



# Inter-American Committee against Terrorism - CICTE

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security - Organization of American States

## Newsletter No. 81 - August, 2010

[Click here for previous newsletters](#) - [Click here for subscription](#)

[Editorial](#)

[Recommended Reading](#)

[News](#)

[Counter-Terrorism Activities](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[Contact Information](#)



## Train the Trainer and Excellence in Screening Techniques Course - August 16-25

The CICTE Secretariat, in collaboration with the United States Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and the Bahamas Airport Authority conducted a *Train the Trainer and Excellence in Screening Techniques Course* for 26 participants-6 participants for the Train the Trainer portion of the course and 20 participants for the Screening Techniques portion of the course. The combined course took place from August 16-25, 2010 (8 working days) and was delivered by TSA international trainers Ms. Lori Silcox and Mr. Shawn Reed.



The first three days of the training focused on providing approximately 6 trainers/participants with the fundamental skills in developing and delivering a unit of instruction. Workshop participants learned to: analyze effective presentation skills; develop and deliver the presentation of a course; evaluate their own and each other's skills.

The newly trained instructors were each given a module of the Excellence in Screening Techniques Course, to deliver to the incoming participants for the screening course for the next 5 working days under the guidance of the TSA instructors.

The Excellence in Screening Techniques portion of the training focused on enhancing the skills of security screeners as the first line of defense in international aviation. This interactive course helped aviation security screening officers build upon their skills and knowledge of screening techniques for passengers and carry-on baggage. The course reviewed known techniques and offered updated procedures to better address the evolving threats to aviation security. Participants explored their existing procedures and built their skills to focus on emerging threats, using physical searches and checkpoint technology.

On day four of the combined course, the Aviation Security Instructors were joined by officers from the Airport Authority, Customs, Department of Civil Aviation, Port Authority, and Her Majesty's Prison to be trained in screening techniques. This course had an official opening ceremony on August 19th which included remarks from the OAS/CICTE Representative Shevaun Culmer; General Manager of the Airport Authority, Mr. Milo Butler III; Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation, Charles Albury; Director of Security at LPIA, Osbourne Ferguson; Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of National Security Mrs. Sherman-Peters, Mr. Wendell Carey, representative from the Department of Civil Aviation; and other Directors and representatives from the Security Department at the airport. The local media was also present.

For more information: Shevaun Culmer, [sculmer@oas.org](mailto:sculmer@oas.org)

[Editorial](#)

[Counter-Terrorism Activities](#)

[Recommended Reading](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[News](#)

[Contact Information](#)

## **Editorial**

### **Identity Management: The Threat and the Opportunity**

***Barry J. Kefauver***

Over the past several years, many nations of the world have invested time, money and great expectations in enhanced travel document programs, especially in machine readable ePassports employing biometrics. By all accounts, the current generation of ICAO-compliant travel documents is the best and most secure the world has ever known. The travel document community can take great pride in these accomplishments. However, there is a threat that affects virtually all issuing authorities that can undermine, or actually subvert this important work: National identity management. Currently, most of the entitlement judgments that countries reach regarding issuance of travel documents are based in large part on the representations of applicants in validating their claims. In general, methodologies used in establishing identity are universal, common and shared around the world and are, therefore, all similarly threatened.

History is replete with examples of the ways in which terrorists and other very bad people have seized on the frailties of the foundations of identity evidence to obtain passports and other documents to facilitate their malevolence. Authors such as Forsythe, Ludlum and le Carré have provided graphically entertaining dramatizations that are all too prevalent in real life. Those who would make mischief with fraudulently obtained travel documents are now more than ever before exploiting the vulnerabilities that lie inherently in the evidence of identity arena. The improvements in travel document security, especially the use of biometrics, have resulted in an increasing global shift from document fraud to identity fraud. Although we have taken extensive and successful steps to improve the quality of identity documents, there remains to be addressed the foundations upon which these documents ultimately reside. This not only includes the documents themselves, but the registries and other databases that form the cornerstone for verification. Sometimes referred to as the “social footprint” or “living identity”, the use of corroborating assessments to confirm that the claimed identity is actually used in the community, brings all of these sources of identity information together to help shape the best informed document entitlement decisions.

Issuing authorities around the world have joined in the International Civil Aviation Organization’s (ICAO) high priority work initiative known as Evidence of Identity. The intent of this work is to bring together into a cohesive whole all of the factors and sources that can be brought to bear on judgments regarding identity; using the full breadth of documents, civil registries and other databases. Some countries have begun to link these data sources, for example birth and death records, to serve as automatic checks and verifications. The ICAO initiative seeks to acknowledge the importance of using these secure sources of information and to offer standards, suggestions, procedures and best practices on their use in addition to the documents themselves. In this regard, the work underway within the OAS with respect to civil registry systems is being viewed by many as a model for the world to note and perhaps emulate.

Today’s travel documents contain advanced security features of great capability and when present, generally attest to the veracity of the documents themselves, and, hence, the bearer. With the advances that have been made in the documents themselves, there is a much quicker and widespread presumption on the part of inspection authorities to “accept” the legitimacy of the documents and thereby, the bearer. It is critical to make certain that just as the ability of highly secure travel documents will facilitate the travel of legitimate bearers, it will also impede and prohibit the movement of terrorists and others of unlawful intent. The work underway within the ICAO Evidence of Identity project is urgent and compelling. We all need to pledge full commitment to its success.

[Editorial](#)

[Counter-Terrorism Activities](#)

[Recommended Reading](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[News](#)

[Contact Information](#)

## Counter-Terrorism Activities

### **Crisis Management Workshop in Ecuador August 23-26**

The CICTE Secretariat, in collaboration with the United States Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and the Department of Civil Aviation in Ecuador conducted an Aviation Security Crisis Management Workshop for approximately 28 participants. The course was held at the Instituto Aeronáutico from **August 23-26th, 2010**. The TSA instructors for this course were Mr. Michael Yoka and Ms. Jill Calvo.

This workshop was designed to provide mid-level to senior aviation-management and other government officials with the knowledge and skills needed to develop and implement sound crisis management procedures. Attendees represented a wide-spectrum of professional disciplines within the airport that would have key roles to play in the event of an incident.

The course opened with a brief inaugural ceremony which included remarks from Sr. Fernando Guerrero Lopez, Director General of Civil Aviation; Ambassador Rodrigo Riofrío, Director General for Multilateral Policy and Management of International Organizations in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and National Point of Contact for CICTE; and Sr. Antonio Aranibar, OAS representative in Ecuador.

For more information: Shevaun Culmer, [sculmer@oas.org](mailto:sculmer@oas.org)

### **OAS/CICTE/CICAD/UNODC Joint Legislative Technical Assistance Mission visits Panama**

August 17-20, 2010. The Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) and the Secretariat of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Organization of American States (OAS) participated in a joint legislative technical assistance mission together with the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) at the invitation of the Panamanian Authorities.

In coordination with and under the auspices of the Ministry of External Affairs of Panama a specialized “Workshop on the Fight against Terrorism and its Financing: Investigation and Prosecution” took place with the participation of 45 persons, among them: prosecutors, judges, national police officers, bank analysts and financial investigators, border control officials, the office of bank and financial institutions comptroller, and anti money laundering and terrorism financial private and public officers.

The members of the mission gave presentations on the International Legal Framework against terrorism and terrorism financing, including the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism and the Practical Guide on Prevention, Detection and Repression of terrorist financing of CICTE; United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 and the international legal instruments of the United Nations. In attendance were international experts from Canada, Colombia, the United States, Panama and Peru who presented their experiences in the investigation and prosecution of cases of terrorism and terrorism financing. These presentations gave way to a broad dialogue among the participants, who also had the opportunity to resolve a case, putting into practice the knowledge acquired during the workshop.



The members of the joint mission held meetings with the National Interagency Commission for drafting legislation reforms on terrorism and its financing from the Executive branch; also met with the Attorney General and members of the National Assembly of Deputies and members of several Parliamentary Commissions. During these meetings, members recognized the efforts of the national institutions of Panama to comply with its international obligations in the fight against terrorism and terrorist financing, particularly through the legislative reforms initiative that Panama is preparing and soon will be introduced in its National Congress.

For more information: Alejandro Diaz de Leon, [adiazdeleon@oas.org](mailto:adiazdeleon@oas.org)

[Editorial](#)

[Counter-Terrorism Activities](#)

[Recommended Reading](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[News](#)

[Contact Information](#)

## Specialized training Workshop in the prevention and fight against terrorism and terrorism Financing – Trinidad and Tobago

A specialized training for judges, prosecutors, financial intelligence analysts, and law enforcement and criminal justice officials took place in Nassau, Bahamas, on August 24 to 27, 2010. The workshop was jointly organized by the United Nations Office against Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the CICTE Secretariat, under the auspices of the Ministry of National Security of Trinidad and Tobago.

The workshop gathered around 40 officials from Trinidad and Tobago as well as experts from Canada, the United States, UNODC, CICTE, the Commonwealth Secretariat, CARICOM, as well as private sector officials—BSA Strategies and Western Union. During the workshop participants exchanged experiences and best practices on how to fight against terrorism and terrorism financing from a legal perspective, and following a comprehensive and internationally cooperative approach.

For more information: Ignacio Ibáñez, [iibanez@oas.org](mailto:iibanez@oas.org)

## COUNCIL OF EUROPE NEWS

### Council of Europe Instruments:

San Marino has joined the Council of Europe Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) on 13 August 2010 as its 48th Member State. This accession further strengthens GRECO's role as the reference for anti-corruption monitoring in Europe: its membership extends to the entire continent, all 47 Member States of the Council of Europe, and beyond to the United States of America. For more information refer to: [http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/greco/default\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/greco/default_en.asp).



### Council of Europe events and publications:

The Chamber judgment of the case of Kennedy vs. United Kingdom (*Application no. 26839/05*) and its press release are available in the European Court of Human Rights' HUDOC database, <http://www.echr.coe.int/ECHR/EN/hudoc>. This case involves the alleged interception of the applicant's communications in "challengeable circumstance", amounting to a violation of his private life. The applicant drew complaints on Articles 8, 6 § 1 and 13. The Court ruled unanimously that there had been no violations of the said articles. The Chamber judgment will become final unless the parties to the case refer it to the Grand Chamber under the conditions specified in Article 43 of the ECHR.

### Upcoming events

- Seminars on the implementation of habeas corpus in the Uzbekistan's legal system, organised by the Venice Commission in cooperation with the Research Centre of the Supreme Court of Uzbekistan (Tashkent, 30 August 2010 – 3 September 2010).
- 4<sup>th</sup> round on-site evaluation of San Marino by the Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL). (6 -11 September 2010)
- 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee of the Parties of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. (Strasbourg, 13 September 2010)
- 33<sup>rd</sup> MONEYVAL Plenary meeting (Strasbourg, 27 September - 1 October 2010)
- 59<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts on the Operation of European Conventions in the Penal Field (PC-OC) (Strasbourg, 3-5 November 2010)
- 11<sup>th</sup> enlarged meeting of the restricted Group of Experts on international co-operation (PC-OC Mod) (Strasbourg, 28-30 September 2010)

[Editorial](#)

[Counter-Terrorism Activities](#)

[Recommended Reading](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[News](#)

[Contact Information](#)

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

An updated August 2010 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>



## Frequently Asked Questions on UNSC Resolution 1540

Resolution 1540 (2004) is a decision of the Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter affirming that the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, as well as their means of delivery, constitutes a threat to international peace and security. A list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) can be found on the 1540 Committee's website at the following URL: <http://www.un.org/sc/1540/faq.shtml>

## Recommended Reading

### Cyberspace: United States Faces Challenges in Addressing Global Cybersecurity and Governance

The Government Accountability Office of the US issued this report identifying significant entities related to cyber security, their involvement on the international level, and challenges to US involvement in international cyber security and governance efforts.

For more information [click here](#).

### Securing the Skies: A Global Push for Aviation Security

This article by Janet Napolitano, US Secretary for Homeland Security, identifies challenges to international cooperation in aviation security and suggests measures that could strengthen the international aviation security system.



For more information [click here](#).

### Floating Nuclear Reactors Could Fall Prey to Terrorists, Experts Say

Russia is wrapping up work on the first of a proposed fleet of floating nuclear reactors that would provide electricity to remote areas, but that are also more vulnerable to terrorists and even piracy than traditional power stations, experts say. This article by Martin Matishak is the second in a five-part Global Security Newswire series on emerging technologies and scientific advances that might pose new proliferation risks.

For more information [click here](#).

### Country Reports on Terrorism 2009

U.S. law requires the Secretary of State to provide Congress, by April 30 of each year, a full and complete report on terrorism with regard to those countries and groups meeting criteria set forth in the legislation. This annual report is entitled "Country Reports on Terrorism." Beginning with the report for 2004, it replaced the previously published "Patterns of Global Terrorism."

For more information [click here](#).



[Editorial](#)

[Counter-Terrorism Activities](#)

[Recommended Reading](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[News](#)

[Contact Information](#)

## Hammami the Jihadist Pop Star; Bridging Worlds: From Mobile to Mogadishu

Following the indictment of Hammami as part of a massive FBI US-Somali terrorism case, this article written by Frank J. Cilluffo and F. Jordan Evert, and published by The George Washington University Homeland Security Policy Institute (HSPI), suggests to that the antidote is to de-globalize, de-glamorize, and delegitimize Omar Hammami and similar jihadists.



For more information [click here](#).

## Jose Miguel Insulza: “The issue of the FARC requires the attention of all of the Member States in the Region”



This interview with the Secretary General of the OAS was conducted days after the meeting of the Permanent Council, requested by Colombia in order to denounce Venezuela. Jose Miguel Insulza hopes that the internal crisis that Colombia is living, generated by the actions of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, comes to a political solution, which will only be possible with the participation of other countries in the region.

For more information [click here](#).

## Iran's new deceptions at sea must be punished

In recent weeks, the UN, the US, the EU and other partners have announced new sanctions to hold Iran accountable for conduct surrounding its nuclear and ballistic missile programs. These actions have significantly expanded and deepened existing sanctions, and seek to combat Iranian efforts to evade increasingly stringent global restrictions. This article was written by Stuart Levey, US Treasury undersecretary for terrorism and financial intelligence.

For more information [click here](#).

**Recent Events**

Month	Days	Event	Venue
August	16-25, 2010	Aviation Security "Train the Trainer" and "Excellence in Screening Techniques" National Training	Nassau, Bahamas
	17-20, 2010	Legislative and Counter-Terrorism Financing Workshop	Panama City, Panama
	23-26, 2010	Bio-terrorism project, post evaluation	Mexico D.F, Mexico
	23-27, 2010	Aviation Security Crisis Management National Training	Quito, Ecuador
	24-27, 2010	Legislative Assistance and Terrorism Financing Specialized Training	Trinidad and Tobago

**Upcoming Events**

Month	Days	Event	Venue
September	1-2, 2010	Prep Meeting, Crisis Management Exercises	Rio, Brazil
	7-11, 2010	ICAO National Inspectors Course	Trinidad and Tobago
	27-29, 2010	LATF - Specialized training in Terrorism Financing	Lima, Peru
	7-10, 2010	Mexico Stakeholder meetings - Tourism Security	Los Cabos, Mexico
	7-15, 2010	ICAO National Inspectors Course	Trinidad and Tobago
	13-17, 2010	ICAO Cargo and Mail Training	Quito, Ecuador
	16-18, 2010	Seminar of European Union Parliamentarians (Ignacio)	Budapest, Hungary
	27 Sept - 1 Oct	Training Course on Tourism Security	Los Cabos, Mexico
October	4 - 8, 2010	Advanced Incident Handling Cyber Security Training Course	Washington DC, USA
	10 - 13, 2010	Workshop on the use of Internet for Terrorist Purposes. Organized by UNODC with the participation of the General Secretariat of the OAS	Cartagena, Colombia
	18-26, 2010	Scholarships for ICAO National Inspectors Course	Buenos Aires, Argentina
	19-22, 2010	Sub-regional workshop on cross border cooperation (UNODC and CICTE)	Argentina (TBC)
	TBC	Cyber Security Technical Assistance Mission	Georgetown, Guyana
November	8 - 12, 2010	Scholarships for ICAO Quality Control Course	Maryland, USA
	8 - 12, 2010	Aviation Security Crisis Management National Training	Bogotá, Colombia
	15 - 17, 2010	Best Practices Cyber Security Workshop	Montevideo, Uruguay
	TBC	Cyber Security Technical Visit for Colombia	Washington DC, USA

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

[Editorial](#)[Counter-Terrorism Activities](#)[Recommended Reading](#)[Calendar of Events](#)[News](#)[Contact Information](#)

## News

### **“No exceptions” for veil at airports, Baird says**

The issue of airline security has erupted as a result of a YouTube video. The Transport Minister, John Baird, saw the video of two Muslim women, their faces covered, boarding a flight out of Montreal, for the first time last night on CTV news.

Even before he saw it, however, he had been informed of it. Which prompted him to order an investigation into airline and airport security measures since the video suggests the women were not asked to show their faces.

He says political correctness is not a valid reason for not asking someone to show their face. “It’s one law for all, everyone is treated equally and this is not an invasive request to see someone’s face. This is Canada. We’re an open society. It’s part of our Canadian values and principles”. For more information [click here](#).



### **Kadir, Defreitas face life in prison after JFK plot conviction**

Former PNCR parliamentarian Abdul Kadir and Guyanese-born Russell Defreitas now face the prospect of life imprisonment after a federal jury in Brooklyn, New York yesterday convicted them of planning to blow up the John F. Kennedy International Airport.

After deliberating for five days in a trial before Judge Dora L. Irizarry, the jury delivered the guilty verdict to the two men who showed no emotion as the decision was read, a report from the New York Times said. According to the report, Kadir and Defreitas were convicted on five counts of conspiring to commit acts of terrorism. Defreitas was also convicted of surveillance of an airport while Kadir was acquitted of this charge. The men are scheduled to be sentenced on December 15, but according to the New York Times, the lawyers for the two men have indicated they will appeal the decision. For more information [click here](#).

### **Cyber-Security in US Congress**

Security experts have been warning for years about how talented hackers could bring down America's banking system or electricity grid. But the threat has not been a high-priority issue on Capitol Hill. The only cyber-security legislation that got any attention last year was a bill to try to delineate the government's power in the event of a cyber-attack. Critics said it would give the president power to take over the internet in an emergency and the bill ended up going nowhere.

This year things started to change. When Google announced in January that Chinese hackers had infiltrated the company's network, showing how vulnerable even the biggest companies were to attack, it shocked many in Congress and underscored the complications involved in any government-sponsored cyber-security effort. About 90% of the most important digital-information and communications networks are in the hands of private firms, at Google, in power plants and elsewhere. Policymakers claim and some in industry bluntly admit that defences against cyber-attacks often take a backseat to profit. This, despite estimates that cyber-crime costs businesses \$1 trillion or more each year. For more information [click here](#).

### **UN reviews 488 al-Qaida, Taliban names on sanctions blacklist and removes 45**

The Security Council in 2008 asked the committee monitoring sanctions to review the 142 Taliban and 346 al-Qaida members on the list at that time. Austria's U.N. Ambassador Thomas Mayr-Harting said the committee, which conducted the review, took 10 individuals off the Taliban list and 35 individuals and entities off the al-Qaida list. They included companies based in the United States, Germany, Austria, Yemen, Qatar, Switzerland, Sweden, the Bahamas and Liechtenstein. Eight of the individuals removed from the list had died. The committee's decisions on delisting are based on four principles: the person has renounced violence, laid down arms, broken all links with the extremist group and accepted the Afghan Constitution, Mayr-Harting said. For more information [click here](#).





[Editorial](#)[Counter-Terrorism Activities](#)[Recommended Reading](#)[Calendar of Events](#)[News](#)[Contact Information](#)

## US DHS quietly dispatching teams to test cyber security at power plants

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) of the United States is quietly creating specialized teams of experts to test industrial control systems at U.S power plants for cyber security weaknesses.

According to an Associate Press report on August 4<sup>th</sup>, DHS has so far created four teams to conduct such assessments, according to Sean McGurk, director of control system security. McGurk told the news service that 10 teams are expected to be in the field next year as the program's annual budget grows from \$10 million to \$15 million.

She said the special teams are part of an Industrial Control Systems Computer Emergency Response Team (ICS CERT) that DHS has been building over the past year in response to worldwide cyber security threats against industry control systems.

For more information [click here](#).

## WMD Terrorism Remains Grave Threat, U.S. Says

The possibility that a terrorist organization might launch a WMD attack remains one of the "gravest threats" to the security of the United States and its allies, the U.S. State Department said on August 5 in its annual terrorism report.

The "Country Reports on Terrorism 2009" addressed the threat of terrorism involving chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons and Washington's response to those dangers. The State Department noted that al-Qaeda and other extremist groups have expressed interest in acquiring nuclear weapons. For more information [click here](#).



## UAE: Japanese tanker attacked in Persian Gulf

The United Arab Emirates said on August 6<sup>th</sup> that a Japanese oil tanker was hit by an explosives-laden dinghy in the Persian Gulf in what would be the first attack in the strategic waterway where millions of barrels of oil are transported each day.

The report — which came days after an al-Qaida-linked group claimed responsibility for attacking the vessel — raised fears about the vulnerability of the Strait of Hormuz, a vital shipping lane for many petroleum exporting countries.

It was the latest in what has been a series of conflicting accounts of what happened to the M. Star supertanker, which was damaged as it entered the Strait of Hormuz, a transit point for about 40 percent of oil shipped by tankers worldwide.

For more information [click here](#).

## U.S. Indicts 14 Accused of Supporting Terrorist Group in Somalia

The US Justice Department on August 5<sup>th</sup> announced the indictment of 14 people — many of them United States citizens — accused of funneling "money, personnel and services" to the Shabab, the Islamist terrorist group fighting an insurgency in Somalia.

The newly unsealed indictments included charges against two women arrested on August 5<sup>th</sup> in Rochester, Minn., who are accused of raising money and sending it to the Shabab, as well as charges against Omar Hammami, an Alabama man who has appeared in videos promoting the group and is believed to have become a crucial Shabab figure. For more information [click here](#).

## Santos Says Colombia Car Bomb Was 'Terrorist Act'

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos said a blast from a car bomb that shook the capital the morning of August 12 was a "terrorist act" that "won't intimidate" the nation.

The pre-dawn explosion occurred in Bogota at the intersection of 67th Street and 7th Avenue, in front of the studios of Caracol Radio and five blocks from the city's financial district and the stock exchange. No fatalities were reported.

The blast injured as many as nine people, Hector Zambrano, Bogota's health secretary, said in comments broadcast by Caracol television. For more information [click here](#).



[Editorial](#)[Counter-Terrorism Activities](#)[Recommended Reading](#)[Calendar of Events](#)[News](#)[Contact Information](#)

## Hunting Alfonso Cano, Getting Closer?

“To the illegal armed forces that call upon political reasons and that once again talk of dialogue and negotiation, let me tell you that my government is open to the possibility of any kind of dialogue towards the elimination of violence, and the construction of a much more prosperous, equal and just society. (...) We will continue fighting all violent people, without exception, with everything we have. And you, the one’s who are listening; you know how effective we are!”

These were the words of the President of Colombia, Juan Manuel Santos, during his inaugural speech in a clear and direct message to the FARC, the Colombian guerrilla group. Santos knows that he has the upper hand. Not only because he knows them and knows that militarily the FARC are weakened, but also because, according to the Military Forces, they are very close to finding Cano. For more information [click here](#).

## 18-nation military maneuvers focus on Panama Canal security

Military commanders and troops from 18 countries including the United States mounted extensive naval exercises focused on defending the Panama Canal against terrorist activity that could threaten maritime traffic.

Officials said the PANAMAX 2010 exercises will be a precursor to enhanced regional cooperation involving intelligence and ground, naval, air and special forces.

The units taking part will explore their ability to respond to a range of potential threats to the Panama Canal region, including terrorist action, a major humanitarian crisis or natural disaster. PANAMAX 2010, in the waters off the coasts of Panama, will wind down Aug. 27.

Backed by the government of Panama and the U.S. Southern Command, the event is rated as one of the largest multinational maritime training exercises in the world. Participants aside from host Panama and the U.S. Southern Command include Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. For more information [click here](#).



## President of Chile agreed with his Colombian counterpart on cutting the ties between Mapuches and the FARC

“I spoke with President Santos about the ties between Chileans and the FARC and we agreed to cooperate to end these links,” Sebastian Piñera said.

The Public Minister is trying to find the connection between the Colombian guerrillas and some mapuches involved in violent acts in Chile, during events related to the reclamation of lands under the control of indigenous communities. For more information [click here](#).

## Minister of Defense of Venezuela affirms that the border has been reinforced

According to the Minister of Popular Power for Defense, general in Chief Carlos José Figueroa, “during recent years” the National Bolivarian Armed forces (FANB) “has strengthened, in every aspect, border security.”

The minister also stated that they “have never had as much presence as they have now.” Although he did not dismiss the possibility of illegal groups entering Venezuelan territory, he explained that neither the FANB “nor the Venezuelan government has any relation with these groups”. For more information [click here](#).

## Thailand to extradite Viktor Bout, the “Merchant of Death,” to the US

The Russian citizen Viktor Bout, 43, best known as the “merchant of death,” was detained in March, 2008 on the 27<sup>th</sup> floor of a luxury hotel in Bangkok, Thailand, during an operation involving US agents posing as members of the FARC, who supposedly wanted to buy weapons. After two years of diplomatic pressures, Washington finally obtained his extradition, provoking negative reactions from the Kremlin. For more information [click here](#).



Organization of American States

**Gordon Duguid**

Executive Secretary

[GDuguid@oas.org](mailto:GDuguid@oas.org)

**Pablo Martínez**

Assistant Secretary and Programs Coordinator

[PMartinez@oas.org](mailto:PMartinez@oas.org)

**Ignacio Ibáñez**

Specialist / Program Manager  
Legislative Assistance and Terrorism Financing  
Maritime Security  
[Ilbanez@oas.org](mailto:Ilbanez@oas.org)

**George Soares**

Program Manager  
Cyber Security  
[GSoares@oas.org](mailto:GSoares@oas.org)

**Shevaun Culmer**

Program Manager  
Aviation Security and Emerging Threats  
[SCulmer@oas.org](mailto:SCulmer@oas.org)

**Paola Fernández**

Assistant Project Manager  
Document Security - Major Events  
[PFernandez@oas.org](mailto:PFernandez@oas.org)

**Kimberly Polacek**

Consultant  
[KPolacek@oas.org](mailto:KPolacek@oas.org)

**María Elena de la Flor Musso**

Planning and Budget Officer  
[MDelaflor@oas.org](mailto:MDelaflor@oas.org)

**Beatriz Garcia**

Administrative Assistant  
[BGarcia@oas.org](mailto:BGarcia@oas.org)

**Alejandro Díaz de León**

Program Manager  
Tourism Security -  
Emerging Threats  
[ADiazdeLeon@oas.org](mailto:ADiazdeLeon@oas.org)

**Brian Sullivan**

Specialist / Program Manager  
Cyber Security - Maritime Security  
[BSullivan@oas.org](mailto:BSullivan@oas.org)

**Michael Bejos**

Specialist  
Technical Secretary for CICTE Meetings  
[MBejos@oas.org](mailto:MBejos@oas.org)

**Belisario Contreras**

Assistant Project Manager  
Cyber Security  
[BContreras@oas.org](mailto:BContreras@oas.org)

**Melissa Cabrera**

Consultant  
[MCabrera@oas.org](mailto:MCabrera@oas.org)

**Daniela Westphal**

Administrative Technician  
[DWestphal@oas.org](mailto:DWestphal@oas.org)

Inter-American Committee against Terrorism - Organization of American States  
1889 F Street, N.W. (8<sup>th</sup> Floor) - Washington D.C., 20006 - USA.

Tel.: +1+202.458.6960 - Fax: +1+202.458.3857

E-mail: [cicte@oas.org](mailto:cicte@oas.org)