrorism financing and participating in each other's training activities in port security. The CICTE Secretariat and the Department of Public Security have supported efforts of the Committee on Hemispheric Security on UNSCR 1540, and a CICTE Associate Staff Member supports both units on outreach to the police on crime, violence, and terrorism issues. The Office of Science and Technology of the OAS General Secretariat provided

technical advice in developing a proposal for a possible crisis management exercise based on a bioterrorist attack and we continue to coordinate with the Division of Trade, Tourism, and Competitiveness on tourism security projects, including their disaster management manual and a possible conference on tourism. This kind of coordination within the OAS General Secretariat offers additional options to form partnerships and bridge the gap between multidimensional security and integral development issues to the benefit of OAS Member States.

### III. IMPLEMENTATION OF CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The number of Secretariat training programs more than doubled in 2007 due primarily to two factors. First, the new program management process, begun in late 2006, culminated in a new Operational and Strategic Plan for 2007 through 2009 which sets clear goals and objectives, training activities and budgets, and evaluation factors for each of our 10 programs. The OAS's new Project Evaluation Committee approved every proposal submitted by the Secretariat. This new planning process attracted new donors and enabled the Secretariat to quickly prepare and present project proposals that meet donor objectives, thereby increasing the Secretariat's funding base for training. Second, we have increased our outreach to other partners to avoid duplication, to join forces where appropriate, and to help Member States locate training providers where the Secretariat does not offer a particular advantage. The greatest growth occurred in the Port, Airport, and Cyber Security programs.

#### ***Border Controls***

Under the five training projects of the **Airport Security Program**, 414 security officials received training on international standards of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) through seven (7) scholarships to ICAO courses and through 22 CICTE training courses implemented in 12 countries by the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Following an intensive two-year focus on the nine countries which hosted the Cricket World Cup in March and April 2007, the Secretariat is now focusing more on Latin America, partly due to new contributions from the Government of Spain. A successful first course on Crisis Management for Spanish speakers in Colombia in August launched a new emphasis on this area which is being augmented in 2008. A new program evaluation component was added to these training sessions in 2007.

**Port Security** remains the Secretariat's largest and most complex program. The Secretariat organized training for approximately 1,400 officials on the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in 2007. Some 682 received Port Facility Security Guard training and Customs training, and participated in Table-top Crisis Management Exercises; 768 received Port Security Awareness training. Following creation in February of the Port Security Assistance Partnership (PSAP) with two other OAS Departments (CICAD and CIP), the U.S. Coast Guard, and Transport Canada, the program now comprises three projects: 1) *Assessments* of training needs related to the International Ship and Port Facilities Security Code (ISPS) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and *follow-on training*; 2) *Crisis management exercises*; and 3) *Best Practices Workshops* on Port Security.

Following *assessments, training* was conducted in five ports in the Dominican Republic in April and May and in the Port of Saint George's in Grenada in October. In October, the contract for

assessment and training in Jamaica and Guyana was awarded through an OAS competitive bid process for the first time to a British company. A record number of 14 companies submitted bids for the assessment and training in The Bahamas. A Request for Proposals is in preparation for assessments in Honduras and Guatemala in early 2008. The first *Crisis Management Exercise* under the PSAP was successfully conducted in the port of Buenos Aires, Argentina, in September, with technical assistance provided by PSAP partners, the U.S Coast Guard and Transport Canada. Under a Train the Trainers approach, observers from Mexico and Uruguay participated in the event, and Uruguay and Argentina assisted in the second Crisis Management Exercise in Colombia in February 2008, with Ecuador and Peru participating as observers. The Secretariat is actually coordinating a third Crisis Management Exercise that will take place in Peru, and planning a fourth one to be held in Trinidad and Tobago. A specialized workshop on the ISPS Code was conducted in Veracruz, Mexico, January 21-24, at the request of the government. After months in development, inauguration of the Secretariat's third Port Security project—*Sub-regional Workshops on Best Practices in Port Security*—has been -delayed until May 2008 in Brazil for countries in the Andean sub-region. A second sub-regional Workshop for Central America is already in planning for Panama in July 2008.

The Secretariat manages two projects under the **Immigrations and Customs Program**. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Service conducted *assessments* and *training* in late 2006 and early 2007 for three of the nine countries that hosted the Cricket World Cup and completed six more from September 2007 to February 2008: Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, St Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua and Barbuda, and Barbados. Under a 2004 MOU with the Secretariat, the *International Organization for Migration* (IOM) conducted assessments in four Caribbean countries—Belize, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua and Barbuda, and Suriname, with the goal of enhancing the effectiveness of border management systems and migration processes. An assessment will be conducted in Saint Lucia in March 2008—a total of 10 Caribbean countries.

Under the **Document Security and Fraud Prevention Program**, the Secretariat organized a *workshop* in Asuncion, Paraguay, July 30-August 3, for 25 customs, immigrations, and law enforcement personnel of Argentina and Paraguay with technical experts from the Forensic Documents Laboratory of the U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS/ICE). The objective was to strengthen capacity to detect fraudulent travel documents and thereby improve border controls and increase communication and institutional links between Customs and Border controls officials. Additional courses were planned for 2007 and 2008, but scheduling conflicts are forcing the Secretariat to look for additional implementing agencies. The Secretariat began developing a series of *sub-regional Best Practices Workshops* on Travel Document Security to be conducted in 2008 with ICAO and Interpol., the first one for Central American Spanish-speaking countries, Mexico and Dominican Republic, to be held in El Salvador in June 2008.

### ***Legislative Assistance and Terrorism Financing***

In March, under the **Counter-Terrorism Legislation Program**, the Dominican Republic hosted a *Ministerial conference* for the Caribbean on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime Legislation which was co-organized by the Secretariat and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). As a direct result of the Conference, Suriname requested a technical assistance mission. A follow-up technical assistance mission in the Dominican Republic helped advance the process of ratification and implementation of several universal legal instruments against terrorism. In partnership with UNODC, the Secretariat conducted *legislative technical assistance missions* in

seven countries (Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, St Lucia, Dominican Republic, and Suriname); *four specialized legislative training courses* for prosecutors, judges, and law enforcement officials (Chile, Colombia—in collaboration with the Government of Spain—Panama, and the Dominican Republic); and *two sub-regional workshops*--one Ibero-American Seminar in Cartagena, Colombia, in association with the Government of Spain, and one workshop focused on extradition of terrorists and mutual legal assistance. The latter was hosted by Peru in October for nine South American countries and included technical assistance by another Secretariat partner, the OAS Office of Legal Cooperation.

CICTE and CICAD co-organized two *training workshops* under the **Terrorism Financing Program**: the first in Bogota in February 2007 for Colombia, Central America, Dominican Republic, and Mexico; a second in Peru in August for South American countries. A total of 80 prosecutors, judges, legislators and law enforcement personnel participated in the two seminars. *The CICTE training module*—"A Practical Guide to Prevention, Detection and Suppression of Terrorist Financing"—which is used in all CICTE legislative and terrorism financing events—was fully updated, translated into English, and distributed widely on an interactive CD to our international partners and to Financial Intelligence Units in Member States in October. In 2008, the Secretariat is combining two programs into one—the Legislative Assistance and Terrorism Financing Program.

### ***Critical Infrastructure Protection***

Under the **Cyber-Security Program**, extensive Secretariat activity advanced significantly implementation of the mandates under the OAS Comprehensive Cyber Security Strategy: to help OAS Member States establish Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRT); to train designated CSIRT staff; and to facilitate the creation of the Inter-American Network of CSIRTs. The Program Manager made 15 *technical assistance missions* to individual countries and *presentations* at technical conferences. By April 2007, 11 OAS Member States had formally designated national CSIRTs. The *first OAS Course on the Creation and Management of CSIRTs* took place in Brasilia June 25-29, 2007, thanks to the collaboration and in-kind contributions of the government of Brazil, by means of the Brazilian Intelligence Agency (ABIN) and the Department of Information Security and Communications (DSIC). The 43 CSIRT participants produced a non-binding strategic document entitled *Carta de Brasília* (Charter of Brasilia). CICTE Secretariat 2006-2007 efforts on cyber security culminated in a *Second Cyber Security and Cyber Crime Workshop* held in Miami November 5-9, 2007, in collaboration with the U.S. Secret Service for 102 participants from 31 OAS Member-States. In a major step forward, the OAS Office of Information Technology Services offered to host a pilot project on its secure server to begin establishing the Inter-American Network of CSIRTs. The results of this pilot project will be presented at the Eighth Regular Session of CICTE in March 2008.

Under the Security for **Tourism and Recreational Facilities Program**, the Secretariat trained 246 security officials from both the public and private sectors of 10 Caribbean countries through *six training courses* from August 2006 to February 2007 in the nine Cricket World Cup host countries. CICTE's tourism security training has attracted the interest of the United Nations International Crime and Research Institute (UNICRI) and the UN Working Group on Protection of Vulnerable Targets. Because of a 2006 CICTE decision to formally evaluate the pilot project by a Meeting of Experts and consider its expansion throughout the Hemisphere, further activity in 2007 was limited to developing contacts with other OAS entities, public and private sector experts, and Caribbean tourism organizations. The Meeting of Experts will take place March 4, 2008, prior to

CICTE VIII.

#### IV. PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

Reflecting the strong commitment of CICTE Member States to combat terrorism, eight Member States have detailed personnel or paid for a total of 14 individual Secretariat staff members in the last five years. Since last March, Trinidad and Tobago has extended the secondment of two nationals to the CICTE Secretariat for a third year and Brazil has renewed its commitment by assigning a national for a second two-year period in early 2008. Today, although programming has doubled, the Secretariat consists of a staff of 11, one more than in February 2007: six Associate Staff Members detailed by their governments (Brazil, Canada, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and the United States); two OAS Staff positions funded by the Regular Fund; and two project managers and one administrative assistant funded by donor contributions. Although General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 2257 (XXXVI-O/06) approved establishment of a second General Services position in the CICTE Secretariat in the 2007 Program-Budget of the OAS, the position was frozen in May 2007. To continue at the current rhythm of training programs, more staff will be needed.

#### V. CHALLENGES AHEAD

Despite significant advances in program and management areas, the Secretariat faces several challenges in order to continue meeting the objectives set for it by the Member States. Overcoming them satisfactorily and in a timely manner requires the attention of the Member States.

##### *Financial*

Since its creation in 2002, the Secretariat has received only minimal funding from the OAS Regular Fund. This has required unusual and often creative efforts to locate other sources to cover administrative costs. The solution—which is not at all desirable—has been to use external funds not restricted by the donors to specific programs or activities. Those amounts do not adequately cover the Secretariat's daily operational financial requirements and donors are increasingly tying their contributions to specific projects, leaving the Secretariat with little financial flexibility. Three changes may improve the Secretariat's financial situation in 2008. First, the Secretariat is including direct costs for program managers and support in proposals to donors: one program manager position was funded in this way in 2007. Second, new procedures concerning reimbursements under the new policy on Indirect Cost Recovery also indicate that some Secretariat administrative costs will be covered in 2008. Finally, in compliance with OASGA Resolution AG/RES. 2353 (2007), the General Secretariat is increasing funding to the CICTE Secretariat from the Regular Fund from \$9,100 to \$30,000 in 2008.

##### *Staffing*

Since 2002, it has been the tradition for CICTE Member States, especially the Chair and Vice Chair, to second personnel to the Secretariat for a two-year period. It has become increasingly difficult for Member States to provide staff in this way, despite the obvious benefits that accrue to the sending state. Moreover, the process of bringing an associate staff member on board can take up to a year after a pledge by a Member State. It is unlikely that the Secretariat can maintain its current level of training programs only through the new policy of direct costs to donors. I ask that Member States



urgently consider detailing additional staff to the Secretariat or, alternatively, providing funding to hire technical contractors.

## VI. CONCLUSION

I am pleased to inform the Member States that the Secretariat has improved and matured in many ways in the last year. It is now seen as an effective Program Management organization with a clear vision of what it is trying to do under the mandates of the OAS General Assembly, the CICTE Member States, and the OAS Secretary General. Our training focused on the highest priorities and on areas where CICTE can make a noticeable and valuable contribution. CICTE itself is increasingly seen by international organizations as a regional organization that can effectively further international standards. Donors turn to us because they know that we can implement programs of value to counter the threat of terrorism in the Hemisphere and strengthen security in general. The CICTE Secretariat remains committed to supporting the efforts of the Member States to prevent, combat, and eliminate terrorism in the Hemisphere.



Carol S. Fuller  
Secretary  
Inter-American Committee against Terrorism

February 25, 2008