

AG/RES. 2266 (XXXVII-O/07)

MEETING OF MINISTERS OF JUSTICE OR OF MINISTERS OR ATTORNEYS GENERAL OF THE AMERICAS: SUPPORT FOR THE REMJA PROCESS

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 5, 2007)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly (AG/doc.4698/07 corr. 1), in particular as it pertains to the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 2228 (XXXVI-O/06), "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 Meetings of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (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. 2228 (XXXVI-O/06), the General Assembly decided "[t]o instruct the Permanent Council to provide appropriate follow-up to the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations of REMJA-VI and to convene the meetings referred to therein, which will be carried out within the resources allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALSO the contributions made to cooperation on mutual assistance in criminal matters and extradition by the Meeting of Government Experts on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in October 2006, and by the workshop on extradition, held in Mexico City, Mexico, in June 2006; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT FURTHER that REMJA-VI, by resolution REMJA-VI/RES. 2/06, decided "[t]o appreciate and accept the generous offer of the Government of the United States to host the Seventh Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas, to be held in 2008,"

RESOLVES:

1. To express its satisfaction at the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of REMJA-VI, reflected, *inter alia*, in the adoption in October 2006 of the Hemispheric Plan of Action against Transnational Organized Crime [resolution CP/RES. 908 (1567/06)]; in the regional training workshops on cybercrime held in Brasilia, Brazil, in December 2006, and in San José, Costa Rica, in April 2007; in the Special Meeting of the

OAS/REMJA Working Group on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition, held in Montreal, Canada, in March 2007; and in the compiling of information on cybercrime, forensic research, and prison and penitentiary issues.

2. To instruct the Permanent Council, to convene, pursuant to the conclusions and recommendations of REMJA-VI and resolution AG/RES. 2228 (XXXVI-O/06) and prior to REMJA-VII, 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 respect to preparations for them:

- a. Third Meeting of Central Authorities and Other Experts on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition;
- b. Second Meeting of Officials Responsible for Penitentiary and Prison Policies of the OAS Member States;
- c. Meeting of Specialists in Forensic Investigation;
- d. Fifth Meeting of the Group of Governmental Experts on Cyber-crime; and
- e. Technical Meeting to prepare a comprehensive draft document on the REMJA process to be submitted for consideration by REMJA-VII, pursuant to Chapter X.2 of the Conclusions and Recommendations of REMJA-VI.

3. To accept with gratitude the offer by Colombia to host the Third Meeting of Central Authorities and Other Experts on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition, which will be held in Bogotá, Colombia, in September 2007.

4. To instruct the Permanent Council, pending the adoption by REMJA-VII of the corresponding decisions on the REMJA process referred to in Chapter X of the Conclusions and Recommendations of REMJA-VI, to convene such meetings as are required of the OAS/REMJA Working Group on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition, with the technical and administrative support of the OAS General Secretariat, which will be carried out within the resources allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

5. To convene the Seventh Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA-VII), to be held in the United States of America in 2008, within the resources allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources; and to instruct the Permanent Council to set a date for that meeting and to proceed with preparations for it, with the support of the Office of Legal Cooperation of the Department of International Legal Affairs of the General Secretariat.

6. To instruct the Permanent Council to present a report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth regular session.

