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Memorandum

June 7, 2019
OSG/183/19

To: Secretaries, Executive Secretaries, and Directors
From: Luis Almagro
Subject: Definition of Antisemitism

In light of the principles of the Organization of American States ("OAS") set out in its Charter, as well as the OAS' work in promoting respect and acceptance throughout the region, I have decided to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's ("IHRA") working definition of antisemitism with the goal of strengthening the OAS' efforts to counter antisemitism and xenophobia:

"Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."

Henceforth, the IHRA working definition of antisemitism, which since 2016 has been adopted by other governments, shall be used as the General Secretariat's official definition of the term, and shall be applied whenever pertinent in the General Secretariat's work.