



MECHANISM FOR FOLLOW-UP ON
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN
CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION
Twenty-seventh Meeting of the Committee of Experts
September 12 to 15, 2016
Washington, D.C.

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MINUTES
OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE
MECHANISM FOR FOLLOW-UP ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN
CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

I. BACKGROUND

In accordance with the schedule for the Fifth Round of Review agreed on by the Committee of Experts of the Mechanism for Follow-up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC), the Twenty-seventh Meeting of that Committee was held at OAS headquarters in the city of Washington, D.C., on September 12 to 15, 2016.

The meeting was attended by the following participants, representing the states parties: Laura Geler (Argentina); Javier Hinojosa Ledezma (Bolivia); Elizabeth Cosmo, Homero Britto, Tiago Farias, Gustavo Fávero de Souza (Brazil); Mathilda Haykal Sater, Doug Breithaup (Canada); Luis Felipe Sepúlveda, Mila Francisco (Chile); Andrés González, Camilo Andrés Enciso (Colombia); Tatiana Gutiérrez (Costa Rica); Marco Vinicio Albuja, Carmita Idrovo, Ana Karina Peralta, Pablo Andrés Calle, Nancy Herrera, Raquel González, Carlos Pólit Faggioni, José Viteri, Luis Homero Calle, Andrés Sierra (Ecuador); Orlando Rivas (El Salvador); David Grier, Marianne Toussaint, Jane Ley, Kellen McClure, Andrew Stevenson, Isabella Detwiler, Wendy Pond (United States); Robert Branch (Grenada); Félix Mencos, Mauricio Benard Estrada (Guatemala); Lionel Constant Bourgoïn, Yvlore Pigeot (Haiti); Miguel Ángel Mejía Espinoza, Rigoberto Córdova, Renán Sagastume Fernández, Liborio Canales, Gabriela Castro Reyes (Honduras); Chantal Shari Bennett (Jamaica); Luis Alfonso de Alba, Alejandra García Brahim, Ximena Mariscal de Alba, Benjamín Guillermo Hill, Jaime Chávez Alor, Jaime Cerdio, Alejandro Martínez Peralta, Rubén Martín Olvera, Rafael Betrán, Francisco Javier Cárdenas, Miguel Francisco González, Alcides Alejandro Jonguitud, Gregorio Castillo (Mexico); Angélica Maytin Justiniani, Antonio Lam (Panama); Federico Espinoza Espínola, Melissa Benitez (Paraguay); Rosemary Cornejo, Víctor Prado Saldarriaga, César Zanabria, Ana Lucía Nieto (Peru); Carlos Giuliani (Dominican Republic); Sieglen Aviankoi (Suriname); Hugo Cayrus Maurin, Álvaro Gallardo (Uruguay); Sara Lambertini, Zhaybel Cárdenas (Venezuela).

II. PROCEEDINGS

Gonzalo Koncke, Chief of Staff to the OAS Secretary General, attended the inauguration of the meeting and read out the message sent for the occasion by OAS Secretary General Luis Almagro.

Under the first item on the meeting's agenda and schedule (Annexes I and II), the Technical Secretariat gave a report on developments with the recommendations adopted by the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of MESICIC States Parties.

The Committee then turned its attention to agenda item 2 and considered, in order, the preliminary draft country reports on Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, and Honduras.

In reviewing the preliminary draft country reports, the Committee proceeded in accordance with Article 25 of the Rules of Procedure. Thus, in each case, the review subgroup presented the content and scope of its preliminary draft report; then, the state party under review made a statement in regard to the draft report; and, finally, the Committee examined the corresponding draft report, with the experts offering observations and comments on the chapters and sections in order.

For each draft report it examined, the Committee agreed on modifications, and it gave instructions for the corresponding changes to be made and for the revised versions to be submitted to the plenary for consideration and final approval.

Then, under agenda item 3, the topic of collective interest “Responsibility of the private sector in preventing and combating corruption,” presentations were given by representatives of the UN Secretariat’s Global Compact, the World Bank, and the Employers’ Confederation of the Mexican Republic (COPARMEX), as well as by the states of Brazil, El Salvador, Mexico, the United States, and Peru.

In compliance with recommendation 16 of the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of MESICIC States Parties and the Methodology adopted by the Committee of Experts, the Technical Secretariat then presented and distributed a document containing the “Proposed Possible Structure and Aspects to be Addressed by the ‘Guidelines on Private-sector Responsibility in Preventing and Combating Corruption’” (Annex III). In connection with this, the Committee set November 1, 2016, as the deadline for the states to submit to the Technical Secretariat, in writing, their comments and observations on the document that was distributed, on the basis of which the Technical Secretariat will prepare a revised version for consideration at the Committee’s next meeting.

The Committee then undertook a final review of the draft country reports for Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, and Honduras, which, following comments on each of them, were approved by consensus. The approved texts of these four country reports may be found in the annexes of these minutes (Annexes IV, V, VI, and VII).

Then, under agenda item 4, “Other Business”:

- a) Because of the changes to the sequence for state reviews and the schedule for the Fifth Round made at the last meeting, and in order to prevent Suriname from having to serve simultaneously as a country under review and as a member of the review subgroup for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Committee agreed to relocate Antigua and Barbuda from the review subgroup for Grenada and to relocate Suriname from the review subgroup for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: thus, Suriname will replace Antigua and Barbuda on the subgroup responsible for Grenada and, in turn, Antigua and Barbuda will replace Suriname on the subgroup for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

The Committee authorized the Technical Secretariat to make the necessary adjustments reflecting those changes to both the sequence and the schedule adopted for the Fifth Round and to prepare and distribute a revised version of both documents.

- b) The lead expert of Colombia, Camilo Enciso, gave a presentation on the results of the global Anticorruption Summit held in London in May 2016 and invited the states to read and consider the recommendations issued by that meeting. In addition, he spoke of the government of Colombia’s decision to publish statements of income and assets from all

members of the Cabinet and the exemplary effect that had had on requests made for similar decisions to adopted at the regional and local levels in the country.

In connection with these topics, the delegations of Paraguay, Honduras, El Salvador, Bolivia, Chile, and Peru offered comments on the content and scope of the subjects addressed and on experiences and developments in those areas in some of their states.

- c) The delegation of Argentina informed the meeting that the previous day, the country's Congress had adopted a law on access to information.

Acting on a proposal made by the Argentine delegation and seconded by Honduras, the Committee approved by consensus a motion congratulating and expressing its support for the MESICIC Technical Secretariat.

In addition, acting on a proposal made by Honduras, the Committee approved by consensus a motion congratulating the Chair and lead expert of Canada on the Committee, Mathilda Sater, for her excellent leadership of this meeting.

Before ending the meeting, the Technical Secretariat read out these minutes, which were then unanimously approved by the plenary of the Committee, together with all the annexes that form an integral part thereof.

Washington, D.C., September 15, 2016

ANNEXES		
No.	Title	Link
I	Agenda of the Meeting	
II	Schedule of the Meeting	
III	Guidelines on Private-sector Responsibility in Preventing and Combating Corruption	
IV	Report on the <u>Republic of Costa Rica</u>	
V	Report on the <u>Republic of Ecuador</u>	
VI	Report on the <u>United Mexican States</u>	
VII	Report on the <u>Republic of Honduras</u>	