MECHANISM FOR FOLLOW-UP ON OEA/Ser.L/XXIII.2.4

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MESICIC/CEP-IV/doc.4/16

INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION 8 January 2016

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Fourth Meeting of the Conference of States Parties

December 14-15, 2015

Washington, D.C.

**MINUTES**

**OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE**

**CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTY TO THE MESICIC**

# Background

Pursuant to provision 5 of the *Document of Buenos Aires* and the *Rules of Procedure*, the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of States Parties to the Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC) was held in Washington, D.C., from December 14-15, 2015.

The Conference took into account the work done and the agreements reached during the four preparatory meetings held at OAS headquarters prior to this Fourth Meeting, pursuant to Article 10 of the Rules of Procedure.

# Opening session

Addressing the opening session were OAS Secretary General Luis Almagro ([appendix 1](http://www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/cepiv_sg_anex1.pdf)); Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the OAS José Luiz Machado E Costa ([appendix 2](http://www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/cepiv_bra_anex2.pdf)); and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), United States Department of State, Luis Arreaga ([anexo 3](http://www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/cepiv_usa_arreaga_anex3.pdf)).

## Proceedings

Presiding over the proceedings, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the OAS José Luiz Machado E Costa called the Meeting to order and submitted for the consideration of the Conference the draft agenda (MESICIC/CEP-IV/doc.1/15), which was adopted by consensus ([appendix 4](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_15/DLCI02108E04.doc)) .

The election of the Chair of the Conference was then conducted in accordance with article 5 of the Rules of Procedure and Brazil, represented by Patricia Audi, Secretary for Transparency and Corruption Prevention in the Office of the Comptroller General of Brazil, was elected by acclamation.

This was followed by the election of the Vice Chair of the Conference, pursuant to article 5 of the Rules of Procedure. Colombia, represented by Camilo Alberto Enciso, Secretary for Transparency, was elected by acclamation.

Under the next item on the agenda, the Director of the Department of Legal Cooperation of the OAS Secretariat for Legal Affairs, Jorge García González, delivered the first introductory presentation on the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and its Follow-up Mechanism (MESICIC), the on-site visits, and the Hemispheric Report on its Fourth Round Review ([appendix 5](http://www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/cepiv_anex5_sp.pdf)).

The representatives of the civil society organizations FORES (Forum for Studies on Administration of Justice) of Argentina, Eduardo Bunge; National Anti-Corruption Council of Honduras, Ms. Gabriela Castellanos; and Iztapalapa Industrial Unit of Mexico, Mr. Salvador Ortega Lopez, focused their respective presentations on the topic “Civil society organizations and follow-up on the implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.” The texts of these presentations that were submitted in writing are included in [appendix 6](http://www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/cepiv_anex6.pdf) to these Minutes.

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The private sector representatives, Mr. Michael Hershman, of the Fairfax Group; Ms. Jessica Shannon, of Price Waterhouse; and Ms. Lauren Silveira, of the World Economic Forum, presented on the topic “The responsibility of the private sector in preventing and combating corruption.” The texts of these statements, which were submitted in writing, are included in [appendix 7](http://www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/cepiv_anex7.pdf) to these Minutes.

This was followed by the Dialogue of Heads of Delegation, with the Delegation of Brazil, in the person of Camila Colares, offering introductory remarks (appendix 8) after which the Heads of Delegation of the following states parties took the floor: Guatemala, Peru Honduras, Colombia, Antigua and Barbuda, Panama, Mexico, Canada, Uruguay, Haiti, El Salvador, United States, Venezuela, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, and Costa Rica. The texts of these delegations' statements, which were submitted in writing, are included in [appendix](http://www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/cepiv_anex8.pdf) [8](http://www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/cepiv_anex8.pdf) to these Minutes.

The Recommendations of this Fourth Meeting of the Conference of States Parties to the MESICIC were then brought up for consideration and adoption.

To that end, the draft negotiated and agreed upon during the preparatory meetings was used as a basis, under the terms envisaged in the corresponding draft.

Several delegations having commented on its contents and scope and having agreed on changes, the Conference adopted the recommendations, which were included as [appendix 9](http://www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/mesicic_cosp_iv_rec_sp.pdf) to these Minutes.

Under “Other Business” on the agenda, the delegations of Ecuador and Antigua and Barbuda made statements.

Before adjourning the meeting, the Secretariat read these Minutes aloud. They were adopted by consensus, together with all their appendices, which form an integral part thereof.