



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

NINTH REGULAR SESSION  
March 4-6, 2009  
Washington, D.C.  
United States

OEA/Ser.L/X.2.9  
CICTE/doc.3/09  
4 March 2009  
Original: English

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

(Presented by Dr. Carol Fuller, Secretary of CICTE)

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

(Presented by Dr. Carol Fuller, Secretary of CICTE)

## 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 2008, in accordance with Article 17.h of the Statute and Article 11.e of the Rules of Procedure of CICTE.

Under the policy guidance and mandates established by the CICTE Member States to prevent and combat terrorism in the Hemisphere, the Secretariat mobilizes its limited human and financial resources to implement an impressive range and number of training programs. In 2008, the Secretariat conducted 115 activities, training courses and technical assistance missions, benefiting over 2,700 participants through nine programs in five areas: border controls, critical infrastructure protection, counter-terrorism legislative assistance and combating terrorism financing, strengthening strategies on emerging terrorist threats (crisis management), and international cooperation and partnerships. Key achievements included the development of new methodologies—workshops on best practices and crisis management exercises—and expansion of international partnerships.

## II. SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

The outreach of the CICTE Secretariat to other partners has placed CICTE and the OAS at the center of international cooperation to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism. The Executive Directorate of the UN Counter Terrorism Committee (CTED) cites CICTE and its Secretariat as a model for other regional organizations in preventing and combating terrorism. CTED solicits Secretariat cooperation to help complete its own mandates, invites the Secretariat to participate in CTC country visits, and is now increasingly participating in CICTE training activities. UNODC's Terrorism Prevention Branch refers to the CICTE Secretariat as its strongest regional partner worldwide and implements almost all of its activities in the Hemisphere with the Secretariat. The strategic partnerships between the Secretariat and over 40 international, regional, and subregional organizations, as well as bilateral technical assistance agencies of many countries, provide excellent opportunities to promote international cooperation to the benefit of the OAS Member States, especially by means of sub-regional workshops. Some of the most significant achievements of 2008 stemmed from these partnerships.

For example, in 2008, the Secretariat developed a new methodology of subregional Workshops on Best Practices which has proven highly successful. In June 2008, the Secretariat organized the first of five planned subregional workshops on Best Practices in Port Security, hosted by the Government of Brazil for Andean countries. In May, the Secretariat launched another series of four subregional workshops on Best Practices in Travel Document Security, working with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to promote its international standards on Machine Readable Travel Documents (MRTDs) and with INTERPOL to promote its database on Stolen and Lost Travel Documents (SLTD). Then, in October the Secretariat organized with UNODC and the

Commonwealth Secretariat a subregional workshop for Caribbean countries on the financing of terrorism. As a regional organization, CICTE is well-suited to bringing international experts together at our training events with regional, subregional and national experts. As a result, CICTE has become a significant platform for the promotion of international standards.

Two years ago, the Secretariat was invited to join the Maritime Security Sub-Group (MEG-SEC) of the Asia and Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). In March of 2008, the Secretariat assisted APEC in providing training to Peruvian port security officials at the U.S. Coast Guard facilities in the United States. In July, at the APEC Transportation Security Working Group meeting in Peru, the Secretariat offered to organize in 2009 subregional Workshops for OAS Member States for the presentation and eventual implementation of APEC's Manual on Drills and Exercises in Port Security, and Peru offered to be the first country in the Americas to work with these standards. This international cooperation between two regional organizations will contribute to the extraordinary achievement of standardizing procedures for the 50 countries of the Americas and Asia.

Finally, the CICTE Secretariat has played an important role in promoting awareness of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy which was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2006 and reviewed on September 4, 2008, at UN Headquarters. The UN Declaration on the Strategy recognizes the "need to enhance the important role the United Nations plays, in coordination with other international, regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, in facilitating coherence in the implementation of the Strategy at the national, regional and global levels and in providing assistance, especially in the area of capacity-building...." As a result, the CICTE Secretariat has participated in many UN and Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) meetings in Europe and the Americas to emphasize the need for greater international cooperation. Whereas the UN Security Council Resolutions such as 1373, 1267, and 1540 are legally binding on all States, the Strategy which incorporates them is "owned" by all UN Members and has become a collective responsibility. From the CICTE Secretariat perspective, we have seen greater coordination among UN agencies, greater outreach by international organizations to regional organizations like CICTE, and a growing recognition of the need for a holistic approach that reflects the OAS approach on multidimensional security.

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

The number of Secretariat capacity-building activities again doubled in 2008—from 61 in 2007 to 115 in 2008. The ability to increase this support to CICTE Member States stems from the Secretariat's strong program management process and increased financial support by major and new donors.<sup>1</sup>

#### *Border Controls*

**Maritime and Port Security** remains the Secretariat's largest and most complex program, with partners from the private sector; the U.S. Coast Guard; Transport Canada; and two other OAS Departments (the Executive Secretariats of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission, CICAD, and the Inter-American Committee on Ports, CIP). Under three projects, the Secretariat

---

<sup>1</sup> See table at the end of this section.

organized training for approximately 1,251 officials on the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Five countries benefited from the *Assessments of training needs and follow-on training* project in 2008: Jamaica, Guyana, The Bahamas, Guatemala, and Honduras. Assessments were contracted in 2008 for implementation in 2009 for Trinidad and Tobago and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Three *Crisis management exercises* were conducted in Colombia, Peru, and Trinidad and Tobago, with preparations underway for Chile in 2009. The Secretariat promotes a “train the trainers” methodology aimed at developing a hemispheric network of experts. The new series of *Sub-Regional Workshops on Best Practices in Port Security and the ISPS Code* was inaugurated in a first workshop in Brazil in June for Andean countries, with a second held in Guatemala in November for Central America, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic. The Secretariat is in the process of organizing subregional workshops to present and eventually implement the APEC Manual on Drills and Exercises in Port Security, which will contribute to the extraordinary achievement of standardizing procedures in 50 countries of the Americas and Asia.

Expansion of partnerships constituted a major achievement in the **Aviation Security Program**, resulting in training for 477 officials on the international standards of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) through 26 courses in all subregions of the Hemisphere and 8 scholarships to ICAO courses. Through the Secretariat’s primary partners—the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)—increasing emphasis is being placed on assessments of training needs and coordination of training. New partners include experts from Canada, Spain, and Israel, with courses conducted in Argentina and Uruguay.

In early 2008 the Secretariat concluded its work under two Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with implementing agencies under our **Immigrations and Customs Program**. Under the first MOU, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Service completed an *assessment and training* in Barbados—the last of nine projects begun in 2006 for the Caribbean countries which hosted the Cricket World Cup. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) conducted its *last border management assessment* for CICTE in Suriname and St. Lucia, for a total of 10 countries assessed in the Caribbean since 2004. With additional assessments completed by private contractors for the Secretariat in Dominica and The Bahamas, the program trained a total of 70 participants. This program, which focused on the Caribbean, has now been closed. The major elements of training under this program related to security controls on passengers, luggage, and cargo will now be implemented through the Secretariat’s other Border Controls programs.

Through a project of *Subregional Workshops on Best Practices in Travel Document Security*, under the **Document Security and Fraud Prevention Program**, the Secretariat promoted ICAO’s international standards on machine readable travel documents and INTERPOL’s Stolen and Lost Travel Documents database. A first workshop was held in El Salvador in May for Central American countries, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic, and a second was held in Colombia in November for Andean countries. Under another project, the Secretariat organized two *workshops on Detection of Fraudulent Documents and Imposters*, 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 first workshop took place in Brazil in May for 44 Federal Police, and the second was conducted in October for 33 Mexican customs, immigrations, passport, and law enforcement personnel. The objective of these workshops was to strengthen capacity to detect fraudulent travel documents and thereby improve border controls and increase communication

and institutional links between customs and border control officials. A total of 144 were trained in 2007 under the projects in this program.

#### *Legislative Assistance and Terrorism Financing*

Two programs—Legislative Assistance and Terrorism Financing—were combined in 2008, providing training for 651 prosecutors, judges, legislators, and law enforcement personnel. In May, the Secretariat co-organized with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) a *Ministerial Conference* in Panama for Central America, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Colombia, and Peru on “International Cooperation against Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime.” The Secretariat and UNODC also conducted two *legislative technical assistance missions* to Guatemala; a *specialized legislative training course* for prosecutors, judges, and law enforcement officials in El Salvador; and two *specialized workshops on money-laundering and terrorism financing* for Brazil and Argentina. In October, the Secretariat organized with UNODC and the Commonwealth a subregional workshop for all Caribbean countries on terrorism financing, in which international experts participated from the UN, the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF), Europe and the Americas—a major contribution to advancing legislation and prosecution efforts in the Caribbean. *The CICTE training module*—“A Practical Guide to Prevention, Detection and Suppression of Terrorist Financing”—is used in all CICTE legislative and terrorism financing events. Planning began in 2008 for a joint CICTE/CICAD workshop in early 2009 to help countries that have not yet done so to develop terrorism financing legislation and to provide more specialized training on Bulk Cash Smuggling in late 2009.

#### *Critical Infrastructure Protection*

A new strategic program for **Cyber Security** for 2008-2010 advanced implementation of the 2004 OAS Comprehensive Cyber Security Strategy and trained 165 persons in 2008. The Secretariat completed the first training cycle on the “*Creation and Management of national Cyber Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs)*” through three subregional workshops: Central America, Mexico, the Dominican Republic (April); Andean countries (May); and the Caribbean (December)—the latter in conjunction with CARICOM’s Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS). With technical assistance from the OAS Department of Information Technology Services (DOITS), the Secretariat launched a pilot project with five countries—Brazil, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Suriname, and Uruguay—in January to test an electronic network of CSIRTs supported by a secure server at the OAS. This culminated in a two-day workshop at the OAS in November where experts from 16 countries agreed to join, use, and promote the hemispheric CSIRT network. There are now 12 formally designated CSIRTs in the Hemisphere, and several other countries are finalizing legislation to designate their CSIRTs this year. Plans began in 2008 for advanced CSIRT workshops and for two major cyber events to take place in 2009. In partnership with the Secretariat’s of the Council of Europe Committee of Terrorism Experts (CODEXTER) and of CICTE, Spain (as Chair of the Council) will host a conference in April for the combined 81 Member States of both organizations on “Terrorism and Cyber Security.” Three OAS bodies—the CICTE Secretariat, the REMJA Group of Cyber Crime Experts, and the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Telecommunications Committee (CITEL)—increased their cooperative planning and activities in 2008 and are planning a joint workshop by mid-2009 for all OAS Member States to promote implementation of the 2004 OAS Cyber Security Strategy.

The **Tourism Security Program** moved into a new phase in 2008, following the recommendation by CICTE's Meeting of Experts in March and the approval by CICTE VIII to expand the program to the rest of the Hemisphere. Subsequently, the first contract was awarded for training to be conducted in Trinidad and Tobago in early 2009, and an offer has been made to Haiti to provide tourism security training in support of its new economic development program. Consultation visits were conducted in late 2008 in the Mexican cities of Acapulco, Cancun, and Cozumel in preparation for the implementation of training there under this program, also in 2009. Recognizing the applicability and relevance of this training project, the United Nations Working Group on the Protection of Vulnerable Targets has decided to observe the consultations and training—one of two projects selected to test that Group's principles for developing public-private partnerships. In related outreach, consultations have begun with the OAS Department of Trade and Tourism (DTT), representatives of the French academic and Chambers of Commerce systems, and universities in the Caribbean on the development of an academic curriculum on tourism security to be offered simultaneously in the Caribbean in English, Spanish, and French.

#### *Strengthening Strategies on Emerging Terrorist Threats (Crisis Management)*

Following approval by CICTE VIII for the 2008 Work Plan, the Secretariat has focused more information and support activities on emerging terrorist threats that are not covered in other CICTE programs. In support of the commitments of OAS Member States in CICTE, the OAS Committee on Hemispheric Security (CSH), and UN universal legal instruments and UN Security Council Resolutions such as 1540 (2004), the CICTE Secretariat participated in a series of workshops and meetings in 2008 on weapons of mass destruction and implementation of UNSC resolution 1540. The Secretariat assisted the CSH, the UN 1540 Committee, the UN Office on Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on advertising their events, such as the UNODA November seminar for MERCOSUR countries held in Brazil on implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540 and the IAEA seminar in the Dominican Republic in early 2009 on nuclear security, safety and safeguards. In 2008 the Secretariat developed a project proposal and was funded to implement a series of Crisis Management (Tabletop) Exercises in 2009 and 2010 based on a bioterrorism scenario. A Request for Proposals was issued to contractors in December and the first subregional exercise will be hosted by Mexico in 2009, with participation by Central American countries and the Dominican Republic.

#### *International Cooperation and Partnerships*

International partners are increasingly turning to the Secretariat to participate as experts in conferences thereby providing excellent opportunities for the Secretariat to raise awareness about CICTE's mission and work and to promote international cooperation on related policies and programs that further CICTE's objectives. The Executive Directorate of the UN Counter Terrorism Committee (CTED) has referred to the CICTE Secretariat as the best regional model of international cooperation on terrorism, has increasingly solicited the Secretariat's cooperation in fulfilling its own mandates, invited Secretariat experts to participate in CTC visits to countries in the region, and also willingly participated in CICTE's activities. The Secretariat represented the OAS General Secretariat at numerous seminars and UN meetings related to the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy. Also under that Strategy, the Secretariat assisted UNICRI in establishing a hemispheric network of National Focal Points on Security for Major Events, and to date, 24 CICTE Member States have nominated senior level representatives as their focal points. The Secretariat has also pursued a strategy of increasing and strengthening relations with other regional organizations, including regular

participation at meetings and conferences of INTERPOL, ICAO, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Council of Europe’s Committee of Experts on Terrorism (CODEXTER), APEC, the Commonwealth, and CARICOM. For example, in September, the Secretary chaired an OSCE session on Critical Infrastructure and Security for Major Events—two policy areas where CICTE has been a leader. The Secretariat was also invited by the U.S. Southern Command to participate as an observer in the PANAMAX maritime exercise, co-organized with the government of Panama on a terrorist scenario and involving 7,000 participants and 22 countries.

<b>CICTE SECRETARIAT</b>			
<b>CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAM AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COURSES IN 2008</b>			
<b>PROGRAM</b>	<b>NUMBER OF EVENTS</b>	<b>NUMBER OF COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING</b>	<b>NUMBER OF TRAINEES</b>
Aviation Security	26	12	477
Maritime and Port Security	20	18	1,251
International Cooperation and Partnerships	16	0	0
Evaluation Program	12	10	0
Legislative Assistance and Terrorism Financing	12	23	551
Cyber Security	7	32	165
Document Security	6	13	144
Immigrations and Customs	6	3	70
Tourism Security	5	1	60
CICTE Committee Meetings	4	32	0
Crisis Management on Emerging Terrorist Threats	1	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>2,718</b>

#### IV. PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

Unique among OAS secretariats, seven of the CICTE Secretariat staff of 13 are Associate Staff Members detailed by their governments—Brazil, Canada, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and the United States—representing 7 of 10 Program Manager positions. Brazil reaffirmed its commitment to CICTE by assigning a new official in early 2008 for a second two-year period, and Trinidad and Tobago extended the tours of its two nationals for a fourth year. Mexico, as new CICTE Vice-Chair, seconded an official in August for a period of two years. These details represent significant in-kind contributions by OAS Member States to CICTE. Only two Secretariat positions are funded by the Regular Fund of the OAS. Whereas there are considerable benefits from this close

relationship between the Secretariat and Member States, it can be difficult for a Member State to identify and detail someone with the appropriate skills, and the process of bringing an Associate Staff Member on board can take up to a year after a pledge by a Member State.

Fortunately, major donors have begun to recognize the need to include funding for Program Managers to implement major CICTE programs, and, as a result, two Program Manager positions are now funded by donor contributions. It is unlikely, however, that the Secretariat can maintain its current level of training programs only through the new policy of direct costs to donors. It is essential that Member States continue to detail additional staff to the Secretariat or, alternatively, provide funding to hire technical contractors locally. The approval by the OAS General Assembly of the new Indirect Cost Recovery (ICR) policy related to administrative overhead on voluntary contributions has enabled the Secretariat to hire two administrative staff, providing greatly needed administrative stability to the Secretariat.

Although the ICR policy has provided some relief to fund administrative operations of the Secretariat, program implementation depends entirely on voluntary contributions of donors—both small and major. Fortunately, in recognition of the Secretariat's respected program management and achievements, donor contributions for programs increased significantly in 2008, from a total of \$1.5 million in 2007 to \$4.8 million in 2008. The largest donors to CICTE in 2008 were: Canada (which tripled its contributions over 2007), the United States, Spain (which doubled its 2007 contribution), Mexico (which contributed for the first time), and Trinidad and Tobago. Other contributions were provided by Chile, France, APEC, and UN partners, such as UNODC and UN CTED (which defrayed some of the costs of joint training events).

## VI. CONCLUSION

I am pleased to report that in 2008 the Secretariat continued to improve its capacity-building assistance and promotion of international cooperation to the benefit of the Member States. The Secretariat has gained regional and international respect as an effective Program Management organization with a clear vision of what it is trying to accomplish under the mandates of the OAS General Assembly, the CICTE Member States, and the OAS Secretary General. It is especially gratifying that our work and organization are often cited as a model for other regions of the world. Our training focused on the highest priorities and on areas raising CICTE's profile and earning recognition for it as an invaluable contributor to the furtherance of international commitments and standards. Donors engage us because of our consistent record of efficient implementation of programs to counter the threat of terrorism and strengthen the overall security in the Hemisphere. The CICTE Secretariat remains committed to supporting the efforts of the Member States to prevent, combat, and eliminate terrorism, as well as the work of the OAS Secretariat for Multidimensional Security to promote a combined approach to all security-related matters.

  
Carol S. Fuller  
Secretary

Inter-American Committee against Terrorism

March 3, 2009

CICTE00422E01