



# Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE)

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

## COUNTER-TERRORISM ACTIVITIES

### Sub-regional Workshop for Caribbean Countries on countering Terrorism Financing



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The Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (OAS/SMS/CICTE) in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and the Commonwealth Secretariat, organized a “Sub-regional Workshop for Caribbean Countries on countering Terrorism Financing”, held in St. John’s, Antigua and Barbuda, from October 13 to 17, 2008.

The main aim of the Workshop was to build capacity on (i) legislative issues related to the financing of terrorism and the international approach; (ii) investigation and prosecution special techniques; and (iii) international cooperation. The Workshop was divided into two segments: the first one (which took place on the first day) provided general training primarily for legislators and high-ranking officials of the Executive Branch; the second segment (days two through five) was a technical segment for prosecutors, officials of National Financial Intelligence Units and law enforcement officials with relevant experience investigating financial crimes. Experts from the organizing institutions participated in the conference, together with experts from the OAS Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission on Drug Abuse Control (OAS/SMS/CICAD) and the OAS/Department of Legal Cooperation, as well as other international and sub-regional organizations, and the private sector, such as the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), INTERPOL, the U.S. Department of Justice, the National Court (Audiencia Nacional) of Spain, and Western Union.

A technical working document with a thorough set of conclusions and recommendations was adopted by the participants of the workshop, reaffirming the commitments of participating countries—13 Caribbean Member States—in the area of counter terrorism and its financing. To access the document kindly follow the [link](#).

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## **Editorial**

### **The need for an effective, comprehensive, preventive and protective criminal justice response against terrorism**

**Dr. Mauro Miedico – Coordinator of the Latin-America and Caribbean Team of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of UNODC**

A solid and broad strategy to fight terrorism must include measures that build a specific criminal justice capacity in order to confront terrorist threats and cooperate with other nations in the fight against terrorism. This effective, comprehensive, and preventive response must be guided by the normative framework set forth in the universal and regional legal regime against terrorism and must be translated into respect for the rule of law and human rights. This requires strengthening the capacity of national criminal justice systems to bring those responsible for terrorist acts to justice or extradite them for trial in another country, under the peremptory principle of *aut dedere aut iudicare*.

The response of criminal justice to terrorism is framed by national law, which must also comply with diverse aspects of international law, including the universal legal framework against terrorism, international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

The role of criminal justice systems in countering terrorism brings with it many challenges. The primary objective of anti-terrorism strategies must be to prevent terrorist acts. That is why criminal justice systems must be prepared to adopt in a proactive, not reactive, way strategies that could support actions against terrorist plans and preparations before they take place.

Terrorism threatens the Rule of Law as well as the fundamental freedom of all citizens. At the same time, the way in which anti-terrorism efforts are conducted can impact negatively on the Rule of Law, as evidenced by some comparative law examples from laws adopted rapidly, in an atmosphere of urgency and international pressure which has led to some criminal justice practices contrary to human rights, the Rule of Law and democratic systems. This has highlighted again the need to ensure that, in the adoption of measures focused on preventing and controlling acts of terrorism, governments adhere to the full respect for principles of the Rule of Law. However, a preventive criminal justice strategy against terrorist violence requires a broad system of substantive offences, special tools and investigative techniques, evidentiary norms, and international cooperation.

Effective criminalization of various conduct associated with terrorist activities is one of the requisites for the criminal justice system to be effective. States Party should include in their domestic legislation a number of crimes set forth in the international conventions and protocols against terrorism and other crimes of the kind. Additionally, crimes of conspiracy and criminal association (*association de malfaiteurs*) and criminalization of terrorism financing and acts of incitement are obvious models for preventive action against the plotting and preparation of criminal acts. In the same manner, the secrecy surrounding conspiracies, activities and operational methods used by terrorists requires the application of efficient and perfected police techniques, as well as modern techniques of specialized investigation of criminal organizations; infiltration of their structures; disruption of their financing methods; the use of informants and agents; the use of DNA analysis and other modern forensic techniques; as well as multidisciplinary investigative teams.

However, when confronted with terrorist crimes, so complex in nature and intertwined with other forms of organized crime, a specialized—not exceptional—approach is called for. It is necessary to act cautiously in modifying regular proceedings to adapt them to the unique characteristics of terrorism crimes. Any substantial modification of criminal proceedings can raise questions about the protection of individual rights, the preservation of the Rule of Law, and a fair criminal justice process. By and large, the use of police investigative techniques that can put at risk individual rights must be justified by reasons based on the principles of necessity and proportionality. In this same context, it is important to consider the role and rights of the victims of terrorism.

Finally, and among all things, cooperation between States and among different judicial bodies is required.. The challenge that citizens, politicians and justice officials alike must overcome is to bear in mind that the fight against terrorism must be won by all States through effective cooperation of all relevant agencies and continuous respect for the rights and liberties of all citizens. It is on this difficult and sometimes problematic—although possible—balance between securing rights and the right to be secure, where the success of any criminal strategy against terrorism lies.

## **COUNTER-TERRORISM ACTIVITIES**

### **AVIATION SECURITY – CICTE facilitates refresher training in Saint Lucia**

Security officers from the St. Lucia Air and Sea Ports Authority (SLASPA) participated in an intensive and specially tailored refresher training program organized by the CICTE Secretariat October 27-31, 2008. The objective of this training mission was to assist SLASPA with their Screener Certification program through the provision of recurrent training for forty (40) of St. Lucia's front line officers.

As the security screener is the first line of defense against terrorism in international aviation, it is imperative that screeners are not only kept abreast of developments in the industry but also receive refresher training to reinforce tools and techniques critical to their role as interceptors of dangerous devices. The training by the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) covered: threats to civil aviation; recognition of firearms, improvised explosive devices and other dangerous goods; physical search techniques; and control of checkpoints among others. Many practical and hands-on exercises were included in the program which was delivered by three of TSA's internationally experienced instructors. All parties, CICTE, SLASPA and TSA, were pleased with the results of the program and were confident that the participants would meet the requirements of SLASPA's Screener Certification Program.

For more information: Mrs. Hayda Wallen-Jaganath, [hwallen@oas.org](mailto:hwallen@oas.org).

### **Guatemala Port Security Best Practices Workshop**

The CICTE Secretariat organized a second in a series of "Sub-regional Workshops on Best Practices in Port Security and Implementation of the ISPS Code", for the countries of Central America as well as Mexico and the Dominican Republic. The four-day workshop took place from September 30 to October 3 in Guatemala City, and was organized in collaboration with the National Ports Commission of Guatemala, with the support of Transport Canada and the U.S. Coast Guard, among others. Sixty-five (65) public and private sector participants attended the workshop, including Port Facility Security Officers (PFSOs), Captains of the Port, customs officials, law enforcement personnel, and representatives of government agencies and ministries responsible for port security at a national level.



The over-arching objective of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of the participating States to effectively comply with the security obligations established by the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code and other international maritime security standards. The workshop format promoted increased communication, coordination and cooperation among the participants and their respective ports and national authorities. Particular focus was given to facilitating an exchange of perspectives, experience and knowledge – specifically regarding common challenges faced and best practices for addressing these – among those working on the front-lines of port security in the region. The workshop combined: 1) formal presentations by a range of experts on key aspects of port security and ISPS implementation; 2) practical exercises (including a visit to one of Guatemala's most important international ports, Puerto Quetzal, which included a demonstration of container inspection techniques); and 3) working groups where participants engaged in a more active dialogue on key themes such as risk assessment and management, access controls, container security, reviewing and revising existing port facility security plans, security audits, drills and exercises, and public-private partnerships.

The next sub-regional workshop in this series will target the countries of the Caribbean region, and will take place in The Bahamas in early 2009.

For more information: Brian Sullivan, [bsullivan@oas.org](mailto:bsullivan@oas.org)

## Document Security and Fraud Prevention Training Course



From October 27 to 31, 2008 the CICTE Secretariat conducted, in partnership with the Forensic Document Laboratory, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, a hands-on training course for Mexican national authorities in the detection of fraudulent documents and imposters and other aspects of document security. The training course was held in the Secretariat for Foreign Relations in Mexico City, and was attended by 24 officials representing Mexico's National Institute for Migration (INAMI), Secretariat for Public Security (SSP), National Tributary Service (SAT), Attorney General's Office (PGR), Secretariat of the Navy (SEMAR) and Secretariat for National Defense (SEDENA).

The primary objective of this training course was to provide participants the knowledge and skills to detect and identify fraudulent travel and identity documents, as well as those individuals seeking to use them. Instructors discussed: types of travel and identity documents subject to fraud, security features utilized in genuine identity documents, international standards for travel and identity documents, methods of forgery, indicators of fraud, and the latest and most advanced in relevant technologies used both to enhance security and perpetrate fraud. Numerous hands-on exercises gave participants the opportunity to review and compare side-by-side examples of both genuine and fraudulent documents, including passports, visas and identity cards. Each participant was provided one ultraviolet lamp and one loupe, or magnifying glass, as tools to enhance their efforts to detect fraudulent documents.

This was the third offering of this training course organized by the CICTE Secretariat in conjunction with FDL/ICE, following a first course for Paraguayan and Argentine officials in Asuncion, Paraguay from July 30 to August 3, 2007, and a second for the Federal Police Department of Brazil in Sao Paulo, Brazil from May 5 to 9, 2008.

For more information: Brian Sullivan, [bsullivan@oas.org](mailto:bsullivan@oas.org)

## Customs and Immigration Security

During the month of October the CICTE Secretariat sponsored two customs and immigration security training courses in collaboration with the Governments of Dominica and the Bahamas. The first course was delivered on October 6-10, in Roseau, Dominica, by officials from Global Customs Security Consulting (GCSC). The Bahamas course was facilitated by officials of COTECNA Security Company, on October 20-24 at the Customs House in Nassau, New Providence. This assistance was provided to these countries under CICTE's umbrella Border Controls program and is intended to assist the law enforcement officials at the major ports of entry by providing them with modern hands-on border security practices including, interviewing and observational techniques, targeting, risk management, and examination of luggage, cargo containers, aircrafts and vessels. The courses also focused on existing local realities with an emphasis on practical table-top, and field exercises. Twenty-five customs, immigration and port security officers attended the training program in Dominica and twenty-five customs and immigration officers attended the latter program in Nassau.

More information: Sheridan Hill, [shill@oas.org](mailto:shill@oas.org)

## Security for Major Events

The CICTE Secretariat collaborates with the United Nations (Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute-UNICRI), the Government of Spain, and INTERPOL in strengthening Member States' capacity on security for major events. The Secretariat has been instrumental in the establishment of the network of National Focal Points on Security for Major Events (23 countries) and in ensuring participation by representatives from all Member States in seminars organized in conjunction with UNICRI and the Ministry of the Interior of Spain (2007 and 2008, Cartagena, Colombia). Full representation of the governments of the nations of the Americas is crucial to raising their awareness of the importance of intensifying international cooperation on security for large-scale events and of developing security plans. The Secretariat will inform on joint efforts in the Hemisphere to strengthen security for major events at INTERPOL's first conference on this topic in Lyon, France, in October 2008. At the 2008 Seminar in Colombia, participants agreed to the establishment of sub-regional offices, and UNICRI and the CICTE Secretariat are currently working together to make this a reality.

For more information: Gillian Bristol, [gbristol@oas.org](mailto:gbristol@oas.org)

## Declaration of Panama adopted by the UN General Assembly and Security Council

Document of the UN General Assembly and Security Council - Panama Declaration adopted by the delegations of Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru at the Second Ministerial Conference on International Cooperation against Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime, held from 26 to 29 May 2008 in Panama City, and jointly organized by UNODC and the CICTE Secretariat.

[http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A%2F62%2F947&Submit=Search&Lang=E](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A%2F62%2F947&Submit=Search&Lang=E)



## 1<sup>st</sup> INTERPOL Crisis and Major Events Conference



INTERPOL hosted its first international conference on Crisis and Major Events at its headquarters in Lyon, France, October 28-29, 2008. The conference builds on the experience of INTERPOL's Crisis and Major Events Unit (C&ME) which, since its creation in 2006, has gained extensive experience in deploying INTERPOL Response Teams (IRTs) and INTERPOL Major Events Support Teams (IMESTs). The conference provided a forum for member countries to discuss and exchange best practices in these two fields. Key themes for this important law enforcement conference were: security and preparation for major sport events; security and preparation for major conferences and summits; and C&ME assistance in developing a member country's

capacity to coordinate and host major events. The CICTE Secretariat participated and made a presentation on its capacity building programs related to the topics and on the new network of National Focal Points in the Americas for Security of Major Events created under the CICTE network of National Points of Contact in a joint effort by the CICTE Secretariat and UNICRI.

## Fourth Symposium and Exhibition on MRTDs, Biometrics and Security Standards, ICAO Headquarters, Montréal, Canada, 6-8 October, 2008



The Symposium included the main features and benefits of globally interoperable and ICAO-compliant MRTDs, including biometric-enabled versions with enhanced ID confirmation. Presentations emphasized the importance of the ICAO-standard and secure travel documents in national aviation security programs, including border control inspection using machine reading systems for documents as well as biometrics that check document authenticity together with the use of the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD). Attention was also given to the security of the issuance process, including identity management.

Efforts are being made to encourage and assist States that have not yet issued ICAO-Standard MRPs by the April 2010 deadline. Other States are also encouraged to upgrade to ICAO-standard ePassports to the extent possible, and to use the related biometric technology in their issuance processes, to further enhance security and facilitation. This Symposium emphasized public/ private cooperation (PPP). The private companies highlighted important products and services related to MRTDs, biometric identification, security applications and border inspection systems.

## Meeting One of the ICAO Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group (ICBWG) – 9-10 October, 2008

The formation of the ICBWG was approved at the eighteenth meeting of the ICAO Technical Advisory Group on Machine-readable Travel Documents (TAG/MRTD) in May 2008. The primary objectives of the ICBWG are to: Build capacity in Contracting States to enable them to meet ICAO mandates; and support States in implementation of MRTD and/or eMRTD programs. The ICBWG has a mandate to assist the Secretariat to: 1) Identify and implement projects related to the issuance and use of Machine-readable Travel Documents (MRTDs) and Electronic Machine-readable Travel Documents (eMRTDs) in States and regions; 2) Carry out capacity building outreach activities in conjunction with States and other international organizations; and 3) Develop guidance material for implementing MRTDs and eMRTDs standards and specifications.

The Working Group will also serve as a forum for discussing and providing feedback on implementing and operating MRTD standards and specifications.

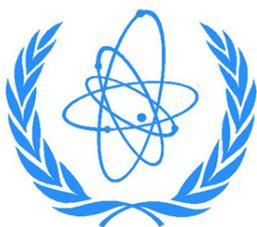
For more information: Francine Hanna, [fhanna@oas.org](mailto:fhanna@oas.org)

## UN working Group on Public Private Partnerships to Protect Vulnerable Targets

The third Brainstorming Meeting of this Working Group, one of several under the UN Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force (UN CTITF), met in Oporto, Portugal, October 28-30, 2008 on the topic "Broadening the Network." This meeting was hosted by The Security Intelligence Service (SIS), Presidency of the Council of Ministers of Portugal, in cooperation with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI). Some 60 participants, including the CICTE Secretariat, attended the event to consider developments since the last meeting in March 2008 to discuss global efforts to promote public private partnerships to combat terrorism, using the principles and "tool kit" devised by the working Group.

For more information: Mr. Massimiliano Montanari, UNICRI Program Manager ([montanari@unicri.it](mailto:montanari@unicri.it); +39 011 65 37 146)

## IAEA develops guidelines to improve Cyber Security at Nuclear Power Plants



With growing concerns over the threat to cyber security at nuclear power plants and other nuclear fuel cycle facilities, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) announced that it is developing, in consultation with experts in computer security, instrumentation and control systems, new guidelines on preventing cyber terrorism. Pending approval by IAEA Member States these guidelines, entitled *Computer Security at Nuclear Facilities*, will be issued as part of the IAEA's Nuclear Security Series. In a related development, the IAEA is also in the final stages of producing guidelines on the *Protection and Confidentiality of Nuclear Security Information*. Once approved, these will also be issued as part of the in the IAEA Nuclear Security Series. Training activities on these documents, offered by the IAEA, are already available on request. The draft *Computer Security at Nuclear Facilities* has been submitted in order to provide Member States and their experts with the opportunity to review and evaluate the document. The Note Verbale has been distributed translated as hard copy, together with the draft document. The Secretariat would like to receive possible comments by the 15 December 2008.

For more information: [www.iaea.org](http://www.iaea.org)

## IAEA Regional Seminar on Nuclear Security Safety and Safeguards

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of the United Nations, in collaboration with the National Energy Commission of Dominican Republic, is planning to hold a seminar on nuclear security, safety and safeguards on February 3-5, 2009, in the Dominican Republic. The seminar focuses on the main principles of nuclear security, safety and safeguards and role of the state authorities in the implementation of these principles. The targeted audience is senior officials of foreign ministries, ministries of the environment, State Regulatory Authorities, Police, intelligence, customs and other relevant state authorities from twenty-five (25) Caribbean and neighboring Latin American countries.

For more information, contact Mr. Vladimir Rukhlo of IAEA, [V.Rukhlo@iaea.org](mailto:V.Rukhlo@iaea.org)

## Scams Increase as Financial Conditions Worsen

The U.S. Federal Trade Commission warns that there has been an increase in bank scams. This threat is not new. The intention is criminal, and, whether the objective is to finance criminal or terrorist activities, the advice is valuable to everyone. There is a need to be suspicious of unsolicited e-mail messages from individuals asking about proprietary information, and avoid giving out personal or sensitive information over the internet unless you are sure it is a legitimate web site. For information on Phishing attacks you can visit: <http://www.antiphishing.org>.

## G8 Summit Statement on Counter Terrorism

On July 8, 2008, the Leaders of the G8 countries issued a Summit Statement, setting forth their new shared principles on fighting counter terrorism. They committed themselves to enhancing international cooperation and technical assistance on a variety of areas, including: efforts to tackle a wide array of threats including Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) terrorism, attacks on critical energy infrastructure and transportation systems, and the abuse of information/communication technology; efforts to combat terrorist financing, including the prevention of bulk cash smuggling to finance terrorism and the risk of terrorist exploitation and abuse of charities; and preventing radicalization leading to violence as part of efforts to curb and stop terrorism. For more information [click here](#).

## Cyber Security Week: November 24 to December 1, 2008

Cyber security is an issue that should concern everybody and it is relevant for the state, public and private organizations and all people who as internet users, access it to look for information, communicate, study, play, or do e-business. It is even important to those who without accessing the net are exposed to attacks and risk the security of their information, such as identity theft. We all need to take action; not only using the technological tools safely, but warning others about the risks that we take and the best alternatives we have to confront them. It is everyone's responsibility as employees, bosses, parents, children, teachers, technicians or normal users to protect information by making decisions and actions that contribute to the responsible and safe use of technology.

For these reasons, Secretariat of Cabinet and Public Administration, and the Sub-secretariat of Management Technology through the National Office of Information Technology (ONTI) and ArCERT (Emergency Coordination on Cyber Networks) of Argentina are organizing an "International Week of Cyber Security", which will take place from the 24<sup>th</sup> of November to the 1<sup>st</sup> of December of 2008. During those days, they will encourage and disseminate awareness actions in terms of cyber security and the risks associated with the use of technology. They are inviting everyone to join this initiative, to organize activities on the topic, by whatever means and extension, so that this message can reach the largest number of people possible. For more information visit: <https://seguridadinformatica.sgp.gob.ar>

## New RAND Book Provides Unique View Into Jihadist Mind

David Aaron, a veteran U.S. diplomat and director of the RAND Center for Middle East Public Policy, has compiled a wide range of writings by Islamic terrorists that offer an unusual window into their mentality. The book, "In Their Own Words: Voices of Jihad," is a virtual encyclopedia of jihadist rhetoric written by the terrorists themselves. Aaron points out that the appalling views of fanatical jihadists presented in the book are the beliefs of only a small minority of Muslims. The book should not be seen as providing a balanced or representative picture of Muslim views. Included in the book are translations of writings and speeches from such widely known Islamic terrorists as Osama bin Laden and Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, as well as other jihadis who are not so notorious. The sources for the material include Internet postings, television interviews and terrorist communiqués, and are listed in the book.

## October Revisions to Consolidated List of the United Nations Security Council Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee

An updated October 2008 version of the Consolidated List is accessible in XML, PDF and HTML formats on the Committee's website at the following URL: <http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/consolist.shtml>

## Council of Europe News

### 1. Developments concerning Council of Europe conventions

The European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism (ETS No. 090) has been ratified by 46 of the Council of Europe's 47 member states and signed by all of them. Furthermore, 46 states have signed and 27 have ratified the Protocol amending European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism (ETS No. 190).

The Convention on Cybercrime (ETS No. 185) has currently been ratified by 23 member states and by the United States of America. A further 21 member states have signed the Convention, as well as Canada, Japan and South Africa. 13 of the CoE's member states have ratified its Additional Protocol, concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems (CETS n° 189). A further 20 CoE member states, Canada and South Africa have signed the Additional Protocol.

The Council of Europe's conventions can be consulted at <http://conventions.coe.int>.

### 2. Activities against money laundering and financing of terrorism

MONEYVAL (CoE Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism) published a "typologies report on the use of securities in money laundering schemes" which analyzes the underlying vulnerabilities in the securities markets and highlights a number of methodologies which have been employed in laundering money through securities transactions. Further information on MONEYVAL's activities is available at MONEYVAL's webpage: <http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/moneyval/>.

### 3. Upcoming events

#### *15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CoE Committee of Experts on Terrorism*

The CODEXTER 15<sup>th</sup> meeting will take place in Strasbourg on 24-26 November 2008. The Committee will conduct a thematic review on the issue of recruitment for terrorism and will continue its work on identification of lacunae in international law and action against terrorism. It will also examine the outcome of the Formal Review of the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which took place in New York on 4-5 September 2008.

Moreover, a number of new country profiles on counter-terrorism capacity and updates will be released. The profiles can be consulted at [www.coe.int/gmt](http://www.coe.int/gmt).

For further information on Council of Europe action against terrorism, please visit [www.coe.int/gmt](http://www.coe.int/gmt)



## RECENT TRAINING AND CONFERENCE EVENTS

Month	Days	Event	Venue
October	6-8, 2008	Fourth Symposium and Exhibition on ICAO MRTDs, Biometrics and Security Standards, organized by ICAO	Montreal, Canada
	6-10, 2008	Customs and immigration security training	Roseau, Dominica
	7-8, 2008	OAS Ministerial Conference on Public Security	Mexico City, Mexico
	9-10, 2008	First meeting of ICAO International Capacity Building Working Group (ICBW)	Montreal, Canada
	13-17, 2008	Sub-regional Workshop for the Caribbean on Terrorism Financing, organized by CICTE	St. John's, Antigua
	13 - Nov 6, 2008	Port Security Training Needs Assessment	Guatemala / Honduras
	20-24, 2008	Customs and immigration security training	Nassau, the Bahamas
	27-31, 2008	Document Examination and Document Fraud Workshop for Mexico, organized by CICTE	Mexico City, Mexico
	28, 2008	V Anniversary of the Declaration on Security in the Americas	Washington D.C, U.S.
	28-30, 2008	UN Working Group on Public Private Partnerships for the Protection of Vulnerable Targets, organized by UNICRI	Oporto, Portugal
28-29, 2008	INTERPOL Conference on Crisis Management and Security for Major Events, organized by INTERPOL	Lyon, France	



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Month	Days	Event	Venue
November	10, 2008	First Preparatory Session for IX Annual Meeting of CICTE, organized by CICTE	OAS Headquarters, Washington DC
	10-12, 2008	Sub-regional Workshop for Andean countries on Best Practices on Travel Document Security, organized by CICTE and ICAO	Bogotá, Colombia
	13-14, 2008	BASC workshop on safe commerce, organized by BASC	Quito, Ecuador
	17-21, 2008	Aviation Security Crisis Management Training, organized by CICTE	Belize City, Belize
	20-21, 2008	Workshop on Establishment and Utilization of the Secure CSIRT Network of the Americas, organized by CICTE and OAS/DOITS	Washington D.C, U.S.
	24-28, 2008	MERCOSUR Workshop on Implementation of UNSCR 1540, organized by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs	Sao Paulo, Brazil
	24-26, 2008	XV Meeting of Group of Experts on Terrorism (CODEXTER), Council of Europe	Strasbourg, France
	24-27, 2008	Specialized Training for judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officials, organized by UNODC and CICTE	Guatemala City, Guatemala
December	1-5, 2008	Sub-regional Workshop for the Caribbean on Cyber Security Awareness and the Creation and Management of a Computer Security Incident Response Team (CSIRT), organized by CICTE and IMPACS	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
	8, 2008	Second Preparatory Session for IX Annual Meeting of CICTE, organized by CICTE	OAS Headquarters, Washington DC
	8-12, 2008	Aviation Security Crisis Management Training, organized by CICTE	Roseau, Dominica
	8-12, 2008	Specialized Workshop on Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing for Brazil, organized by UNODC and CICTE	Brasilia, Brazil
January	6-14, 2008	Basic Aviation Security Training Course for Trinidad & Tobago, organized by CICTE	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
	19-23, 2009	Training Course: Tourism Crime and Security Training for Security & Law Enforcement Supervisors - Level 2	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

\*NOTE: Only events that have formally accepted by host countries appear on this list.

## **NEWS**

### **UN and OAS Give Complete Support to the Victims draft legislation in Colombia**



The UN and the OAS' Inter-American Court of Human Rights gave their support to the draft legislation on victims of terrorism that has been tabled before the Congress of the Republic of Colombia. The promoter of the initiative, Senator Juan Fernando Cristo, received good comments on the draft legislation while on tour in the United States and announced that the project has been presented to international organizations of human rights such as WOLA, Human Rights Watch, CEJIL, Brookings Institute, the Congress' Peace Institute and democrat and republican spokesmen of the United States. On Friday October the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the eighth public audience, in which victims were expected to be heard, was held and sponsored by the UN. For more information [click here](#).

### **Spanish appeal clears 15 of terror links**

On October 7, Spain's Supreme Court has acquitted 15 men who were convicted earlier this year of membership in an Islamic terrorist group, and upheld 5 more, including the leader of the group, Moroccan defendant Abderrahmane Tahiri, alias Mohamed Achraf, 34. The Supreme Court upheld his sentence of 14 years in prison. The 20 men, mainly Algerians and Moroccans, were convicted by the National Court last February of Islamic terrorist activity. None was found guilty of the more serious charge of plotting to destroy Madrid's anti-terrorism courthouse with a truck bomb. For more information [click here](#).

### **Scientists question terrorist-hunting techniques**

As reported by the media on October 7, two methods the federal government wants to use to find terrorists - "data mining" and "behavior detection"- are dubious scientifically and have "enormous potential" for infringing on law-abiding Americans' privacy, a consortium of scientists said. Data mining involves searching databases for suspicious and revealing relationships and patterns. However, the National Research Council said it is questionable whether data mining can detect and pre-empt terrorist attacks. The 352 page report published by the council said that observation techniques have "enormous potential for violating the reasonable expectations of privacy of individuals" and advised lawmakers how to appropriately balance security and privacy. For more information [click here](#).

### **Doctors accused over airport attack on trial**

Two men accused of failed car bomb attacks in London and a car bombing at Glasgow International Airport last year went on trial on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Bilal Abdulla and Mohammed Asha, both doctors, are charged with conspiracy to murder and conspiracy to cause explosions. Their trial at London's Woolwich Crown Court is expected to last up to 12 weeks. Officials said both cars were filled with fuel, gas canisters, and nails. Police managed to defuse them. The next day, a Jeep sped through the barriers outside Glasgow International Airport. Later that day, police arrested Asha as he was driving with his wife on a highway in Cheshire, England. Sabeel Ahmed was deported to India for failing to disclose information about an act of terrorism. The incidents happened just days after British Prime Minister Gordon Brown took office. For more information [click here](#).

### **Libya gives U.S. money for terror victims**

The United States has received "a substantial amount of money" from Libya to settle claims by American victims of terrorism, a senior U.S. official announced on October 9. Washington has promised to normalize relations with Libya to reward it for abandoning its weapons of mass destruction program and for taking responsibility for the downing of Pan Am 103 and other terror attacks against Americans. Assistant Secretary of State David Welch said a total of \$1.8 billion would fulfill the financial obligation; of that, \$1.5 billion would go to U.S. victims of Libyan terrorist acts. The remaining \$300 million would go to Libyan victims of the bombing of Libya by U.S. warplanes in 1986. Meanwhile, the U.S. Senate has refused to approve sending an ambassador to Libya until full payment is made, and US companies are hoping the new relationship allows them to invest in a petroleum rich country. They have been both blocked from doing business until Libya agreed to pay the terrorism claims. For more information [click here](#).

## Failed Restaurant Bombing in London

Nicky Reilly, a recent convert to Islam and who is now known as Mohammad Saeed-Alim, pleaded guilty in a London courtroom Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, to attempted murder and engaging in conduct in preparation for acts of terrorism. Saeed-Alim was arrested in May after a bomb went off in the bathroom of the Giraffe restaurant in a shopping center in Exeter, in southwest England. Saeed-Alim is from Plymouth, about an hour's drive away from London. The court heard on the same Wednesday that the bomb went off prematurely as Saeed-Alim was preparing several bombs he planned to carry into the restaurant. The judge said that investigators are still searching for two people Saeed-Alim was in touch with on the Internet about carrying out the attack. For more information [click here](#).

## Nuclear Terror Drill Held in Spain

Seventeen nations sent more than 250 officials to Spain during the middle of October for an exercise drill intended to help them prepare for potential acts of nuclear or radiological terrorism. The three-day event encompasses a hunt for radioactive material and deactivation of a radiological "dirty bomb," according to the Spanish Interior Ministry. The intent is to "prepare to prevent a terrorist attack with nuclear or radioactive material by intervening and neutralizing it, and protect the civilian population if needed. For more information [click here](#).

## Standards body advocates multi-disciplinary approach to security breach planning



On October 20 The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the Internet Security Alliance issued a guide designed to help enterprises calculate the risks and costs associated with data security breaches. The new 40-page guide, entitled "The Financial Impact of Cyber Risk: 50 Questions Every CFO Should Ask" offers advice on measuring the cost of security breaches and how enterprises should prepare for data compromise. There have been many "risk calculators" and papers on security return on investment published in recent years, but this is the first to be issued by a standards group like ANSI, which has helped set IT standards in the U.S. for decades. As a result, the guide will likely get a close review by many organizations, particularly those that use ANSI standards in other parts of their business. If an organization can accurately calculate the potential risk associated with a particular attack or event, it can use that data to decide what "risk management actions," if any, need to be taken, the guide says. The idea is to make informed decisions on what security technologies or strategies are truly worth the investment, based on the risks associated with a specific type of threat. For more information [click here](#).

## Burglaries in Spain financed terrorism in Africa

According to press releases of October 22, burglaries of about 20 villas on the southern coast by an Islamist group in Spain, financed dozens of terrorist killings in Algeria and Mauritania. The money was channeled through the Algerian-based Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat (GSPC), known today as Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb. GSPC used the money to finance attacks, including the killings of 15 soldiers in Algeria in May 2005 and of another 15 people in Mauritania a month later. For more information [click here](#).

## Colombia Ties Drug Ring to Hezbollah

Colombian authorities said on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October that they had broken up a drug and money-laundering ring in an international operation that included the capture of three people suspected of shipping funds to Hezbollah guerrillas. The criminal organization used routes through Venezuela, Panama, Guatemala, the Middle East and Europe, bringing in cash from the sale of these substances. Chekry Mahmoud Harb, Ali Mohamad Abdul Rahim and Zacaria Hussein Harb used front companies to send drug cash overseas and were three of the one hundred suspected people who were smuggling drugs and sending some of their profits to groups like Hezbollah. 1700 million pesos, 360 kilos of cocaine and 5 of heroin were confiscated during the operation, in which the Guatemalan Otto Roberto Herrera Garcia, related with the Mexico Cartel, was also captured. For more information [click here](#) and [here](#).

## Botnet experts meet as threat grows for corporations

Even though the notorious Storm Worm may have permanently retreated, as recent reports indicate, the threat that botnets pose to businesses arguably has never been higher. Enterprises risk major financial loss due to sophisticated networks of compromised computers barreling through their network with the goal of stealing confidential data, said Jose Nazario, manager of security research at Arbor Networks. Nazario was one of nearly 200 researchers, law enforcement officers and academics expected to meet Tuesday, October 21st, at the International Botnet Task Force gathering in Arlington, Va. Formed by Microsoft in 2004, the task force is a think tank that meets twice a year to share information and investigation case studies in a collaborative environment. While details that emerge from the meeting of the minds is kept under wraps, the need is clear: Experts estimate hundreds of thousands of computers throughout the world are part of botnets, and the potential impact facing organizations could be devastating. For more information [click here](#).

## Indonesian police thwart fuel depot terrorist plot

Anti-terrorism squads arrested five suspected Islamic radicals believed to have been plotting to blow up Indonesia's largest fuel depot, a police spokesman said Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Raids at two locations on the main island of Java on Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, also netted guns and ammunition, triggers, chemicals and 5.5 pounds (2.5 kilograms) of TNT powder, national police spokesman Sulistyono Ishaq said. Electronic explosives circuitry found at the scene were sophisticated versions of those used in the 2004 Australian Embassy bombing in Jakarta that killed 11 people. A manhunt was under way for two other suspects, following up on the earlier operations in the capital, Jakarta, and the West Java city of Bogor. The men are believed to have ties to Jemaah Islamiyah, the Southeast Asian terrorist group blamed for a series of bombings in Indonesia that have killed more than 240 people, including the 2002 and 2005 Bali bombings. For more information [click here](#).

## Saudis Charge 991 With Terrorism

On October 22, Saudi authorities have indicted 991 people on charges of participating in terrorist attacks carried out over the past five years, the interior minister said Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. The proceedings represent a significant step in the Saudi fight against terrorism. The interior minister, Prince Nayef, said that terrorists had been responsible for more than 30 attacks in Saudi Arabia since May 2003. Those attacks killed 164 people, including 74 security officials, and wounded 657. For more information [click here](#).

## Colombia Denounces that Mexican Cartels buy Coca from the FARC



During the first Inter-American Conference on Public Security (October 7-8), the Vice-minister of Defense of Colombia Sergio Jaramillo said that the existing relationship between the guerrillas and organized crime mafias is getting closer. Mexican drug cartels get drugs directly from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, whom not only produce cocaine, but also distribute it and use mini-submarines like the ones that have been detected in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. In the first Inter-American Conference on Public Security, organized by the Organization of American States, the 34 Member States agreed on creating a front to fight organized crime. Secretary General Jose Manuel Insulza said: "This is a scourge that kills more people in our continent than HIV. It destroys more homes

than any economic crisis and it is a threat for the State, as harmful as any other situation of subversion".

For more information [click here](#).

## Cyber security threats grow in sophistication, subtlety and power

The annual report from Georgia Tech Information Security Center, released on October 15, identifies five evolving cyber security threats, and the news is not good. Attackers are becoming increasingly sophisticated, increasingly subtle, and increasingly adept at exploiting new Web developments and threats such as: malware, botnets, cyber warfare, threats to VoIP and mobile devices, and the evolving cyber crime economy. Industry and government need to become equally concerted and sophisticated to contain these threats if the Internet is to be a trusted communications medium.

For more information [click here](#).

## Panel May Advise Anthrax Shots

A U.S. government advisory on the third week of October could recommend that state and local public health officials consider administering anthrax vaccines to as many as 3 million first responders nationwide. The panel, convened by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, would leave it to regional and local authorities to determine whether the risks of biological terrorism — weighed against the potential benefits of a controversial inoculation — justify vaccinating emergency personnel. The possibilities have been discussed at different meetings in which some organizations support the idea of using pre-event vaccinations or post-event vaccinations with antibiotics following exposure to anthrax. For more information [click here](#).

## Terrorist watch lists shorter than previously reported



The United States federal government's terrorist watch lists are far shorter than have been reported, the secretary of homeland security said on October 22nd. The FBI, which manages the Terrorist Screening Database, said in August that there were about 400,000 people on its list, but that approximately 95 percent of those people were not U.S. citizens. But even if there are only 2,500 "no fly" list - represent a threat to aviation- and 16,000 in the "selectee list" -represent a less specific threat- many people are mistaken and are subject to extra security airports. A government program unveiled on October 22nd is aimed at addressing that problem. For more information [click here](#).

## Terrorists could use twitter for mayhem, army report muses

Twitter is a free social networking and micro-blogging service that allows its users to send and read other users' updates (otherwise known as tweets), which are text-based posts of up to 140 characters in length. Twitter is already used by some members to post and/or support extremist ideologies and perspectives. The October 16 paper, posted on the Federation of American Scientists Web site, was written by the Army's 304 Military Intelligence Battalion Open Source Intelligence Team. It names a few scenarios and focuses on how technology can be used as a terrorism tool. The report also touches briefly on the use of cell phones, GPS, voice changing technology, and software that can be used to assist terrorist operations. For more information [click here](#).

## US Official: Raid On Syria Killed Leader Of Cell

A cross-border raid by U.S. Special Forces killed the Al-Qaida-linked head of a Syrian network that smuggled fighters, weapons and cash into Iraq, an American counterterrorism official said on October 27. The operation targeted the home of Abu Ghadiyah, the leader of a key cell of foreign fighters in Iraq. The U.S. Treasury Department has named Abu Ghadiyah as one of four major figures in al-Qaida's Iraq wing who were living in Syria. U.S. authorities have said Abu Ghadiyah's real name is Badran Turki al-Mazidih, an Iraqi in his early 30s who served as al-Qaida in Iraq's head of logistics in Syria since 2004. His job included providing foreign fighters with passports, weapons, guides and safe houses as they slipped into Iraq and made their way to Baghdad and other major cities where the Sunni insurgency was raging. Sunday's operation in Suk-kariyeh, about five miles from the Iraqi border, came just days after the commander of U.S. forces in western Iraq called the Syrian border an "uncontrolled" gateway for fighters into Iraq and said efforts were being stepped up to secure it. For more information [click here](#).

## Four suspects arrested from the new command "Nafarroa"

Agents of the National Police of Spain arrested in the morning of the 28th of October, between Pamplona and Valencia, four suspected terrorists who were rebuilding a command of the terrorist organization ETA in Navarra. Mr. Rubalcaba, the Interior Minister of Spain, confirmed that the men arrested "were ready to attack"; therefore the arrest "has prevented a lot of pain." According to investigation sources, two revolvers have been seized, along with a detonating cord and 100 kilograms of explosives, including PETN, nitro methane and aluminum powder, substances used to manufacture amonitol, a powerful explosive used at times by the terrorist organization. For more information [click here](#).

## Spanish Police Arrest 8 Moroccans Suspected of Helping Al-Qaeda

Spanish police arrested eight Moroccans suspected of helping al-Qaeda members implicated in the Madrid train bombings to flee. The men were detained in Barcelona, Madrid and Algeciras before dawn on the 16th of October, the Interior Ministry said in an e-mailed statement. For more information [click here](#).

## Al-Qaeda and Taliban Sanctions Threatened

In early September, the European Court of Justice (ECJ), the highest court in the European Union, ruled that the EU's application of UN sanctions against Yasin Qadi and the al-Barakaat International Foundation infringed their basic rights, and declared the action illegal under EU law. According to a number of resolutions of the Security Council, all States that are Members of the United Nations must freeze the funds and other financial resources controlled directly or indirectly by such persons or entities.

On 19 October 2001, the names of Mr. Kadi and Al Barakaat were added to the Consolidated list, and then placed in the list annexed to the EU regulation. Although countries must implement Security Council sanctions, they can choose how to do so, and the ECJ decided that despite their obligations under the UN Charter, EU members could not adopt a regulation that infringed rights contained in EU law.

The Court annulled the Council regulation in so far as it freezes Mr Kadi and Al Barakaat's funds. Nonetheless, the Court recognizes that annulling the regulation would be capable of seriously and irreversibly prejudicing the effectiveness of the restrictive measures, because in the period before the regulation is replaced, the person and entity concerned might take steps to prevent measures freezing funds from being applied to them again. For more information [click here](#) and [here](#).

## Canadian man guilty in British bomb plot



A judge on Wednesday, October 29, found a Canadian man guilty of participating in a thwarted plot to bomb British buildings and natural gas lines in 2004.

Momin Khawaja was the first person to be charged with a terrorist offense in Canada since the country enacted anti-terrorism laws in 2001, and the case was considered to be the first major test of those laws.

Khawaja, who was born in Pakistan, was accused of collaborating with a group of British Muslims of Pakistani descent in the plot. Five co-conspirators were convicted in London, England, last year and jailed for life.

Justice Douglas Rutherford convicted Khawaja on five charges of financing and facilitating terrorism. Rutherford also found him guilty on two criminal charges related to a remote-control device, but not guilty to the terrorism portions of those charges because there was not enough proof Khawaja knew the device was to be used in fertilizer-powered attacks. For more information [click here](#).



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