



Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE)

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS)
Organization of American States (OAS)

COUNTER-TERRORISM ACTIVITIES

Workshop against terrorism in El Salvador

On March 31, the Minister of External Relations, Ambassador Marisol Argueta de Barillas, participated in the inauguration of a specialized workshop on Prevention and Fight against Terrorism and its financing, it was done with the purpose of enhancing the knowledge related to this threat, its treatment from the jurisdiction's perspective, and action of the international organizations regarding this scourge.



Judges, fiscals and solicitors from the different Latin American and European countries participated in the workshop. The workshop was organized in conjunction with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), Secretariat of the Multidimensional Security of the Organization of American States (OAS), whose experts shared their experience of the prevention and the fight against terrorism.

For more information [click here](#).

Workshop on Implementing the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in the Americas

On 31 March 2008, the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations hosted a workshop on implementing the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in the Western Hemisphere. The meeting was organized and sponsored by the Center on Global Counter-terrorism Cooperation, an NGO located in New York City.

It brought together representatives from OAS Member States, both from their missions to the UN in New York and from some missions to the OAS in Washington, UN Secretariat officials, officials from the OAS Secretariat for Multidimensional Security, and some leading academic and other non-government experts on the region.

The half-day workshop presented an opportunity for participants, most of whom are key stakeholders from the region, to examine and discuss the nature of the terrorist threat confronting the Americas and the role of the UN, OAS, governments, civil society, and the private sector in addressing the threat. In particular, the workshop sought to highlight the comparative advantages of the UN and OAS in combating terrorism in the region, how counterterrorism cooperation within and between these bodies could be strengthened, and how the UN Strategy could be used not only to further this cooperation, but broader regional efforts to combat terrorism in the Western Hemisphere.

For more information [click here](#).



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Editorial

CICTE participated in APEC Maritime Security Experts Sub Group Meeting

The APEC Maritime Security Experts Sub Group (MEG-SEC) -a component of the APEC Transportation Working Group (TPW-WG) - met in Manila, Philippines, in April 14-17, 2008. Some 41 delegates attended the meeting, representing 13 APEC Economies: Australia, Canada, China, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, United States and Vietnam. Observers from the Organization of American States (OAS) Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) Secretariat and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Regional Coordinator for East Asia also attended the meeting.

The CICTE Secretariat provided a report in the morning of the second day of the meeting on the last year's training and activities related to Maritime Security involving OAS Member States that are also APEC Economies. The report was very well received, and the importance of the cooperation between the APEC MEG-SEC and the CICTE Secretariat to maximize results and avoid duplication of efforts was highlighted.

The MEG-SEC continued to work towards achieving the Bogor Goals and to address the directives stemming from the APEC Transportation Ministerial Meeting hosted by Australia in March 2007. As at previous meetings, MEG-SEC paid particular attention to the sharing of maritime security best practices and on capacity building efforts in the Asia-Pacific region.

The MEG-SEC contracted Education and Training Ltd (STET), a private sector firm based in Singapore, to develop a Manual of Maritime Security Drills and Exercises for Port Facilities for APEC Economies. The Manual Draft was presented to, and approved by the MEG-SEC at the TPW-WG meeting in Manila. The Manual will be distributed to APEC Economies in both booklet and multimedia formats, including DVD. The Manual is an important tool that will provide significant and practical assistance to APEC Port Facility Security Officers (PFSO) in implementing the ISPS Code. CICTE -due to its status as observer of the TPW-WG MEG-SEC meeting- will be provided with one package in all its formats.

The CICTE Secretariat is about to submit a letter to the Chair of APEC's MEG-SEC requesting approval for the use of the Manual by OAS Member States' PFSO.

Since the Manual will be in English and having Spanish speaking APEC Economies that are also OAS Member States, the CICTE Secretariat will take on the task of translating the Manual into Spanish.

The CICTE Secretariat is also planning to organize two Workshops –one for OAS English speaking Member States and the other for Spanish speaking ones- on the use of the Manual, as a new project under the Phase II of the Port Security Assistance Partnership Program (PSAP), which includes Transport Canada, the United States Coast Guard (USCG), CICTE and the Inter American Commission on Drug Abuse (CICAD) -both Departments of the OAS Secretariat for Multidimensional Security- and the Inter American Committee on Ports (CIP). Since the APEC MEG-SEC Chair stated the intention of presenting the Manual to the IMO, it was immediately perceived the advantage of having the same Manual being used not only by APEC Economies but also by the OAS countries in a short period of time, setting up an example of cooperation and light speed results, and avoiding potential duplication of efforts.

Future projects of cooperation are under consideration.



COUNTER-TERRORISM ACTIVITIES

CARICOM Ministers of Security Meet

The CARICOM Ministers of Security held their Fifth Special Meeting since 2005 in Port of Spain, Trinidad, April 3-4, 2008, followed by a meeting of the Prime Ministers on April 5.

Security is now the Fourth Pillar in CARICOM's strategic agenda. Prior to the formal opening of the ministers' meeting April 3, three representatives of the OAS and one from UNODC were invited to inform them of their security efforts and programs. OAS Secretary General Jose Miguel Insulza described the work of the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security and invited the ministers to attend the Ministerial Conference on Public Security (Crime and Violence) being organized in Mexico in October. Director of Public Security Christopher Hernandez-Roy briefed on the areas of cooperation where his office could help the Caribbean, including programs on law enforcement reform and Trafficking in Persons and Weapons. Secretary of CICTE Carol Fuller spoke of the programs and mutual benefits the Caribbean and CICTE have gained from Caribbean participation in the Committee, the importance of continued Caribbean engagement in security issues, and proposed subregional seminars on cyber security and terrorist financing which are pending acceptance by host countries. UNODC representative presented the results of the 2007 UNODC study on Crime and Violence in the Caribbean.



14th MEETING OF EXPERTS ON TERRORISM (CODEXTER) OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE



The 14th Meeting of Experts on Terrorism (CODEXTER) of the Council of Europe (CoE) took place in Strasbourg, France on April 7-9, 2008. In addition to CODEXTER's Member States, other international and regional organizations such as the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (UN-CTED), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNCHR), the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Interpol, and the CICTE Secretariat of the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security of the OAS, as well as other observers such as Canada, Holy See, Japan, and Mexico, attended the Meeting. Discussions were held on: how to contribute to the preparations for the formal review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its implementation that will take place in New York in September 2008; CODEXTER's position on Recommendation 1824 (2008) of the CoE; and on several other issues such as false identities and cyberterrorism. In addition, CODEXTER Member States reported on their progress in ratifying and implementing CoE conventions. Several presentations were given by the international and regional organizations invited—including the CICTE Secretariat—as well as by the Spanish delegation—which focused on "Victims of Terrorism."

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Interpol: Train the Trainers Session



Interpol organized an intensive five-day counter terrorism "train the trainers" course in Lima, Peru, April 7-12, 2008. The objective of the session was to provide in-depth technical expertise to government law enforcement experts to enhance their capacity to respond to a bio-terrorist attack. The program underscored the importance of international cooperation to prevent, deter and prosecute bio-crime. Government experts in law enforcement, health, and customs participated from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela. The session was opened by General Ricardo Benavides Ramírez of the National Police of Peru and Head of the General Command-APEC in Peru. Representatives from the United Nations also attended the session. Presentations were made by specialists in the various aspects of bio-terrorism from Interpol, De Paul University, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the United States Center for Disease Control, the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the Peruvian National Police. Participants were trained in the development of training programs, incorporating information and best practices learned at the session, to bolster each country's ability to respond adequately to a terrorist attack using a biological weapon. The head of the National Central Bureau of Interpol in Peru, General Rommel Pérez Arrascue, officiated at the closing ceremony. The CICTE Secretariat participated as an observer.

Commonwealth Secretariat Project on Capacity-Building in Combating Terrorism



The Commonwealth Secretariat, in conjunction with the Jamaica Justice Training Institute, organized a “Project on Capacity-Building in Combating Terrorism” in Kingston, Jamaica, March 31 to April 4, 2008. The event was geared specifically to training Trainers and Specialists in counter-terrorism techniques and strategies. High-level Government officials attended the Inauguration where the keynote address was delivered by Senator The Honorable Dorothy Lightbourne, Q.C., Attorney General and Minister of Justice. The program covered four broad areas with expert presentations on detailed aspects of each: International and Regional Initiatives, Human Rights, and Legal Issues in Terrorism Cases; Terrorism Financing and Intelligence; Investigation of Terrorist Acts, Interpol and Border Control; and Working with the Media, Interpol, Mutual Legal Assistance, and Handling Hostage Cases. Practitioners in the relevant government ministries attended the workshop from Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, and St. Kitts and Nevis. The CICTE Secretariat made a presentation on the Role of the Organization of American States and CICTE in combating terrorism, and participated as a facilitator in the table top simulation exercise on response to an emergency terrorist hostage situation. The event concluded with the presentation by participants of national security response plans based on their own expert knowledge and the lessons learnt during the program.

Sub-regional training on Cyber-Security in Guatemala



The Cyber Security Program entered a new phase of activities with its first sub-regional training on the “Fundamentals for the Creation and Management of a CSIRT”, held in Antigua, Guatemala, from April 7-11. The seminar was organized by the CICTE Secretariat in conjunction with Guatemala’s Superintendencia para Telecomunicaciones (SIT), and was attended by over 30 representatives of the governments of Guatemala, Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. The majority of these attendees have technical and/or policy-oriented responsibilities relating to the development of their national cyber security infrastructure, including the creation and development of a national Computer Security Incident Response Team (CSIRT). CICTE partners, including the Government of Brazil (DSIC),

the Government of Uruguay (ANTEL), CERT-CC / Carnegie Mellon University, the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and others, collaborated to provide in-depth and focused technical training on a range of issues relevant to building an effective national CSIRT, and to guide country delegates in identifying potential solutions and tools that can help them overcome the key challenges confronting their respective countries.

On the final day of the seminar, the host country of Guatemala presented the Carta de Antigua, an unofficial but nonetheless important commitment by those in attendance to preserve and build on the commitment enshrined in the Carta de Brasilia of June 2007 to promote cooperation and collaboration to strengthen national and regional mechanisms for cyber security. The Carta de Antigua was signed by the representatives of Guatemala, Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica, and Panama, as well as Brazil and Uruguay.

The CICTE Secretariat is now finalizing preparations for the second sub-regional training on the “Fundamentals for the Creation and Management of a CSIRT”, which will take place in Bogota, Colombia, from May 6-9 and bring together appropriate representatives of the Andean countries as well as Paraguay. A third sub-regional training along the aforementioned lines will be organized in collaboration with the CARICOM Secretariat and IMPACS for the Caribbean region and will take place in July or August of this year.

For additional information: Ms. Lilia Moraes, lmoraes@oas.org .Also, please [click here](#).

RECENT TRAINING AND CONFERENCE EVENTS

Month	Days	Event	Venue
April	1 - 2, 2008	Conference against Cybercrime - Council of Europe	Strasbourg, France
	7-9, 2008	14th Council of Europe CODEXTER meeting	Strasbourg, France
	7-11, 2008	Sub-regional Course on Cyber Security Awareness and the Creation and Management of a Computer Security Incident Response Team (CSIRT)	Antigua, Guatemala
	7-11, 2008	Aviation Security Crisis Management Training	Lima, Peru
	14-18, 2008	Aviation Security Crisis Management Training	Georgetown, Guyana
	28 - May 2, 2008	Port Security Crisis Management Exercise	Lima, Peru
	28 - May 8, 2008	Aviation Security National Development Workshop	Saint George, Grenada

UPCOMING EVENTS

Month	Days	Event	Venue
May	5-7, 2008	Eighteenth Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on Machine Readable Travel Documents	Montreal, Canada
	5-9, 2008	Course on Document Security and Fraud Prevention	Sao Paulo, Brazil
	6-9, 2008	Sub-regional Course on Cyber Security Awareness and the Creation and Management of a Computer Security Incident Response Team (CSIRT)	Bogota, Colombia
	12-16, 2008	Aviation Security Crisis Management Training	Montevideo, Uruguay
	19-23, 2008	Aviation Security Crisis Management Training	Buenos Aires, Argentina
	26 - June 3, 2008	Aviation Security Basic Security Training	Georgetown, Guyana
	26 - 29, 2008	Ministerial Conference, Legislative Assistance and Terrorist Financing. Organized by CICTE and UNODC.	Panama City, Panama
June	June - July, 2008	Port Security Follow on Training	The Bahamas
	3 - 6, 2008	Ibero-American Seminar on Human Rights and Terrorism	Cartagena, Colombia
	9-11, 2008	Central America Sub-Regional Workshop on Travel Document Security	San Salvador, El Salvador
	9-17, 2008	Aviation Security Basic Security Training	Saint John's, Antigua and Barbuda
	23-Jul-02	Aviation National Development Program Workshop	Bridgetown, Barbados
July	7-15, 2008	Aviation Security Basic Security Training	Roseau, Dominica
	16-25, 2008	Aviation National Development Program Workshop	Roseau, Dominica
	28 - August 1, 2008	Workshop on Terrorism Financing (Caribbean region)	Montego Bay, Jamaica



NEWS

FARC members in Costa Rica

Costa Rica knew since 2006 of the presence of members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in the country.

On April 1, 2008 the Office of the Technical Consultation and External Relations (OATRI) of the Public Ministry shared this information via a press release communication.

The press release makes reference mainly to the Colombian cases of Libardo Parra and Hector Martinez Quinto, who were living in the country and were associated with the FARC guerrilla.

For more information [click here](#).

Six countries participate in counter-terrorism training for police

Senior police officers and prosecutors from six Caribbean countries were among participants in a one-week counter-terrorism course in Kingston, Jamaica from 31 March to 4 April.

The course organised by Jamaica's Justice Training Institute in partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat covered intelligence gathering and use, investigating and financing terrorism, co-ordinating with border control agencies, international co-operation and other related subjects. For more information [click here](#).

Commemorative Ceremony on the 25th Anniversary of the Bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon

The US Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice, in a speech given to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the bombing of the US Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, on April 18, 2008 said that those who were assassinated in the bombings "should not have had to die as they did" and expressed America's eternal gratefulness to the families of the victims and the survivors. For more information [click here](#).

Diplomatic Security : Brothers Arrested For Passport Misuse And Aggravated Identity Theft

On Thursday March 7, 2008, the FBI, the Diplomatic Security Service and other US federal agencies announced the arrest of defendants Alvin L. Fowler and Warren M. Fowler for misuse of a U.S. passport and aggravated identity theft.

For more information [click here](#).

Spain arrests suspected Islamic extremists

Spanish police arrested on Tuesday, April 1, 2008 two Moroccan men suspected of having links to Islamic terrorism, Spain's Ministry of Interior said, including one man wanted in connection with attacks in Casablanca in 2003. Spain has arrested more than 300 suspected Islamic extremists since the Madrid train bombings of 2004. For more information [click here](#).

European Union, NATO to tackle cybercrime

Cybercrime experts from around the world met in Europe on the week of March 31-April 4, to discuss how governments should counter attacks aimed at crippling the Internet and hitting users with data loss, identity theft and fraud.

Separately, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's summit in Romania beginning Wednesday, April 2 debated NATO's own guidelines for coordinating national cyber defense efforts.

For more information [click here](#).

Ricin suspect

A man who sparked a panic when ricin [a biological agent] was allegedly found in his motel room has been charged with possession of a deadly toxin -- part of what authorities said was a vague plot to poison his enemies—on April 17. Roger Bergendorff was arrested upon his release from a hospital where he had been treated since February 14 for respiratory ailments and failing kidneys. For more information [click here](#).

Britain warns terror threat is worsening

British anti-terror officials are monitoring some 2,000 people and are following hundreds of networks in an effort to keep the country safe, Britain's Home Secretary, Jacqui Smith, warned in an article published Sunday, April 13. Smith said the figures represented an increase over the past two years, although they were nearly identical to estimates made by the leadership of Britain's domestic spy agency, MI5, in 2007 and 2008. For more information [click here](#).



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