AG/RES. 2369 (XXXVIII-O/08)

MEETING OF MINISTERS OF JUSTICE OR OTHER MINISTERS, ATTORNEYS OR PROSECUTORS GENERAL OF THE AMERICAS (REMJA)

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 3, 2008)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly (XXXVII-O/07), in particular as it pertains to the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 2266 (XXXVII-O/07), “Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas”;

RECALLING that, in the Summits of the Americas, the Heads of State and Government have supported the work done in the context of the (REMJAs) and the implementation of their conclusions and recommendations;

BEARING IN MIND that in the Declaration on Security in the Americas the states of the Hemisphere reaffirmed “that the Meetings of Ministers of Justice or Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA) and other meetings of criminal justice authorities are important and effective fora for promoting and strengthening mutual understanding, confidence, dialogue, and cooperation in developing criminal justice policies and responses to address new threats to security”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that, in resolution AG/RES. 2266 (XXXVII-O/07), the General Assembly decided to convene REMJA-VII, which was held in the United States of America from April 28 to 30, 2008; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALSO the contributions made at the Third Meeting of Central Authorities and Other Experts on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition, held in Bogotá, Colombia, in September 2007; the Fifth Meeting of the Group of Governmental Experts on Cyber-crime, held in Washington, D.C., United States, in November 2007; and the Technical Meeting to prepare a comprehensive draft document on the REMJA process, held in Washington, D.C., United States, in March 2008,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its satisfaction with the results of the Seventh Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA-VII), held in Washington, D.C., United States, from April 28 to 30, 2008, and of the technical meetings that preceded it, in the framework of the REMJA process, and to emphasize the adoption at said meeting of the Document of Washington, which institutionalizes said process, formally establishing the organization and operation of the REMJA.

2. To thank the Government of the United States for its successful organization of the aforementioned ministerial meeting.
3. To endorse the “Conclusions and Recommendations of the Seventh Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas,” which are appended to this resolution and form an integral part thereof.

4. To express appreciation for and accept the offer of Brazil to host REMJA-VIII, which is to be held in 2010.

5. To express appreciation for and accept the offer of Chile to host the Second Meeting of Officials Responsible for the Penitentiary and Prison Policies of the OAS Member States, which is to be held from August 27 to 29, 2008, in Valdivia.

6. To instruct the Permanent Council to duly follow up on the conclusions and recommendations of REMJA-VII and, pursuant thereto, to convene the following meetings, which will be carried out within the resources allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources, taking into account progress already made with the preparations therefor:

   a. Meeting of Specialists in Forensic Investigation;
   b. Sixth Meeting of the Group of Governmental Experts on Cyber-crime;
   c. Second Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons;
   d. Fourth Meeting of Central Authorities and Other Experts on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition, to be held in El Salvador, in 2009.

7. To instruct the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth regular session on the implementation of this resolution, the execution of which shall be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.