

AG/RES. 2576 (XL-O/10)

**FOLLOW-UP ON THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION
AND
ON THE INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM FOR COOPERATION
IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION**

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 8, 2010)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly as it pertains to this topic (AG/doc.5111/10 add. 1);

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT resolution AG/RES. 2516 (XXXIX-O/09);

CONSIDERING the importance of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and the fact that it has been ratified by 33 member states of the Organization of American States, and that 28 of those states participate in the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC);

BEARING IN MIND the mandates of the Summits of the Americas with respect to the fight against corruption, implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, and strengthening of the MESICIC;

BEARING IN MIND furthermore, that the XIX Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government held in Estoril, Portugal, from November 29 to December 1, 2009, declared that “it is a priority to support the work of the Organization of American States (OAS) Follow-Up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC), which is an invaluable regional collaborative effort to prevent and combat corruption”;

RECOGNIZING the work of the Committee of Experts of the MESICIC, which has been supported by the General Secretariat and has made it possible to initiate, in September 2009, the third round of review for the 28 states parties;

UNDERSCORING the developments in the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption (MESICIC/CEP-II/doc.5/06 rev. 2), approved at the Second Meeting of the Conference of States Parties to the MESICIC, in November 2006, and adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh regular session, in June 2007, noteworthy among which are continuity in the process of review by the member states of implementation of the MESICIC and the program of support for those states for implementation of the recommendations made to them by the Committee of Experts of that mechanism; and

REITERATING the unswerving commitment of the states parties to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption to promote, facilitate, and regulate cooperation among the states parties, in order to ensure that measures and efforts to promote, punish, and eradicate acts of corruption in the performance of public functions are effective,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge those states parties to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption that have not yet done so to participate in the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC); and to urge all states parties to the Mechanism to fund it through voluntary contributions.

2. Also to encourage those member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to, as the case may be, the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Mérida Convention) and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention).

3. To urge the states parties to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption to take the measures they deem necessary, within their own institutional systems, to adapt their domestic law and regulations in order to comply with the commitments they undertook upon ratification of or accession to the Convention and, in this regard, to continue working toward compliance with the recommendations of the Committee of Experts of the MESICIC corresponding to the first, second, and third rounds of review of implementation of the Convention.

4. To express its satisfaction with the adoption and effective implementation by the states parties to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption of national anti-corruption legislation or plans.

5. To express once again its support for strengthening the MESICIC and, in that regard:

- a. To express its satisfaction with the progress made by the Committee of Experts of the MESICIC in the third round of reviews, with support from the General Secretariat, and which is reflected in the adoption of the reports on Argentina, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, Ecuador, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, and Colombia; and, in the forthcoming conclusion of the process of preparation and consideration of the reports on Panama, Chile, El Salvador, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, and The Bahamas;
- b. To express its satisfaction with the workshops held in El Salvador, Belize, Guatemala, and the Dominican Republic, in implementing the cooperation project being undertaken by the General Secretariat to support the states parties to the MESICIC in the implementation of the recommendations made to them by the Committee of Experts, through the adoption of national actions plans to that effect;
- c. To express its satisfaction with the Conference on the Progress and Challenges in Hemispheric Cooperation against Corruption, held on June 3 and 4, 2010, in Lima, Peru, within the framework of the above-mentioned project, the outcomes of which will serve to help member states to be able to decide on future actions in order to move beyond implementation of the recommendations made by this mechanism in preventing and combating corruption, to more effectively tackle the challenges posed by this serious problem;

- d. To request the General Secretariat to continue identifying sources of funding within the OAS, such as the Regular Fund, and of external funding, such as international and regional financial institutions and national government agencies, among others, for the adequate functioning of the MESICIC and, when applicable, for the full and effective implementation of its recommendations and of the activities of the countries at which such recommendations are directed;
- e. To invite the Conference of States Parties to the MESICIC to continue reporting to the Permanent Council on the implementation of concrete measures to strengthen the MESICIC, as well as on other topics submitted to it for consideration;
- f. To request the General Secretariat to continue, through the Department of Legal Cooperation of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, to provide technical secretariat services to the Conference of States Parties to the MESICIC and to the Committee of Experts of that mechanism; and
- g. To request the General Secretariat to continue, through the Department of Legal Cooperation of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs and in accordance with the provisions of section I.2.g of the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption, designing and conducting a training program for members of the Committee of Experts of the MESICIC, aimed at the implementation of both the methodology of the Mechanism and the recommendations it has made regarding the provisions of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.

6. To support, and to thank the Brazilian Government for its offer to host, the Third Meeting of the Conference of States Parties to the MESICIC, which will be held in the second half of 2010 in Brasilia, Brazil, and which, in accordance with Chapter VII of the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption, will consider and adopt a strategy on how the MESICIC can implement the various thematic areas covered by the United Nations Convention against Corruption and monitor the developments made in connection with them. Under the provisions of Chapter IX of the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption and for purposes of its due follow-up, the Conference of States Parties to the MESICIC will forward to the OAS General Assembly the strategy it adopts in this regard.

7. To establish that the preparations for the Third Meeting of the Conference of States Parties to the MESICIC, including those regarding its date, draft agenda, and draft calendar, will be made in accordance with the provisions of Articles 6 to 10 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of States Parties to the Mechanism for Follow-up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (SG/MESICIC/doc.58/04 rev. 7).

8. To request the General Secretariat to continue providing, through the Department of Legal Cooperation of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs and pursuant to Chapter VIII of the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption, the technical support needed to implement that Program, and in particular the strategy referred to in operative paragraph 5, within the resources allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

9. To encourage member states and other donors to consider contributing, in accordance with Article 74 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat, to the OAS specific fund “Inter-American Anti-Corruption Fund” to assist member states in implementing the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and the MESICIC country report recommendations.

10. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution. Execution of its activities shall be subject to the financial resources available in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.