

Official Records
OEA/Ser.D/III.53 (English)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

2002-2003

Organization of American States
Washington, D.C.
2003

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INTRODUCTION

In compliance with articles 91 and 112 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), I am pleased to submit the Annual Report for 2002-2003 to the General Assembly and the Permanent Council. As the Charter dictates, this report describes the activities of the OAS and its financial condition. Prepared in accordance with the guidelines established in resolution AG/RES. 331 of 1978, this annual report is for the period from March 1, 2002 to February 28, 2003.

The introduction to this Annual Report on the Organization's activities is an excellent opportunity to reflect upon our accomplishments and the challenges that still lie ahead. There is no denying the fact that this year was one fraught with obstacles and problems. And yet, the OAS continued to act quickly and decisively in responding to the growing challenges that have arisen. This past year, the Inter-American Democratic Charter was applied for the first time; the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism (CICTE) was adopted, and a number of electoral observation missions were successfully carried out. Also this past year, the Organization was instrumental in facilitating resolution of several border *differenda* and cooperated in finding solutions to internal political difficulties.

Today, the OAS' international profile has grown considerably and countries regard it an important multilateral stage in the Americas, one that offers enormous opportunity. The OAS provides the meeting table at which its members gather to debate the hemisphere's agenda. At the present time, it is also serving as technical secretariat and institutional memory of the Summit of the Americas process. The adoption of the Inter-American Democratic Charter in 2001 equipped the Organization with new mechanisms by which to promote and defend democracy everywhere in the region. In recognition of our dedication to democracy, the National Democratic Institute (NDI) awarded this Organization the prestigious W. Averell Harriman Democracy Award, for our protection and promotion of democratic values and institutions in the hemisphere. The NDI commended the OAS' achievements as the only intergovernmental organization for which representative democracy is a purpose, a principle and a condition for membership.

From June 2 through 4, 2002, we gathered in Barbados for the thirty-second regular session of the General Assembly. The Assembly's agenda featured some of the most awesome challenges now before us: poverty and social problems; promotion of democracy; terrorism; partnership in finding solutions to internal political problems; promoting human rights; settlement of border disputes; and the drive toward free trade. One of the highlights of the Barbados session of the General Assembly was the adoption of the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism. With that the OAS became the first international organization since the September 11 attacks to establish a treaty against terrorism. The Assembly also discussed how best to promote and defend democracy in Venezuela and Haiti.

The Inter-American Democratic Charter was applied for the first time with the alteration of the constitutional regime in Venezuela in April 2002. In keeping with Article 20 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, a special meeting of the Permanent Council was convened. There, the Permanent Council instructed me to head a fact-finding mission to investigate the events of April 11 and 12, and urged me to undertake the steps necessary to help restore constitutional order in Venezuela. In my report to the special session of the General Assembly, I underscored the need to deal with the dramatic polarization within Venezuelan society. I submitted a number of recommendations on how the crisis might be resolved once and for all. In doing so, I offered the OAS' support to establish a dialogue among the parties and prevent a recurrence of the April events.

When the crisis worsened and tensions between the government and the opposition heated up, I traveled to Venezuela where, with the support of the Carter Center and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), I was instrumental in setting up the Forum for Negotiation and Agreement, composed of six members representing the government and six representing the opposition. In an unprecedented effort, in my capacity as Secretary General of the OAS I have served as a facilitator of the Forum for Negotiation and Agreement since November 2002, to open up room for direct negotiation, understanding, the give-and-take of ideas and presentation of proposals suggesting ways to reach a settle that, once and for all, will end the political crisis that Venezuela is experiencing.

In 2002 the OAS also continued to pursue a solution to the political crisis that has beset Haiti since the legislative elections of May 2000. On March 1, 2002, the Organization and the Government of Haiti concluded an agreement establishing the Special Mission for Strengthening Democracy in that country, which the Permanent Council had called for in resolution CP/RES.806. A Commission of Inquiry composed of three jurists was also appointed to look into the factors that precipitated the violence in Haiti on December 17, 2001.

On two different occasions, from June 10 to 18 and from July 5 to 8, 2002, Assistant Secretary General Luigi Einaudi visited Haiti, in the company of the Chairman of CARICOM's Council for Foreign and Community Relations (COFCOR), Senator Julian R. Hunte, as part of the OAS' effort to find a solution to the crisis. During his second visit, the Assistant Secretary General met with President Jean Bertrand Aristide and the opposition coalition *Convérgence Démocratique*, in an encounter that was without precedent since the time President Aristide came to power. The Assistant Secretary General presented his report to the Permanent Council on July 11, informing it of the results of the OAS/CARICOM mission. Subsequently, on September 4, 2002, the Permanent Council approved resolution CP/RES.822, which included many of the elements and commitments contained in the Initial Draft Agreement. In resolution CP/RES. 822, the Permanent Council resolved, *inter alia*, to expand the OAS' Special Mission in Haiti to be able to address the critical issues of disarmament and a secure election climate. That resolution also set deadlines for establishing a new Provisional Electoral Council (CEP) and Electoral Guarantees Commission (CGE) and for holding legislative and municipal elections.

The Commission of Inquiry into the Events of December 17, 2001, presented a report to the Permanent Council on July 1. In that report, the Commission gave a graphic account of the incidents of violence against leaders of the opposition that followed in the wake of the December 17 events. In that document, the Commission of Inquiry recommended that all persons found to be implicated in the violence of December 17 and the ensuing days be prosecuted and that reparations be made to all organizations and individuals that had been victims of the events. In the medium term, the Commission called for reform of the Judiciary and recommended that measures be taken in connection with the police, human rights and the media, all to cultivate a climate of trust and understanding.

When new outbreaks of violence occurred and negotiations bogged down, I continued to work to realize the OAS' commitment to achieving an accord. In August I appointed Mr. David Lee, chief of the Special Mission for Strengthening Democracy in Haiti, as my special representative in Haiti, and Ambassador Denneth Modeste, deputy chief of the Mission, as Director of the Office of the OAS General Secretariat in Haiti.

In my capacity as Secretary General, in November I presented the first report on the implementation of CP/RES. 822, adopted by the Permanent Council on September 4, which called for the formation of “an autonomous, independent, credible and neutral” Provisional Electoral Council. The OAS’ commitment to Haiti remains intact, as the situation in that country is still a matter of concern for the Organization. Implementation of CP/RES. 822 is unequivocally the best avenue to take for a definitive solution to the crisis.

As part of our efforts to help mediate border problems, on September 30, 2002 two years of facilitation work for a peaceful resolution of the territorial *differendum* between Belize and Guatemala came to a successful conclusion with presentation of the facilitators’ proposals for a just and equitable solution to the *differendum*.

We also remain steadfast in our determination to promote democracy through our electoral observation missions, which are conducted only when an interested member country so requests. Our efforts in this area have been internationally applauded and underscore our commitment to promoting democracy everywhere in the Hemisphere. The countries that welcomed our technical missions are also to be congratulated for their far-reaching efforts. Although in some corners democracy as a political system is under intense pressure and is facing serious challenges, we can say with pride that all the elections witnessed by our electoral observation missions were completely transparent and conducted strictly in accordance with democratic principles. OAS observers were present as the citizens of Colombia, Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru exercised their right to vote. The OAS permanent observer countries are also to be applauded for their cooperation; in many cases, they donated the resources we needed to conduct our electoral observation missions effectively.

Also completed was an inquiry launched in conjunction with Nicaragua, Panama and Colombia for an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the export of a shipment of arms and ammunition that originated in Nicaragua and ended up in the hands of Colombian paramilitary. Pursuant to the request made by the ministers of those three countries that a report be prepared “setting out the facts... together with conclusions and recommendations for suggested mechanisms and procedures designed to prevent the recurrence of similar situations,” former United States Ambassador Morris D. Busby was appointed to coordinate the investigation and delivered his final report on January 17, 2003.

We celebrated the first anniversary of the Inter-American Democratic Charter with a protocol meeting of the Permanent Council and a conference that examined the scope of that document and what it has achieved. Without question the Inter-American Democratic Charter is the most important institutional step the OAS has taken in the last decade and the most eloquent example of our member states’ commitment to democracy. The event commemorating the first anniversary of the Inter-American Democratic Charter did it justice, as it was honored by the presence of Peruvian President Alejandro Toledo. President Toledo hailed the Charter as “a modern and comprehensive vision of democracy.” We will persevere in our efforts to ensure that the principles of the Democratic Charter are applied in every country of the region.

Through the Trade Unit, the Organization continues to work diligently on the economic integration and trade policy issues within the Hemisphere. Specifically, the Trade Unit provided technical assistance to the member states in the negotiation of the Free Trade Area of the Americas, through the meetings of the FTAA negotiating groups, the Seventh Trade Ministerial Meeting, held in Ecuador, and the vice ministerial meetings held in Venezuela, the Dominican Republic and Ecuador. In keeping with the

mandates from the Barbados session of the General Assembly, the Unit is continuing its work with the Tripartite Committee whose other members are the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

As part of the Organization's work on the topic of hemispheric security, the Third Meeting of the Consultative Committee established under the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials (CIFTA) was held in May. There, the member states and invited organizations were asked to consider developing an international regime to unify and globalize the approach to the problem. It was clear from the discussions that the member states are concerned that the problem of illicit arms trafficking is on the rise. They recognize that urgent measures must be taken in the countries, with the help of the international community.

The Quebec Summit of the Americas assigned our Organization a pivotal role in what it called the "realization of human potential" using the modern advances in the new information and communications technologies. Given the importance that the member states attach to training and educating their human resources, we embarked upon a concerted drive involving every area of the General Secretariat, with the Fellowship and Training Program and the Educational Portal of the Americas playing leading roles. As a result, the number of fellowships awarded for training and educational programs in 2002 was almost four times what it was in 2001.

Communications are still an important subject within the OAS. In August 2002, the Third Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL) adopted resolution CITEL/RES. 33 (III-02) concerning implementation of the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas. In that resolution, the CITEL Assembly recognizes the importance of the Agenda and the Quito Plan of Action, both prepared by CITEL, because of the progress that these documents represent in the efforts to eliminate the digital divide in the Americas.

General Secretariat Executive Order No. 02-4, issued on May 31, concerns the services provided by the General Secretariat to the ministerial meetings related to the Summits of the Americas process. The order instructs the General Secretariat to provide technical secretariat and conference services to the ministerial meetings held under the aegis of the OAS and to the OAS organs, mechanisms and political-technical meetings that support those ministerials, and to coordinate the latter with the Summit process. This Executive Order thus regulates the support that the General Secretariat, through its offices, provides to the Ministerial Meetings for fulfillment of the mandates from the Summits of the Americas.

As in so many other years, in 2002 the Hemisphere was not spared the tragedy of natural disaster. The Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction met several times this year to expedite the response to the emergencies created by natural disasters. The Committee is a collaborative effort that couples the support and active participation of the IDB, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the OAS with an efficient division of labor among the three. The OAS has also helped ease the terrible effects of these calamities with donations made through the Inter-American Emergency Aid Fund (FONDEM) and through repeated, heartfelt expressions of solidarity. In Bolivia, Costa Rica, and Haiti, flooding left dozens dead and inflicted almost incalculable material damage.

The year covered in this report has proven that the OAS is able to take on the challenges that threaten our Hemisphere. Despite the economic problems and political difficulties that some countries face, no

member state has fallen into the trap of straying from democracy. We witnessed free, fair and transparent elections in a number of countries and the democratic resolve of the peoples of the Americas. Much still remains to be done, as the crises in Venezuela and Haiti have unequivocally demonstrated. Yet I am convinced that the rebirth of hemispheric solidarity and the resurgence of the democratic spirit will help us resolve the difficulties or differences of today and tomorrow. The road ahead is long, littered with obstacles that we will have to overcome. We must stand by our commitment and continue working to promote and defend the ideals of democracy and liberty, and to improve the quality of life of all citizens of our Hemisphere.

César Gaviria
Secretary General

I. GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND COUNCILS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly, whose duties and responsibilities are set forth in Chapter IX of the Charter, is the supreme organ of the Organization of American States. It meets each year, at the time stipulated in its Rules of Procedure. Under special circumstances and with the approval of two thirds of the member states, the Permanent Council may convoke a special session of the General Assembly. All member states have the right to be represented in the General Assembly and each is entitled to one vote.

Thirty-second regular session

The thirty-second regular session was held in Bridgetown, Barbados, June 2 through 4, 2002. Presiding was Her Excellency Mrs. Billie A. Miller, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Barbados. The certified text of the declarations and resolutions appears in Volume I of Proceedings and Documents for this session (OEA/Ser.P.XXXII-O.2).

Declarations

Declaration of Bridgetown: The multidimensional approach to hemispheric security [AG/DEC. 27 (XXXII-O/02)]: In this declaration, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation declared that the security of the Hemisphere encompassed political, economic, social, health and environmental factors. They agreed that the member states should seek to enhance and, where necessary, develop appropriate mechanisms to tackle the new threats and challenges to hemispheric security. They also decided that the multidimensional approach to hemispheric security should be included as a topic on the agenda for the Special Conference on Security.

Declaration on democracy in Venezuela [AG/DEC. 28 (XXXII-O/02)]: In this declaration, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation reiterated the willingness of the Organization of American States (OAS) to provide the support and assistance that the Government of Venezuela required to consolidate its democratic process. They also reiterated their determination to continue to apply, without distinction and in strict accordance with the letter and the spirit of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, the Charter's mechanisms for the preservation and defense of democracy. They reiterated their rejection of the use of violence to replace any democratic government in the Hemisphere. They encouraged the Government of Venezuela to explore the opportunities that the OAS affords to promote the national dialogue in the interests of furthering national reconciliation. They also acknowledged and were grateful for the unanimous decision of Venezuela's National Assembly to form a Truth Commission to investigate the acts of violence perpetrated on April 11 and 14, 2002.

Declaration on the question of the Malvinas Islands [AG/DEC. 29 (XXXII-O/02)]: The Foreign Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed satisfaction at the Argentine Government's reaffirmation of its willingness to continue to explore every possible avenue for the peaceful resolution of the controversy and its constructive attitude toward the inhabitants of the Malvinas Islands. They reaffirmed the need for negotiations on the sovereignty dispute to begin as soon as possible, so as to find a peaceful solution to the controversy. Accordingly, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation decided to continue examining this question at subsequent sessions of the General Assembly.

Centennial of the Pan American Health Organization [AG/DEC. 30 (XXXII-O/02)]: Here the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation paid tribute to PAHO on the occasion of its

centennial. It encouraged PAHO to continue working with the countries of the Hemisphere, supporting their efforts to implement the mandates from the Summits of the Americas in order to reduce poverty and achieve equity and health for all.

Resolutions

Democracy

The General Assembly applauded the Permanent Council and the General Secretariat for their measures to strengthen democracy in Haiti. It praised the Government of Haiti for the cooperation it provided to the OAS' Special Mission and the Group of Friends of Haiti for the continued support of the Secretary General's efforts. It urged the Government of Haiti, all political parties and civil society to give their full support to the dialogue process and, with a view to resolving the crisis, recommended various measures to the parties involved, the Secretary General, international financial institutions, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the United Nations Human Rights Commission, the member states and the Group of Friends of Haiti [AG/RES. 1841 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly resolved to promote a culture of democracy in the Americas based on the principles and values of the Inter-American Democratic Charter and on the goals included in the Declaration and Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas. Accordingly, it encouraged the member states to adopt specific strategies and instructed the Permanent Council to convene a meeting of experts to identify concrete measures to promote a culture of democracy and democratic practices and values in the member states, with civil society participating [AG/RES. 1869 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to the principles of democracy contained in the Inter-American Democratic Charter and its determination to assign the highest priority, in the work of the OAS, to programs and activities that promote democratic practices and principles. To that end, it entrusted specific measures to the Permanent Council and to the General Secretariat, urging the member states of the Organization to cooperate in implementing them [AG/RES. 1907 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly took note of the holding in La Paz, Bolivia, from July 29 to 31, 2001, of the Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities Responsible for Policies on Decentralization, Local Government, and Citizen Participation (RIAD) at the Municipal Level in the Hemisphere, as well as the results of this first hemispheric meeting on these issues. It expressed its support for the objectives set by the ministers and high-level authorities in the Declaration of La Paz on Decentralization and on Strengthening Regional and Municipal Administrations and Participation of Civil Society, as well as for the establishment of the High-Level Inter-American Network on Decentralization, Local Government, and Citizen Participation (RIAD) as an institutionalized entity for inter-American cooperation on these issues. It acknowledged the initiatives taken by the Government of Bolivia in support of follow-up of the issues of decentralization, regional and municipal administrations, and civil society participation defined by the Summits of the Americas. The Assembly also urged the General Secretariat, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the World Bank, the Andean Development Corporation, and other entities to provide special support in developing and implementing the decisions of the ministers and high-level authorities. It also expressed its appreciation to the Government of Mexico for its offer to host the Second Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities in the second half of 2003 and instructed the Permanent Council to convene that meeting [AG/RES. 1901 (XXXII-O/02)].

Human Rights

The General Assembly reiterated its support for and recognition of the work carried out by human rights defenders and condemned actions that prevent or hamper their work in the Hemisphere. It urged member states to step up their efforts to adopt the necessary measures, in keeping with their domestic law and with internationally accepted principles and standards, to safeguard the lives, personal safety, and freedom of expression of human rights defenders. The General Assembly also invited the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to continue to pay due attention to the situation of human rights defenders in the Americas and to consider, *inter alia*, preparing a comprehensive study on the matter, continuing its cooperation with the United Nations [AG/RES. 1842 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly reaffirmed the Organization's intent to continue taking concrete measures aimed at implementing the mandates of the heads of state and government on the strengthening and improvement of the inter-American human rights system, as set forth in the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas. It called upon the member states to make the efforts necessary to implement those mandates [AG/RES. 1890 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly instructed the Permanent Council to continue consideration of the issue of the access of victims to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and to invite the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and civil society to participate in the consideration of this topic [AG/RES. 1895 (XXXII-O/02)].

It urged the member states to comply with their obligations under the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and/or its 1967 Protocol, by taking or continuing to take measures to strengthen asylum and render refugee protection more effective. It again appealed to the member states that had not yet done so to consider, in due course, signing, ratifying or acceding to the international instruments on refugees and statelessness, to consider the adoption of procedures for their effective implementation, and to also consider the withdrawal of any reservations made at the time of ratification or accession. It called upon the member states to participate in the resettlement programs sponsored by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and again appealed for inter-American cooperation in situations of mass internal displacement or flight of refugees [AG/RES. 1892 (XXXII-O/02)].

At the Bridgetown regular session, the General Assembly decided to remain seized of the issue of human rights and environment, paying particular attention to the work being carried out in the relevant multilateral forums in this area. It encouraged institutional cooperation on the subject within the Organization [AG/RES. 1896 (XXXII-O/02)].

On the subject of human rights and terrorism, the General Assembly reaffirmed that the fight against terrorism must be waged with full respect for the law, human rights, and democratic institutions, so as to preserve the rule of law, freedoms, and democratic values in the Hemisphere. It asked that the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights present its report on terrorism and human rights to the Permanent Council for its consideration [AG/RES. 1906 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly instructed the Permanent Council to continue to study the question of the rights and the care of persons under any form of detention or imprisonment, in cooperation with the

competent organs and agencies of the inter-American system, and to consider the advisability of preparing in due course an Inter-American Declaration on the rights and the care of persons under any form of detention or imprisonment [AG/RES. 1897 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly resolved to reaffirm that the principles and standards set forth in the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man and in the American Convention on Human Rights take on special importance with respect to protection of the rights of migrant workers and their families. It also reaffirmed the duty of the States parties to the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations to comply with that Convention and urged the member states to adopt various measures designed to guarantee the human rights of all migrants. The Assembly entrusted the Permanent Council, the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development and the Inter-American Commission with follow-up and support measures [AG/RES. 1898 (XXXII-O/02)].

Juridical development

At the thirty-second regular session, the General Assembly resolved to express its appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for hosting the Fourth Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas and instructed the Permanent Council and the General Secretariat to follow up on the recommendations adopted by REMJA-IV, including the holding of preparatory meetings on specific topics for REMJA-V. It also accepted the Government of Canada's offer to host REMJA-V [AG/RES. 1849 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly urged those member states that had not yet done so to give prompt consideration to signing, ratifying or acceding to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and to participate in the Follow-up Mechanism for its implementation. It urged the member states and instructed the Permanent Council and General Secretariat to take concrete measures for better implementation of the Convention and to follow up on the Inter-American Program of Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption. The Assembly expressed thanks for the voluntary contributions made to enable the Follow-up Mechanism to function and urged all the States to continue making those contributions [AG/RES. 1870 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly congratulated the Sixth Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law for the positive results it achieved and welcomed the resolutions adopted at CIDIP-VI. It also asked the General Secretariat and the Inter-American Juridical Committee to organize consultations of governmental and nongovernmental experts to examine the future of the Inter-American Specialized Conferences on Private International Law and other topics that would be appropriate for CIDIP-VII to discuss. It instructed the Permanent Council to convoke the Seventh Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law and asked the General Secretariat to include in the Organization's budget the appropriations needed to conduct the necessary work in preparation for CIDIP-VII [AG/RES. 1846 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly instructed the Permanent Council to continue to address, as a matter of priority, the subject of preventing, combating, and eradicating racism and all forms of discrimination and intolerance. It recommended to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights that it continue to give special attention to this topic in the context of the inter-American legal instruments currently in force [AG/RES. 1905 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly noted the increase in the number of states that had ratified or acceded to a number of instruments of international humanitarian law. It urged them to continue to do so. It also urged States to pay special attention, in times of peace as well as times of armed conflict, to the widest possible dissemination to international humanitarian law among the entire population, enactment of criminal laws to punish those guilty of war crimes and other egregious violations of international law, enactment of legislation regulating the use of emblems protected under international humanitarian law and to punish the improper use thereof and the obligation of the armed forces and security forces to refrain from using any weapon that violated or was contrary to international humanitarian law. It invited the member states to facilitate the work of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), in particular by using its advisory services. It urged the parties to an armed conflict to take immediate measures to determine the identity and status of persons reported as missing. It also called upon the member states and all parties to an armed conflict to observe their obligations under the 1949 Geneva Conventions, in particular those that are applicable to the protection of the civilian population. The Assembly asked the Permanent Council and the General Secretariat, in coordination with the ICRC, to continue organizing governmental conferences to disseminate and strengthen implementation of international humanitarian law and other related inter-American conventions. It encouraged the member states to adopt the legislative, judicial and administrative measures necessary for domestic implementation of international humanitarian law [AG/RES. 1904 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly reaffirmed the importance of the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law for the dissemination, awareness, application and strengthening of the international law created within the inter-American system and supported the activities conducted by the Permanent Council and the General Secretariat in furtherance of the program. The Assembly also instructed them to continue to carry out that Program [AG/RES. 1845 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly asked the Permanent Council to continue to foster the exchange of experience and information in order to coordinate and strengthen cooperation activities in the area of corporate social responsibility. It also instructed the Permanent Council to participate, with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the World Bank, and other appropriate international organizations, in the organization of the Americas Conference on Corporate Social Responsibility and to consider the possibility and advisability of convening a special meeting on corporate social responsibility to be held in the second half of 2003 [AG/RES. 1871 (XXXII-O/02)].

At this session, the Assembly urged those member states that had not yet done so to ratify or accede to, as applicable, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and make the necessary changes in their domestic legislation for the effective implementation of the Rome Statute. It requested the Inter-American Juridical Committee to ensure that the agenda for the next joint meeting with legal advisers of the foreign ministries of OAS member states includes a discussion of mechanisms to address and prevent the recurrence of serious violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and of the role of the International Criminal Court in that process [AG/RES. 1900 (XXXII-O/02)].

Hemispheric security

The General Assembly convened the Special Conference on Security for the first half of May 2003, and thanked the Government of Mexico for its offer to host the conference. It instructed the Permanent Council to prepare the recommendations of that Special Conference on all pertinent matters, as well as the draft agenda, the draft rules of procedure, and the draft final documents of the

Conference. It asked the member states to provide the Permanent Council with all the information they deemed to be relevant contributions to the preparations for the Special Conference on Security [AG/RES. 1908 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly convened the Summit-mandated Meeting of Experts on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the Region, and thanked the United States Government for its offer to host the meeting. It also instructed the Permanent Council to prepare the Meeting of Experts and asked that it forward the meeting's conclusions and recommendations to the preparatory body for the Special Conference on Security, as a contribution toward preparations for that Conference [AG/RES. 1880 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly urged the member states to implement, in the manner they deemed most appropriate, the recommendations from the Declaration of San Salvador and the Declaration of Santiago on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and resolution AG/RES. 1179 (XXII-O/92). It entrusted the Permanent Council, the Inter-American Defense Board and the General Secretariat with the work associated with preparing documents on the subject, particularly documents on defense policies and doctrines. It called upon the member states to provide the General Secretariat, before July 15 of each year, with information on the application of confidence- and security-building measures. It also asked the Secretary General to keep a complete inventory of those measures [AG/RES. 1879 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Second High-Level Meeting on the Special Security Concerns of Small Island States was convened. The Assembly instructed the Permanent Council to formalize the site, agenda, and date of the meeting and to forward its conclusions and recommendations to the preparatory body of the Special Conference on Security. It also asked the Secretary General to continue supporting the efforts of small island States to address their security concerns, including heightening public awareness of these concerns [AG/RES. 1886 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly reaffirmed the member states' commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes that may arise among them. It also took note of the Conference on Maritime Delimitation in the Caribbean and the establishment of an assistance fund and a delimitation negotiations registry [AG/RES. 1902 (XXXII-O/02)].

All member states that had not yet done so were urged to sign or ratify, as appropriate, the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials. The Assembly asked the Permanent Council to hold, with the support of the Consultative Committee, an annual meeting on the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials and to send its recommendations to the preparatory body of the Special Conference on Security [AG/RES. 1874 (XXXII-O/02)].

The States of the region that had not yet done so, in particular the states included in Annex 2 of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), were asked to consider signing and/or ratifying the CTBT, as appropriate, so that it might enter into force as soon as possible. The Assembly instructed the Permanent Council, through the Committee on Hemispheric Security, to hold a special meeting on the complete prohibition of nuclear tests worldwide, with the participation of various international organizations competent in this area [AG/RES. 1876 (XXXII-O/02)].

The States of the region were urged to ratify the Treaty of Tlatelolco as well as the amendments to the Treaty approved by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL). The Assembly underscored the importance of strengthening OPANAL as an appropriate legal-political forum and renewed its appeal to those states that had not yet done so to negotiate, as soon as possible, multilateral or bilateral agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency. The Assembly also reconfirmed its commitment to promoting a genuine, nondiscriminatory and universal system of nonproliferation in all respects. It instructed the Permanent Council to hold a special meeting on consolidation of the regime established in the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, with the support of OPANAL and the participation of the United Nations and other international organizations competent in the area. It asked OPANAL to forward whatever recommendations it deemed pertinent to the preparatory body of the Special Conference on Security [AG/RES. 1903 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly reconfirmed its commitment to the principles of the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions and urged the States that had not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to it [AG/RES. 1881 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Permanent Council was instructed to consider the limitation of military expenditures and the promotion of greater transparency in the acquisition of arms. Member States were asked to supply the Permanent Council with their comments on the topic "Dividends for Peace" [AG/RES. 1887 (XXXII-O/02)].

Member states were also encouraged to implement the United Nations Program of Action on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (UN Program of Action), to report to the United Nations on its implementation of national, regional, and global elements of the UN Program of Action, and to adopt such measures concerning arms brokering and transit as may be necessary to combat the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons. The Assembly also encouraged the member states to destroy small arms and light weapons which they had seized as a result of interdicting illicit trafficking and to destroy small arms and light weapons which they held under their control in excess of their legitimate needs, and to take all necessary measures to secure the stockpiles and weapons under their control and necessary to their defense. They were asked to consider signing or ratifying the United Nations Protocol Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition. The Permanent Council was asked to hold a meeting each year on small arms and light weaponry and a seminar on the identification, collection, arsenal administration and destruction of small arms and light weaponry and to examine the question of arms brokering in the Hemisphere. The Assembly asked the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) to continue conducting its training programs for implementation of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA) and the United Nations Program of Action and to continue to provide the member states with assistance in its area of activity [AG/RES. 1888 (XXXII-O/02)].

Inter-American summit management

The General Assembly renewed the Permanent Council's mandate to coordinate the activities assigned to the Organization of American States by the Summits of the Americas. It also ordered it to continue facilitating the participation of civil society in the Summits of the Americas process and to

earmark resources in the Organization's program-budget to allow for full and timely execution of this resolution. The Assembly also instructed the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization to continue to give top priority to carrying out the initiatives assigned to them by the General Assembly, pursuant to the mandates of the Summits of the Americas. It requested the General Secretariat to serve as technical secretariat of the Summit process, to provide needed support to the ministerial and sectoral meetings related to implementation of Summit mandates on the relevant issues for the OAS, and to seek additional resources to carry out the activities mentioned in this resolution. The General Assembly recommended that the Joint Summit Working Group continue to serve as the coordinating mechanism for the institutions supporting the implementation of Summit mandates and to hold at least one high level meeting a year [AG/RES.1847 (XXXII-O/02)].

Terrorism

The Inter-American Convention against Terrorism was adopted and member states were urged to ratify the Convention as soon as possible, in accordance with their constitutional procedures [AG/RES. 1840 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to strengthen hemispheric cooperation and to continue implementing specific measures to prevent, combat and eliminate international terrorism. It expressed its satisfaction with the progress made by the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) in identifying urgent measures to strengthen hemispheric cooperation and the adoption of specific recommendations on border and financial controls. It welcomed the establishment of a CICTE Secretariat and expressed its appreciation to those member states and permanent observers that contributed resources for the CICTE Secretariat's establishment and to support the implementation of CICTE's program of activities. The Assembly urged the member states to continue efforts to implement the recommendations on financial and border controls and asked CICTE to present recommendations to the preparatory body of the Special Conference on Security [AG/RES. 1877 (XXXII-O/02)].

Civil society

The General Assembly instructed the Permanent Council: to devise strategies for increasing and strengthening civil society's participation in OAS activities; to evaluate the implementation of the guidelines governing relations between civil society organizations and the OAS; to facilitate contributions by civil society organizations; to hold a special meeting of the Committee to strengthen dialogue between OAS organs, agencies, and entities and accredited civil society organizations and to analyze the feasibility of establishing a specific voluntary fund to support the participation of accredited civil society organizations in the special meeting of the Committee. It instructed the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) to continue to facilitate contributions by civil society organizations in the areas of competence of those organizations to its work [AG/RES. 1852 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly congratulated the Permanent Council on the success of its special meeting on practices in corporate social responsibility in the Hemisphere and the role of government in promoting them. It instructed the Permanent Council to participate in the organization of the Americas Conference on Corporate Social Responsibility, convened by the IDB, to be held in Miami, United States, September 22 to 24, 2002. It also asked the Permanent Council to consider the advisability of convoking a special meeting on corporate social responsibility, for the second half of 2003 [AG/RES. 1871 (XXXII-O/02)].

Antipersonnel mine removal

The Assembly resolved to acknowledge the significant efforts of the governments of Peru and Ecuador aimed at the total destruction of their mine stockpiles, as well as the progress they have made in clearing antipersonnel mines. It asked the international community to continue collaborating with these governments in conducting the demining programs and integral action programs against antipersonnel mines in their respective territories. It instructed the General Secretariat to continue working on identifying and finding sources of funding for continuing the landmine removal programs. It also instructed the Permanent Council to continue to move toward the objective of making the Western Hemisphere an antipersonnel-land-mine-free area [AG/RES. 1875 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly reiterated its appeal to the international community in general to continue to lend its indispensable support and cooperation to the Mine-Clearing Program in Central America (PADCA). The General Secretariat was instructed to continue providing the needed support to the Central American countries and to continue conducting cooperation and coordination activities with other international organizations [AG/RES. 1878 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly reaffirmed the goals of the global elimination of antipersonnel-land-mines and the conversion of the Western Hemisphere into an antipersonnel-land-mine-free zone. It urged member states which had not yet done so to ratify or consider acceding to the Convention on the Prohibition of Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Ottawa Convention), the 1980 United Nations Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and its four protocols. The Assembly encouraged member states either to request or provide assistance, as appropriate, to the Organization of American States (OAS) Mine Action Team. It requested the Secretary General to continue considering the possibility of developing new mine action programs in the Americas to assist affected member states, upon request. The Assembly asked the Permanent Council to forward any information or recommendations that result pursuant to this resolution to the preparatory body of the Special Conference on Security as a contribution to the preparations for that Conference [AG/RES. 1889 (XXXII-O/02)].

Natural disasters

The Assembly endorsed the recommendations contained in document CP/CSH-433/02 rev. 1. It urged the Inter-American Natural Disaster Reduction Committee to work with the member states for their effective implementation and to devote a meeting to examining regional topics for cooperation between civilian authorities and military authorities on disaster preparedness and response, so as to strengthen civilian leadership in this area. It also requested that it study and propose to the preparatory body of the Special Conference on Security the measures that it may consider appropriate for strengthening cooperation among member states on this issue. It instructed the Permanent Council to revise the FONDEM Statutes and assign to the IACNDR the functions of coordinating aid in the face of natural disasters [AG/RES. 1885 (XXXII-O/02)].

Trade

The General Assembly noted the report of the Permanent Council and the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development "Trade and Integration in the

Americas.” It instructed the General Secretariat to continue providing analytical support and assistance on all matters related to the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) [AG/RES. 1861 (XXXII-O/02)].

Relations with other organizations, organs, agencies and entities

The Assembly reiterated that the fight against poverty is a priority and constant concern of the member states and that the OAS should support their efforts to reduce the level of poverty in the Hemisphere.

It resolved to convoke, in the framework of CIDI, a high level meeting during the last quarter of 2002 to address the challenges that poverty, equity, and social inclusion present for the inter-American system [AG/RES. 1854 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 2002-2005 was approved and the Permanent Executive Committee of CIDI was instructed to review the statutes and procedures to determine whether they needed to be amended [AG/RES. 1855 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly decided to consider it a matter of priority to hold the First Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities on Science and Technology within the Framework of CIDI prior to the next Summit of the Americas and, to that end, to hold a meeting of COMCYT with the objective of preparing the aforementioned Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology [AG/RES. 1856 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Secretariat was instructed to continue supporting the meetings of the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development [AG/RES. 1857 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly accepted the Brazilian Government’s offer to host the XIII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor in October 2003 [AG/RES. 1858 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly took note of the final report of CIDI’s Second Meeting of Ministers of Education and congratulated the Government of Uruguay for organizing and hosting the meeting. It asked that the General Secretariat continue supporting the activities of the Education Ministries in following up on the educational commitments of the Summits of the Americas and approved the creation of the Inter-American Committee on Education [AG/RES. 1859 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly convoked the XVIII Inter-American Travel Congress to consider "The Role of Hemispheric Cooperation to Address the New Challenges of the Tourism Sector." It asked the Congress to consider and pronounce itself on its future operations and structure so CIDI, and ultimately the General Assembly, might adopt the corresponding resolutions [AG/RES. 1860 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) was instructed to prosecute its efforts to mobilize external resources for fellowship, scholarship, and training programs, including the Special Caribbean Fellowships Program. The Assembly took note of the various initiatives developed by the IACD for the leveraging or mobilization of external resources to expand the OAS fellowship and training programs, and asked the General Secretariat to expand and consolidate the mechanisms and strategies aimed at enlisting the cooperation of the private sectors and academic institutions at the international level [AG/RES. 1862 (XXXII-O/02)].

The member states were urged to ratify the Protocols of Washington and Managua. The Assembly extended the period during which its resolution AG/RES. 2 (XXII-E/96), "Participation of Member States That Have Not Ratified the Protocol of Managua in the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) When Said Protocol Enters into Force," will remain in force until the next regular session of the General Assembly, which will review the situation if, at that time, there are still member states that have not ratified the Protocol of Managua [AG/RES. 1863/02 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly encouraged member states to develop strategies for the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change through their development policy and planning initiatives. It also instructed the General Secretariat to support the CARICOM countries and the programs of the Caribbean Climate Change Centre aimed at promoting adaptation to climate change and in building a greater awareness in the Americas about climate change issues [AG/RES. 1864 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly instructed CIDI to identify opportunities for strengthening cooperation in the OAS in light of the results of the Conference of Monterrey on Financing for Development. It also resolved that the results of that analysis were to be submitted to the Permanent Executive Committee of CIDI and the Permanent Council of the Organization for consideration. The Assembly also asked the Secretary General to carry out consultations with inter-American institutions and other multilateral entities participating in the Conference with a view to convoking a meeting with them that would take place at OAS headquarters. Its objective would be to agree on specific actions that would enable member states of the Organization to benefit from the results of the Monterrey Conference [AG/RES. 1865 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly took note of the annual report of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development and expressed satisfaction with it, and recognized the work carried out by CIDI and its Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) [AG/RES. 1866 (XXXII-O/02)]. The Assembly stressed the importance of holding the First Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Culture to discuss cultural diversity. It thanked the Government of Colombia for its generous offer of the site for holding this Meeting at Cartagena de Indias, on July 12-13, 2002 [AG/RES. 1868 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly expressed its satisfaction with the work of the Inter-American Juridical Committee in dealing with the priority concerns of the Organization in the area of law and, especially, to recognize the support the Committee provided to the General Assembly and the Permanent Council in preparing the studies requested of it and its support and participation in the process that concluded with the adoption of the Inter-American Democratic Charter. It thanked the Inter-American Juridical Committee for the work it prepared for the Sixth Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law and asked that it continue to assist with preparations for the next CIDIP. The Assembly encouraged the Inter-American Juridical Committee to continue to promote the holding of regular joint meetings with the legal advisors at the ministries of foreign affairs of OAS member states. It underscored once again the importance of the Course on International Law and resolved to support every effort to enable more professors and students from all subregions to attend the course. It noted with satisfaction the new agenda adopted by the Inter-American Juridical Committee for its 61st regular meeting and recommended, once again, that it concentrate its efforts on the issues indicated to it as being of priority interest to the Organization [AG/RES.1844 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly endorsed and transmitted to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights the observations and recommendations that the Permanent Council made of its annual report. It reiterated that the judgments of the Court were final and not subject to appeal. It instructed the Permanent Council to submit a proposed budget for 2004 that included an effective and adequate increase in the economic resources allocated to the Court. The Assembly also urged the OAS member states to consider, as early as possible, the signature and ratification of or accession to, as the case may be, the American Convention on Human Rights and other instruments of the system, including acceptance of the binding jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights [AG/RES. 1850 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly received with satisfaction the Permanent Council's report on the member states' observations and recommendations on the report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and recommended to the Commission that it continue to take into account the concerns and observations of the member states on its annual reports. It invited the Commission to consider the possibility of including in its annual report information on what the States were doing to follow-up on Commission recommendations. It also invited the Commission to review the criteria and indicators on that subject in the report for this year. It urged member states to consider, as early as possible, the signature and ratification of or accession to, as appropriate, all instruments of the inter-American human rights system. It instructed the Permanent Council to present a proposed budget for 2004 that includes an effective and adequate increase in the economic resources allocated to the Commission. It also instructed the Permanent Council to devote a regular meeting in 2002 to considering the topic "freedom of thought and expression." The Assembly urged the IACHR to continue to promote the observance and protection of human rights, in keeping with the provisions governing its competence and operations, in particular, the OAS Charter, the American Convention on Human Rights, and the Commission's Statute and Rules of Procedure. The Assembly recognized the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and encouraged it in the important work it had been carrying out to protect and promote human rights in the Hemisphere and, in that connection, urged the member states to continue lending their cooperation and support [AG/RES. 1894 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly recognized the important work being done by the Inter-American Commission of Women, the Inter-American Children's Institute –with special congratulations on its 75th anniversary-, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, and the Pan American Health Organization, underscoring its one hundredth anniversary. It urged the organs, agencies and entities of the Organization to include in their reports a section on the quantifiable results obtained, as well as a detailed report on the measures adopted to put into practice the Inter-American Program to Promote the Human Rights of Women and Equity, Equality and Gender, and to incorporate the gender perspective. The Assembly reiterated that annual reports must be submitted within the regulatory time period, i.e., 90 days before the start of the General Assembly. It urged the organs, agencies and entities to approve their reports by the procedures appropriate in each case, no less than 120 days prior to the start of a session of the General Assembly [AG/RES. 1883 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly took note of the programs and projects conducted by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) in furtherance of the mandates contained in the plans of action of the Second and Third Summits of the Americas regarding drug abuse control. It urged the member states, permanent observers and international institutions to continue helping to fund the Commission's programs and projects. It urged the member states, permanent observers and international trade institutions to endeavor to maintain and strengthen trade preference systems that support alternative development programs. The Assembly also took note of the "Progress Report in Drug Control 2001,

Implementation of Recommendations from the First Evaluation Round,” and urged the member states to comply with those recommendations. The General Assembly instructed CICAD to assist the member states with development of uniform data collection systems; to assist member states in improving their control mechanisms to prevent the diversion of chemical substances used in the manufacture of controlled illicit drugs and pharmaceuticals; to assist member states that so request in establishing and implementing Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs); to continue to provide technical and financial assistance for the implementation of alternative development projects in the member states affected by the presence of illicit crops, and to enhance their mechanisms for preventing the diversion of firearms. It asked CICAD to send the recommendations it deemed pertinent to the preparatory body of the Special Conference on Security [AG/RES. 1882 (XXXII-O/02)].

The Assembly recognized the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission’s constant efforts to facilitate and promote the development of telecommunications in the Hemisphere [AG/RES. 1843 (XXXII-O/02)].

It also expressed its recognition of the activities of the United Nations, the Central American Integration System and the Caribbean Community, under the cooperation agreements between the OAS General Secretariat, the Secretariats of the UN, the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). The Assembly asked the Secretary General to continue to reinforce technical cooperation activities, including those with the General Secretariat of the Association of Caribbean States [AG/RES. 1893 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly welcomed the establishment, in Santiago, Chile, of the Office of the Regional Advisor to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and encouraged the organs of the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights to establish ties with that Office. The Assembly also invited the organs of the inter-American system and of the United Nations system to continue and step up efforts for mutual collaboration to strengthen human rights in the Hemisphere and to promote their full effectiveness, in the framework of the existing cooperation agreements between the two organizations [AG/RES. 1899 (XXXII-O/02)].

Modernization of the OAS

The General Assembly took note of the progress made and measures adopted by the Permanent Council and the Secretary General in the Organization’s modernization and restructuring process. It instructed the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly to make the necessary arrangements with the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) to ensure that the SIRG meets at least once each year at the ministerial level, at the same time and place as the General Assembly. It also instructed the Permanent Council to examine the relationship between the OAS and the IADB and make recommendations to the General Assembly and the IADB for modifying the IADB’s structure and basic instruments to the extent necessary to clarify and obtain consensus on its status with respect to the OAS, including the principle of civilian oversight and the democratic formation of its authorities. It also instructed the General Secretariat to prepare a proposal for providing more appropriate facilities for conferences and meetings at headquarters [AG/RES. 1848 (XXXII-O/02)].

Women

The Assembly reaffirmed the governments’ commitment to integrate the gender perspective into their national programs and policies. It urged the Secretary General to continue his efforts to implement the

objectives of the Inter-American Program and promote the integration of a gender perspective into the Organization's activities, policies, programs, projects, and agendas. The Assembly also instructed the Secretary General and the Permanent Council to continue allocating to the Inter-American Commission of Women, in the program-budget for 2003, the human and financial resources it needs to act as an organ for follow-up, coordination, and evaluation of the Inter-American Program and of actions taken to implement that Program, bearing in mind the other priorities of the Organization [AG/RES. 1853 (XXXII-O/02)].

The General Assembly urged the Secretary General to reaffirm the urgent goal that women should occupy, by the year 2005, 50% of posts at each level within the OAS organs, agencies and entities, particularly at the P-5 level and above. It also called upon the Secretary General to continue to make gender equity and equality one of the priorities in his continuing efforts to establish a new management culture in the Organization [AG/RES. 1872 (XXXII-O/02)].

Children

The General Assembly urged the member states to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction of October 25, 1980; the Inter-American Convention on the International Return of Children, of July 15, 1989; the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in respect of Intercountry Adoption, of May 29, 1993; and the Hague Convention on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Co-operation in respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children, of October 19, 1996. It convened a meeting of government experts on the subject of the international abduction of children by one of their parents, to be held at the headquarters of the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN), on August 12 and 13, 2002. The Assembly also recommended that the meeting of government experts consider preparing an inter-American program on cooperation to prevent and remedy cases of international abduction of children by one of their parents, with specific objectives, including the establishment of a network for the exchange of information and for cooperation among the competent national bodies in member states. It gave instructions for the recommendations of the meeting of government experts to be submitted to the IIN Directing Council [AG/RES. 1891 (XXXII-O/02)].

Indigenous peoples

The General Assembly reaffirmed as a priority of the Organization of American States the adoption of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, emphasizing the importance of participation by indigenous peoples in the process of elaborating the Draft Declaration. It commended the progress made at the special meeting of the Working Group to Prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, held at OAS headquarters from March 11 to 15, 2002, in that it strengthened the process of open and transparent dialogue among the OAS member states and representatives of indigenous peoples. The Assembly instructed the Permanent Council to adopt measures to strengthen the process of ongoing dialogue with representatives of indigenous peoples to achieve prompt and successful conclusion of negotiations on the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. It instructed the Secretary General to enhance coordination, awareness, and promotion relating to activities on indigenous issues among the various bodies and dependencies of the Organization [AG/RES. 1851 (XXXII-O/02)].

Administration of the General Secretariat

The Assembly closed the Career Service and decided to phase it out by attrition [AG/RES. 1873 (XXXII-O/02)].

It also approved and authorized the program-budget of the Organization for the fiscal period between January 1 and December 31, 2003 [AG/RES. 1909 (XXXII-O/02)].

PERMANENT COUNCIL

The Permanent Council, one of the organs by means of which the Organization accomplishes its purposes (Article 53 of the Charter), is directly answerable to the General Assembly. The Council is composed of one representative of each member state, especially appointed by the respective government with the rank of ambassador. Chapter XII of the Charter stipulates the functions and responsibilities of the Permanent Council, which takes up any matter entrusted to it by the General Assembly or the Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs. It serves provisionally as the Organ of Consultation, in accordance with the provisions of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance (TIAR). The Permanent Council sees to the maintenance of friendly relations among the member states and assists them in the peaceful settlement of their differences. It acts as Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly, unless the latter decides otherwise.

Chair and Vice Chair

During the period covered in this report, the following ambassadors, permanent representatives chaired the Permanent Council: Margarita Escobar (El Salvador), Roger F. Noriega (United States), Denis G. Antoine (Grenada), Arturo Duarte Ortiz and Víctor Hugo Godoy Morales (Guatemala), and M. A. Odeen Ishmael (Guyana). Serving as Vice Chair of the Permanent Council were Roger F. Noriega (United States), Margarita Escobar (El Salvador) and Walter Niehaus Bonilla (Costa Rica).

Addresses by the Secretary General

The Secretary General addressed the Permanent Council on several occasions in connection with the facilitation efforts in Venezuela and Haiti. He also spoke on a number of issues on the Permanent Council's agenda, including an address on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Inter-American Democratic Charter.

Presentations by the Assistant Secretary General

The Assistant Secretary General presented reports and on a number of occasions made observations about topics on the Permanent Council's agenda, among them the following: the facilitation efforts in Haiti; the diversion of Nicaraguan weapons to the Self-Defense Brigades in Colombia; the W. Averell Harriman Democracy Award, and the anniversary of the Discovery of the Americas: Encounter of Two Worlds.

Visits to the Permanent Council

The Council welcomed the following presidents and officials: the President of Peru, the Honorable Alejandro Toledo; the President of Nicaragua, the Honorable Enrique José Bolaños Geyer; the Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis, His Excellency Dr. Denzil Llewellyn Douglas; the Vice President of Colombia, Francisco Santos; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay, His Excellency Didier Operti; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Suriname, Her Excellency Maria E. Levens; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, Her Excellency Carolina Barco Isakson; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bolivia, His Excellency Carlos Saavedra Bruno; and the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of

Costa Rica, Elayne Whyte. It also received the following dignitaries: Ambassador Jorge Alberto Lozoya, Secretary of the Institute of Ibero-American Cooperation; Antonio Vives from the Inter-American Development Bank; Fernando Carrillo, Senior Specialist with the State and Civil Society Division of the Inter-American Development Bank; Inés Bustillo, Director of the Office of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Washington; Ambassador Peter F. Allgeier, Associate U.S Trade Representative for the Western Hemisphere; Alejandro Bonasso, Director of the Inter-American Children's Institute; Dr. Antonio Augusto Cançado Trindade, President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; Ambassador Morris D. Busby, Special Representative of the Secretary General on the diversion of Nicaraguan weapons to the United Self-Defense Units of Colombia; and Ambassador David Lee, Chief of the OAS Special Mission for Strengthening Democracy in Haiti.

Resolutions

The resolutions approved during the period covered by this report concerned the following: vote of thanks to the people and Government of Barbados; venue and date of the thirty-third and thirty-fourth regular sessions of the General Assembly; support for the process of dialogue in Venezuela; support for strengthening democracy in Haiti; renovation of the Simon Bolivar Room and the space formerly occupied by the Columbus Memorial Library Stacks in the Main OAS Building; support for Nicaragua in the fight against corruption; permanent observer status for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the State of Qatar; sixtieth anniversary of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture; venue, agenda and date of the Second High-level Meeting of Special Security Concerns of Small Island States; adoption of the guidelines on developing national defense policy and doctrine papers; establishment of the date, agenda, calendar, and rules of procedure of the Meeting of Experts on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the Region; use of excess resources of the Reserve Subfund for capital investments and to meet OAS mandates; support for the democratic institutional structure in Venezuela and the facilitation efforts of the OAS Secretary General; increasing the 2004 program-budget appropriation for the Inter-American Human Rights System; support for the peaceful resolution of the territorial differendum between Belize and Guatemala; condemnation of terrorist acts in Colombia, and support for the constitutional Government of the Republic of Bolivia.

INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT

The Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) is an organ of the Organization of American States and is directly answerable to the General Assembly. It has decision-making authority in matters related to partnership for development and was established when the Protocol of Managua entered into force on January 29, 1996 (Chapter XIII). CIDI comprises all the member states of the Organization, which designate one principal representative each, of ministerial or equivalent rank, whom the respective government appoints. It may create such subsidiary bodies and organs as it deems necessary to perform its functions properly. Its purpose is to promote cooperation among the American States to achieve their integral development and, in particular, to help eliminate extreme poverty, pursuant to the provisions of the Charter, especially those set forth in Chapter VII with respect to the economic, social, educational, cultural, scientific, and technological fields. CIDI holds at least one meeting each year at the ministerial or equivalent level, and may convene such others as it deems pertinent in its area of competence. Execution and coordination of the respective activities are the responsibility of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development.

Seventh regular meeting of CIDI

CIDI held its seventh regular meeting at Organization headquarters on May 10, 2002. All the member states were represented at the meeting, which was chaired by Ambassador Ramón Quiñones, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic. The Vice Chair was Mr. Federico Villegas, Alternate Representative of Argentina to the Organization.

CIDI elected five members of the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development. The delegations of Canada, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala and the United States were elected by acclamation. These delegations will serve two-year terms.

As provided in Article 31.c of CIDI's Statutes, the Council received offers of voluntary contributions to the Special Multilateral Fund of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (FEMCIDI) from the delegations of Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Chile, Honduras, Guyana, Ecuador, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Peru and the United States.

Through resolution CIDI/RES. 113 (VII-O/02), the Council reiterated that poverty is a priority and abiding concern for the member states and that the Organization must support their efforts to bring down poverty levels in the hemisphere. CIDI recommended to the General Assembly that a high-level meeting be convoked to discuss the challenges that poverty, inequity and social disenfranchisement pose for the inter-American system. The General Assembly did convoke a high-level meeting, which will be held in 2003 and will consider the role that the OAS will have in hemispheric social development. It will also identify vehicles for promoting cooperation for development and sharing of programs that are effective and efficient in combating poverty.

In resolution CIDI/RES. 114 (VII-O/02) CIDI decided to follow-up on the "Monterrey Consensus," agreed to at the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in March 2002, and adopted the measures necessary to pinpoint opportunities that would strengthen the Organization's

cooperation to help member states gain access to the development financing instruments and mechanisms cited by that Conference.

In resolution CIDI/RES. 118 (VII-O/02), the Council confirmed its support for the General Secretariat's trade- and integration-related technical assistance activities with the FTAA process and with specialized regional, subregional and multilateral institutions. It also reiterated its backing of the activities being conducted to mainstream trade into development plans and poverty-reduction strategies, in keeping with the new strategy of the World Trade Organization. Through resolution CIDI/RES. 120 (VII-O/02), CIDI established the eight Nonpermanent Specialized Committees (CENPES) for the 2002 evaluation exercise and decided each one's membership.

Among other measures, CIDI convoked the following ministerials: the XVIII Inter-American Travel Congress; the First Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Culture, held in Colombia in July 2002; the XIII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor, which will be held in Brazil in October 2003; the Third Meeting of Ministers of Education, to be held in Mexico in 2003; the First Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Science and Technology; the meeting of the Social Development Committee; and the Third Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports, to be held in Mexico in 2003.

Sectoral ministerials

First Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Culture

The First Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Culture was held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, July 12 and 13, 2002. The theme was cultural diversity, with a view to furthering hemispheric cooperation on this issue and creating an enabling environment to promote a recognition and appreciation of cultural and linguistic diversity in the countries of the Americas. Chairing the meeting was Mrs. Araceli Morales López, Minister of Culture of Colombia. Mr. Don Boudria, Minister of State and Leader of the Government in Canada's House of Commons, and Mrs. Otilia Lux de Coti, Minister of Culture of Guatemala, were elected First and Second Vice Chairs, respectively.

The Meeting considered the relevance of cultural diversity in the context of public policy in general and not just cultural policies. Emphasis was placed on the need to take cultural diversity into account when formulating educational, environmental, labor, communication and other policies. It also recognized the importance of promoting civil society's participation in the design and formulation of cultural and development policies, so that those policies are representative of the various peoples and cultures that live in the hemisphere. It also stated that while individuals and communities alike had to enjoy the benefits that accrued from an appreciation of and respect for cultural diversity, they also had to share the responsibility of shaping and effecting cultural policy and becoming active and permanent creators of culture.

Two concrete lines of action were brought up, having to do with the creation of the permanent Forum for culture in the American States and the Inter-American Cultural Policy Observatory. Both processes will, in the near term, make it possible to conduct activities that will ultimately make it possible to achieve the stated long-term objectives.

Finally, the meeting considered and approved the Declaration and Plan of Action of Cartagena de Indias which recommends the creation of the Inter-American Committee on Culture within CIDI,

enabling and facilitating exchange on policy issues and cultural diversity. Particular attention was given to that Committee's mandate to conduct a feasibility study for creation of an Inter-American Cultural Policy Observatory. The Delegation of Mexico offered to host the first preparatory meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Culture, an offer that was accepted by acclamation.

Inter-American Committees in the CIDI framework

Nonpermanent Specialized Committees

The Nonpermanent Specialized Committees (CENPES) provide CIDI with technical support in dealing with specialized matters or to develop certain aspects of inter-American cooperation in the Strategic Plan's priority areas.

The Sixth Meeting of the CENPES, convoked by CEPCIDI, was held at Organization headquarters on October 9 and 10, 2002. Thirty-two experts, selected by CIDI, formed eight committees, one committee for each priority area in the Strategic Plan: Education; Economic Diversification; Market Access and Free Trade; Social Development and Productive Employment; Scientific Development and Transfer and Sharing of Technology; Democratic Institution-Building; Sustainable Development and Environment; and Sustainable Tourism Development.

The sector-specific CENPES technically evaluated and qualified the projects in partnership for development that formed the programming proposal that the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development submitted to receive funding with resources from the Special Multilateral Fund of CIDI (FEMCIDI) 2002. The CENPES analyzed and evaluated 110 projects submitted by thirty-one (31) member states.

The programming of the 2002 FEMCIDI technical cooperation activities, for execution in 2003, was approved by the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development in November 2002 and includes ninety-three (93) projects for a total of US \$6,549,094.

The breakdown of the FEMCIDI 2002 resources by sectoral account is as follows: 23 projects in education, totaling US \$1,631,565; 5 projects in culture, totaling US \$153,518; 8 projects in trade, for US \$695,000; 18 projects in social development, for US \$848,712; 21 projects in science and technology, for a total of US \$1,598,245; 5 projects in democracy, for a total of US \$412,373; 9 projects in environment, for US \$771,365; and 4 projects in tourism for a total of US \$438,316.

By geographic area, the FEMCIDI 2002 resources broke down as follows: 30.95% for the English-speaking Caribbean, Belize, Guyana and Suriname; 27.94% for the Central American countries, Panama and the Dominican Republic; 15.07% for the Andean Group countries; 14.09% for the MERCOSUR countries; and 11.95% for Mexico and the United States.

Permanent Executive Committee of CIDI

During the period covered in this report, the Permanent Executive Committee of CIDI (CEPCIDI) held 9 meetings. The seventh regular meeting of CIDI elected Ambassador Ramón Quiñones, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic, as Chairman of CEPCIDI, and Mrs. Margarita Riva-Geoghegan, Alternate Representative of the United States, as CEPCIDI Vice-Chair for the 2002-2003 period.

To discharge its responsibilities, CEPCIDI was supported by the Subcommittee on Partnership for Development, the Subcommittee on Program, Budget and Evaluation, the Working Group charged with organizing the XVIII Inter-American Travel Congress and the Working Group to review the Procedural Handbook of the OAS Fellowship and Training Program.

Among the work accomplished during the period covered in this report, CEPCIDI, through its Working Group, advanced preparations for the XVIII Inter-American Travel Congress. The Government of Guatemala has offered to host the meeting in August 2003. CEPCIDI also received the report of the Third Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development (CIDS) and established a Working Group to follow up on the CIDS mandates.

CEPCIDI was also in charge of the preparations for the seventh regular meeting of CIDI. It considered the meeting's draft agenda and draft calendar, decided the delegations' order of precedence, and prepared the draft resolutions that CIDI would eventually adopt.

In compliance with resolution AG/RES. 1859 (XXXII-O/02), CEPCIDI established the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE) in November 2002 and adopted, *ad referendum* of the next regular meeting of CIDI, the Rules of Procedure for that Committee. The CIE's purpose is to coordinate implementation of the inter-American ministerial dialogue on education in order to follow up on the mandates from the Summits of the Americas and the agreements taken at the Meetings of Ministers of Education, to identify multilateral initiatives and help execute the OAS' policies in partnership for educational development.

II. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Chapter XVI of the Charter describes the functions and attributes of the General Secretariat, the OAS' central and permanent organ headquartered in Washington, D.C. Elected by the General Assembly, the Secretary General directs the General Secretariat, serves as its legal representative and participates in all meetings of the Organization with voice but without vote. The Secretary General has the authority to bring to the attention of the General Assembly or the Permanent Council any matter that, in his judgment, could affect the peace and security of the Hemisphere or the development of the member states. It is the Secretary General's responsibility to establish whatever offices he deems necessary within the General Secretariat, to determine the number of staff members, appoint them, regulate their duties and functions, and fix their remuneration. The Assistant Secretary General, also elected by the General Assembly, is the Secretary of the Permanent Council and an advisory officer to the Secretary General, whose functions he performs during the latter's temporary absence or permanent disability. The Assistant Secretary General also acts as the Secretary General's representative in all matters which the latter entrusts to him.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

In keeping with the policy and practice decided by the General Assembly and with the pertinent decisions of the Councils, the Office of the Secretary General, under the provisions of Article 111 of the Charter, directs the functions associated with the promotion of economic, social, juridical, educational, scientific, and cultural relations among all the member states of the Organization.

Activities

This past year, the Office of the Secretary General focused its energies on the hemispheric agenda and the mandates entrusted by the political organs of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Summits of the Heads of State and Government of the region. Accordingly, it buttressed and complemented the efforts made by the OAS' various organs, departments, and units over a wide spectrum of areas: promotion and defense of representative democracy; defense of human rights; promotion of integration and free trade as tools of prosperity; development of tourism and telecommunications; the fight against poverty and discrimination; environmental preservation and sustainable development; fighting crime and prevention of criminal conduct; development of an inter-American legal order; encouraging partnership among the countries of the Americas to achieve prosperity and development; and combating corruption, drug abuse and terrorism.

Support to Democracy

In 2002, much of the effort to strengthen and defend representative democracy was invested in the Haitian and Venezuelan cases. In Haiti, the Secretary General perseveres in his commitment to the negotiations between the government and the various opposition political parties aimed at finding areas of consensus so as to untangle the crisis that erupted as a result of the May 2000 legislative elections. The Secretary General wholeheartedly backed the efforts of Assistant Secretary General Luigi Einaudi and, in furtherance of Permanent Council resolution CP/RES.806, designated Mr. David Lee as chief of the Special Mission for Strengthening Democracy in Haiti and then as his special representative in Haiti. He also appointed Denneth Modeste as Director of the Office of the OAS General Secretariat in Haiti.

The Inter-American Democratic Charter was applied for the first time in the case of Venezuela. When the events of April 11, 2002, caused an alteration of the constitutional regime in Venezuela, the Permanent Council responded with passage of resolution CP/RES.811 (1315/02) "Situation in Venezuela." By mandate of the Permanent Council the Secretary General traveled to Venezuela in order to be able to report on the situation. That report was presented to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth special session, held April 18.

Since the time the Permanent Council and the General Assembly gave the Secretary General his mandate to continue following the situation in Venezuela, the OAS has been providing that country with active support. At the invitation of the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Venezuelan opposition, represented by the Democratic Coordinator, the OAS undertook the mission of bringing about rapprochement with a view to dialogue. The two parties agreed to ask the Secretary General to act as facilitator in this process. Once this phase was underway, a document

was signed, titled “Working Summary,” containing the parameters for beginning a Forum for Negotiation and Agreement. It also expressly reiterated the request that the Secretary General serve as facilitator.

The first meeting between the parties was on November 8 and since then the partnership of the Organization of American States, the Carter Center and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has worked hard to assist that process of dialogue. The Forum has been functioning ever since, even with the difficulties posed by the deeply polarized climate. An important document has been signed thus far, titled “Declaration of Principles for Peace and Democracy in Venezuela.” Through the Secretary General or his representative, the OAS will continue to assist Venezuela whenever and however the Government requests and will provide whatever technical assistance may be needed to hold an electoral process.

Hemispheric Security

In Executive Order No. 02-06 of June 27, 2002, the Secretary General mapped out his strategy for institution-building in the area of security. That Executive Order has not been fully implemented for a variety of reasons, among them budgetary constraints and the energy being invested into events in Venezuela and Haiti, to name just a few of the issues that have consumed so much of the Secretary General’s and Assistant Secretary General’s time. However, that order is essential as a roadmap for a thorough examination of the institutional services to address security-related issues in the OAS.

It was decided to form three offices within the General Secretariat to institutionalize and coordinate secretariat services to special missions whose task is to resolve international conflicts and the Organization’s security-related activities: the Corps of Special Representatives of the Secretary General; the Office of Special Policy Services, and the Coordination Committee for Special Policy Matters.

Prevention of conflicts

After two years of work, the facilitation process to resolve the territorial *differendum* between Belize and Guatemala was completed with the presentation of the facilitators’ proposals for an honorable and equitable solution.

Back in May 2000, the governments of Belize and Guatemala, in the presence of the OAS Secretary General as a Witness of Honor, agreed to seek a final solution to their territorial *differendum*. The procedure would involve a Panel of Facilitators and OAS facilitation of the process. The parties also agreed to create an Adjacency Zone extending one kilometer on either side of the border, to protect the population living near the border from any possible excesses on the part of any authority. Accordingly, it was decided that the Adjacency Zone would be policed by joint patrols, and that either country would have to give the other advance notice of troop deployments.

In its proposal, the Panel of Facilitators defines the coordinates of the land boundary between the two countries and calls upon the two countries to form a technical committee for the demarcation and densification of the boundary and for its maintenance thereafter. The Panel examines the case of the village of Santa Rosa and suggests that its inhabitants can either remain where they are or be moved to a place of their choosing, funded by the Development Trust Fund.

The following basic principles were proposed with regard to the maritime issues: the maritime boundary between the territorial seas of Belize and Guatemala is the Equidistance Line; Belize accepts the Bay Closing Line for the bay of Amatique between Cabo Tres Puntas and the South Bank of the River Sarstoon; Guatemala and Honduras accept Belize's published Straight Baseline System; Guatemala and Belize accept Honduras' published Straight Baseline system. Under the proposal, Guatemala was to be granted an access corridor of unrestricted navigational rights extending for two miles on either side of the Belize-Honduras territorial sea equidistance line boundary. The proposal also provides for establishment of a Tripartite Regional Fisheries Management Commission for the Gulf of Honduras under the rotating chairmanship of Belize, Guatemala and Honduras. The Tripartite Commission will, subject to international law, have vested in it authority for the management, long-term conservation and sustainable use of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks located in the Exclusive Economic Zones of Belize, Guatemala and Honduras.

The proposal points out that the Gulf of Honduras is an ecologically diverse transboundary area shared by Belize, Guatemala and Honduras. Because of the economic dependence of the three countries in this area, steps are needed to preserve the viability of that dependence. The mechanism proposed to coordinate and harmonize the preservation of these shared resources is a tri-national, multi-use Ecological Park. The Ecological Park's essential purpose will be conservation of the area's resources, especially the marine resources, and development of sustainable eco-tourism. One particular feature of the regime is that while the three zones are subject to the administrative control exercised by the respective countries when the Treaties of Settlement enter into force, the citizens of the respective countries will be assured of their rights to access and use those areas, while also respecting the conservationist purpose of the Ecological Park and in accordance with the general laws of the respective countries and any decisions taken by the Belize-Guatemala-Honduras Ecological Park Commission.

The proposal also made provision for a Development Trust Fund to promote development in Belize and Guatemala. This fund will be used specifically to relieve extreme poverty and landlessness in the provinces along the border, to establish a special human settlement, to develop and protect the Belize-Guatemala-Honduras Ecological Park, and to put these proposals and the settlement treaties into practice.

Support to the Committee on Hemispheric Security

The General Secretariat provided the Committee on Hemispheric Security with the administrative and technical support needed to discharge the mandates it received from the General Assembly at its Barbados session and from the Quebec Summit of the Americas. The General Secretariat continues to prepare an inventory of confidence- and security-building measures and a list of experts on the subject, which are distributed to the member states every year. The General Secretariat also provided the Committee with advisory assistance and technical support for the preparatory meetings of the Special Conference on Security, to be held in Mexico, including documents like the "Compendium of replies from the member states to the questionnaire on New Approaches to Hemispheric Security" and a number of other documents that examine the question of hemispheric security.

With the cooperation of the United States government, the General Secretariat made headway in developing an electronic system that member states can use to file their reports on the application of

confidence- and security-building measures and to coordinate with related bodies like the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD). This system should be up and running in 2003.

In response to mandates from the General Assembly, the General Secretariat adopted a number of measures to respond to the special security concerns of small island states. It participated in the holding of the Second High-level Meeting on the Special Security Concerns of Small Island States, held in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, January 8 through 10, 2003. At that meeting, the Secretariat presented a report on the progress made in the study on the shipment of nuclear waste through the Caribbean.

In compliance with resolution AG/RES. 1800, the General Secretariat provided administrative and secretariat support to the Consultative Committee of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials.

Prevention of violence

The Inter-American Coalition for the Prevention of Violence, established in June 2000, continued to closely monitor violence-prevention activities. The Coalition members are the OAS, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the World Bank (IBRD), and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). A meeting was held on October 7, 2002, to review the progress made with its strategic plan.

Terrorism (Support to CICTE)

Combating terrorism continues to be a hemispheric priority, both for the community of American nations and for the General Secretariat. Accordingly, the Secretariat has worked to support and meet CICTE's needs and requirements, as it is the OAS' arm in the fight against terrorism.

CICTE held two special sessions, one on October 15 and the other on November 29, 2001. At the epicenter of these sessions were the tragic events that occurred in the United States on September 11 of that year. CICTE held its second regular session in Washington, January 28 and 29, 2002, and its third regular session in El Salvador, January 22 through 24, 2003. The objective of these sessions was to put into action the Hemisphere's political determination to fight this scourge.

At CICTE's second regular session, the OAS member states presented their reports on the measures adopted in compliance with the resolution of the Twenty-third Meeting of Consultation, held in Washington on September 24, 2001. They adopted a document and recommendations and conclusions about measures to be taken to strengthen border controls, financial controls and a new work plan for the Committee. The Secretary General availed himself of the occasion to reiterate his resolute support for CICTE's activities and for the work of fighting and preventing terrorism in the Americas.

At the third regular session, held in El Salvador, the OAS member states reported the considerable progress they had made in adopting effective domestic measures to prevent, combat, and eliminate terrorism. The session underscored the fact that terrorism is a grave threat to democratic values, peace and international security. It also pointed out how the link between terrorism and illicit drug

trafficking, illicit arms trafficking and other forms of transnational organized crime compound the threat. The session also emphasized that the emerging terrorist threats, such as the activities of international terrorist groups and the threats to cyber-security, are such that the member states must be engaged in constant dialogue, to adopt effective preventive measures that anticipate and avert these threats. Finally, the session pointed out that cooperation and coordination should continue to be reinforced within the framework of CICTE.

In furtherance of the 2002-2003 Work Plan, the General Secretariat and CICTE are now focusing on the following issues:

1. That member states that have not yet done so, sign, ratify or accede to the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, the 12 United Nations conventions and protocols on terrorism, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three protocols, and the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters; that they implement the measures called for under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) and the recommendations of the second and third regular sessions of CICTE on border and financial controls; and that they adopt domestic anti-terrorism laws. To date, two countries have ratified the Convention.
2. Support of CICTE to broaden and intensify its efforts to strengthen cooperation among the countries and with relevant regional and international organizations, and to enable it to conduct its training programs and activities for the give-and-take of information and experiences. In particular, to strengthen the partnership among CICTE, the OAS member states, the permanent observers to the OAS, the United Nations Counter Terrorism Committee, other regional organizations and other organs of the inter-American system. CICTE has been accepted as an observer organization in the Financial Action Task Force (FTAF), which is an anti-money laundering group.

At the present time, work is underway to build up CICTE's database and cultivate its points of contact, to conduct on-line courses, training in the implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, a course on border controls and security in cyberspace, among others. CICTE's web page is now receiving as many as 1500 visits a month, its OLAT database has over 400 registered, and its monthly report goes out to more than 200 subscribers.

In recent months, CICTE's human-resource capacity has been augmented with contributions from the General Secretariat, El Salvador, Uruguay and the Inter-American Defense Board. It now has offices in the OAS General Services Building. In the last year, it received monetary donations of some US\$363,399.30, and in-kind donations of close to US\$24,000.

Other activities

In keeping with its functions under the Charter of the Organization, substantive and procedural activities were carried out to discharge specific responsibilities and functions: (i) formal transmittal to the member states of the notices of convocation for the sessions of the General Assembly, meetings of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development and of the Specialized Conferences; (ii) advisory services to the other organs with preparation of the agendas and rules of procedure; (iii)

preparation of the proposed program-budget of the OAS, based on the programs adopted by the councils, organizations and entities whose expenses must be included in that program-budget; once those councils or their permanent committees were consulted, that program-budget was submitted to the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly and then to the Assembly itself; (iv) providing permanent secretariat services to the General Assembly and other organs, to enable them to discharge their mandates; (v) serving as custodian of the documents and records of the Inter-American Conferences, the General Assembly, the Meetings of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the Councils and Specialized Conferences; (vi) serving as depository of the inter-American treaties and agreements and their instruments of ratification, and receiving same; (vii) presentation of the Annual Report on the Organization's activities and financial condition to the thirty-first regular session of the General Assembly, held in Costa Rica; and (viii) maintenance of cooperative relations with the specialized organizations and other national and international organizations, pursuant to the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly or by the councils of the Organization.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Department of Public Information was reorganized under Executive Order 99-2. The Department's purpose is to conduct an information-gathering and reporting program by way of the print press, radio, television, photography, the Internet, reference services, public relations, and production. All this is done to bring news of the OAS to the public and so increase knowledge and understanding of the Organization's purposes, programs, and accomplishments.

Strategic Communications

One of the main goals of Strategic Communications is to increase coverage of the OAS in the U.S. media. Important strides were made in that direction with the unprecedented coverage of the Secretary General's negotiations in Venezuela. Practically all the main media outlets in the United States, as well as numerous European journalists, have had access to the general information meetings that the Secretary General holds in Venezuela and in many cases have had personal interviews as well. The result has been that a number of journalists have written articles specifically about the Secretary General's role. The *Washington Post* carried an editorial in support of the OAS.

Another success was the heightened coverage of the OAS' efforts in Haiti, as more and more journalists want to interview the Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General on this subject. These examples illustrate how important it is to gradually cultivate relations with correspondents throughout the region. More coverage is also being devoted to the OAS' daily activities in Washington, and reporters now view the OAS as the place to turn when there is a crisis in the region.

Strategic Communications also publishes *OAS NEWS*, a bimonthly news bulletin sent to selected audiences throughout the Americas. Some 15,000 copies appear in hard copy and are sent to the OAS' national offices in the member states, so that the latter might distribute them to their local contacts. Copies are also sent to contacts in the media, academe, government and civil society throughout the Americas and to persons in decision-making positions in the observer states and in other multilateral organizations. While budgetary constraints have made it necessary to reduce the size of the bulletin, an expanded, up-to-date version appears on the Web.

Strategic Communications also prepares a series of documents containing basic information about issues that are priorities for the OAS. For people in the media, Capital Hill staffers and the like, these documents, which are periodically updated and available in English and Spanish, are an invaluable source of information on OAS activities. They are published at the Web site and are made available for meetings and conferences.

Multimedia Products and Services

In 2002, the Multimedia Products and Services area continued to extend the OAS' reach and to improve its communications, products and services using electronic media and digital technology. The area is investing in digital video, Internet and the Web page, and preparing new products for new and specific audiences. The respective Unit's work is to project the OAS as a transparent institution taking on the great cross-cutting and interrelated challenges of regional and global importance.

In the past, getting information to and from the entire Hemisphere was a costly and time-consuming proposition. Now, however, the growing global connectivity means that every year millions of people have access to the vast electronic news and information trove available, at no cost, at the OAS Web site. Testimony to the Web site's popularity is that it received over 90 million visits in 2002.

The OAS Web site is constantly growing. The public's reaction to the quality of its design and content has been encouraging. The Department is working on that design and on maintaining the technical quality and editorial consistency of the OAS portal on the Web. Visitors to the OAS Web page come from North America (57%); South America (29%); Europe (9%) and Asia (3%).

An added service has been the Web site devoted to key OAS issues, featuring the OAS' role in dealing with the issues on the inter-American agenda (resolving disputes, gender equality, democracy in the member countries, and so on). An important milestone was achieved when the OAS held the first virtual meeting of the Permanent Council, during which the Secretary General reported, live from Caracas, to the Permanent Council in Washington about his activities in connection with the OAS' facilitation efforts to find a peaceful and constitutional solution to the present situation in Venezuela.

During the period covered in this report, the most important OAS meetings held in Washington and the General Assembly's regular session in Barbados were carried live over the Web. A total of 141 events were covered during the year by carrying them live over the Web and recording them on video to broadcast them live to television channels and networks (like CNN, C-Span, CBC); introducing digital video on the Web page, and distributing video tapes to the OAS missions abroad and to television networks. The events mentioned earlier were also carried over the Web at the news pages, where speeches, high-definition photography, documents and general information were featured.

The anniversary of the Inter-American Democratic Charter attracted a large volume of traffic. A record 20 thousand hits were received, double the average daily number of visits. Visitors navigated the page in search of documents, videos, photographs and press releases the day after the Permanent Council held its official ceremony on September 17.

Increased connectivity has also made it possible to hold global, interactive electronic conferences. Such events not only save on costs, but also make it possible to reach hundreds of participants at very little expense. This year, interactive videoconferencing services were provided and 9 seminars and 14 roundtables on hemispheric issues were carried via the Web.

The roundtable "Despejando Dudas/Today in the Americas", an OAS-produced interactive television program in Spanish and English, is being produced. It is carried regularly over the Internet and is broadcast by *Embassy Television Network* of the United States Department of State, and *Hispanic Information and Telecommunications Network* (HITN). It is also available in the United States using a parabolic dish antenna.

Another product, *Americas Forum/Foro de las Américas*, is an electronic magazine (e-zine) to promote hemispheric dialogue on issues in the region. It features articles of general issue, like news, reports and interviews. *Americas Forum* reaches some 25,000 academics, experts, government personnel, members of Congress, NGOs, journalists, students and other members of civil society.

As part of a video documentary series (*Americas Alive*), a documentary was produced on the history of the Inter-American Commission of Women (Women of the Americas). The video was broadcast on television channels in the member states. Sale of the video to private persons was advertised. The MHz networks aired the program nationwide in the United States. Other programs are in the works for the Americas Alive series, including a number devoted to electoral observation and issues related to women's leadership.

Services have been provided to other areas and units of the General Secretariat. Events like the hearings of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights have been recorded and ceremonies held at OAS headquarters in 2002 for the signing of agreements and treaties have been videotaped.

Radio

Radio continued satellite broadcasting of its daily programs in Spanish for Latin America and in English for the Caribbean. The correspondents service continues to be one of the most effective means of publicizing the OAS' activities via radio. These short notes are easily introduced into the news programs aired by broadcasters in the region. Programs staged in the "talk show" format have had great success, particularly in the Caribbean.

Various events at headquarters, such as the ceremony at which the facilitators presented their proposals for a solution to the differendum between Belize and Guatemala, the signing of agreements, press conferences, meetings of the Permanent Council and the like, were transmitted directly through a number of broadcasters in the member countries. The digitalization of Radio has moved ahead steadily, although for budgetary reasons the project has not yet been completed.

Press

In the period from January through November 2002, 236 press releases were prepared, both in English and Spanish, and were circulated throughout the hemisphere by way of international news agencies, correspondents with the Latin American and Caribbean media at headquarters, radio and television stations, the news media in the OAS member countries, the permanent missions and national offices of the General Secretariat.

A constantly updated database has made extensive coverage of Organization activities possible, even through media operating outside the American hemisphere.

Press also worked closely with the permanent missions to ensure coverage of major events, such as visits by heads of State, foreign ministers and other cabinet members, and high-ranking government dignitaries who visited Organization headquarters.

In addition to being circulated via the media, the materials produced by the Press area were distributed to other areas of the Department of Public Information, like Multimedia, Strategic Relations and Radio, so that those materials could reach as many audiences as possible.

Weekly Report

The Weekly Report was substantially overhauled during this period, with a new format and the addition of electronic photography. Distributed to all General Secretariat staff, it is a succinct summary of all the most recent activities conducted within the Organization. The report is also sent to the Permanent Missions, national offices and even to international news agencies. A number of national offices have created a network for circulating the report that gets it to many government agencies in the member countries and to the local media.

News Bulletin

Every day the Department produces a bulletin of international news that features daily reports on the most significant events occurring in the member states. The information is gleaned from the Spanish international news agency EFE and is not a statement of the views of the General Secretariat. Its purpose is to keep the staff of the General Secretariat informed of the most important political, economic, social and other events occurring in the member states.

Photography

Photographic coverage has been there for all events conducted at General Secretariat headquarters in the period covered by this report. This material has been electronically transmitted to the international news media. The coverage has made it possible to keep the photographic coverage at the OAS' Internet site up to date and has provided specific material for the Weekly Report and graphics to accompany the press releases.

News Clips

News Clips is a summary of news reported by the hemisphere's main media. It is prepared on a daily basis and circulated by e-mail to General Secretariat officials and to the permanent missions. Its purpose is to provide a current perspective on the issues being given the heaviest coverage in the international press, news related to the Organization itself and news on the most important political, economic and social topics.

Americas Magazine

The General Secretariat published six issues of *Americas* magazine last year, in English and Spanish. A total of 55,000 copies of each issue were printed; of that, 30,000 were sent to subscribers worldwide and 18,000 were sent to magazine vendors in the United States and Canada. There is also large-scale, controlled distribution to governments and institutions in the member states, either directly or by way of the General Secretariat's national offices. The proceeds from subscriptions and sales covered approximately 40% of the publication's total cost.

The most important initiative last year was the Secretariat's efforts to follow the recommendations of the "Three-Year Plan to Strengthen *Americas* magazine's Financial Situation." The magazine's staff has actively sought out new educational markets for the magazine, offering special sales promotions to teachers, university libraries and independent book sellers in order to expand the subscriber base and sales at magazine stands. The Offices of the OAS General Secretariat in the member states have

cooperated with the *Americas* staff to negotiate contracts with magazine distributors, facilitate the importation of *Americas* and increase sales abroad. The General Secretariat has submitted another proposal to start publishing a French edition again, and has received a pledge of support from one member state and one permanent observer.

The General Secretariat has conducted a number of campaigns to increase and promote sales of the magazine, using a variety of marketing strategies. As part of the winter 2002 campaign, more than 850,000 letters were sent to potential subscribers, with a special offer of a complimentary copy of the 2003 *Americas* agenda. The 2003 agenda is dedicated to the Inter-American Commission of Women, to mark its 75th anniversary. *Americas* is also sold online at portals *MagazineCity.net* and *doctormag.com*. All proceeds from the sale of *Americas* were used to cover production and publication expenses.

DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL SERVICES

Under Executive Order 96-4, the purpose of the Department of Legal Services is to deal with legal matters that arise in connection with the Organization's activities, its relations with other entities, and application of its internal rules and regulations. The Department accomplishes its objectives by providing advisory legal services and representation in litigation and negotiations. It also helps draft legal documents for the General Secretariat, the political bodies and other organs within the Organization. Given its nature, the work is extensive, varied and intensive.

Inquiries answered in writing

The Department's log shows that it answered 461 individual inquiries from the General Secretariat's various offices, from the political bodies and from the delegations. Among these were 227 legal opinions and review of 131 agreements. The main client was the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD), with 81 queries answered in writing. The following were among the other areas the Department advised during 2002: the Office of the Assistant Secretary General (which would include as well the Secretariat of Conferences, the Offices of the General Secretariat in the member states, and the Columbus Memorial Library), with 56 inquiries answered; the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, with 53 inquiries; the Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment, at 36; the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), at 20; the Retirement and Pension Fund, at 16; the Office of the Secretary General's Chief of Staff, at 14, and the Trade Unit, at 13.

Advisory services to the political organs

The Department provided legal advisory services at sessions of the General Assembly and the meetings of the Permanent Council and of the Joint Working Group on the Restructuring and Modernization of the OAS, especially with regard to administrative, budgetary and procedural matters. It also advised the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters (CAAP) and prepared a number of legal opinions, draft resolutions, draft reports and working papers for the chair and delegates. Its contribution was important in the formulation of the legal grounds for amendment of Chapter III of the General Standards relating to staff contracts and the drafting of the text adopted by the General Assembly in resolution AG/RES. 1873 (XXXII-O/02). It also prepared written opinions that facilitated the Permanent Council's decision making as regards the surpluses in the Reserve Subfund and the remodeling of the meeting rooms in the Main Building.

The Department advised the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) and its subsidiary organs on administrative, budgetary and regulatory matters. Working with the Executive Secretariat of the IACD, it prepared a set of draft guidelines for IACD administration of supplemental funds, which its Management Board approved. It also participated in meetings held in preparation for establishment of an Inter-American Committee on Education and an Inter-American Committee on Tourism.

The Department of Legal Services was legal advisor to the Third Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL) and to the Tenth and Eleventh Meetings of the Permanent

Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL), where it prepared a number of draft resolutions and advised both chairs of those meetings and the various representatives. At the request of a number of delegations, it prepared a draft Protocol of Amendment to the Inter-American Convention on the International Amateur Radio Permit, which will be presented to the General Assembly for approval at its next regular session.

The Department of Legal Services worked with the Assembly of Delegates of the Inter-American Commission of Women and answered a number of questions posed by its Executive Secretariat during the course of the year. Under the Cooperation Agreement with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the Department served as legal advisor at the XX Regular Meeting of its Executive Committee and advised the Institute on several legal matters. It also provided legal advisory services to the Inter-American Defense Board and the Inter-American Defense College on issues related to personnel and fundraising. It answered questions from the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) about cooperation agreements and personnel.

The Department prepared new provisions on policies and procedures for the Retirement and Pension Committee to consider, updated existing ones and counseled the Committee and the Secretary Treasurer on a variety of subjects. The Department of Legal Services also provided advisory assistance to the Rowe Fund Committee and wrote the draft executive order when the Committee's secretariat services were established. It also reviewed and drafted various forms and instructions to streamline the Rowe Fund Secretariat's procedures.

With an attorney detailed at CICAD almost full time, the Department of Legal Services played a particularly important role in the activities associated with the Commission's programs in legal development, control of firearms and money laundering. It also provided advisory assistance on preparation and negotiation of cooperation agreements and on the execution of projects in money laundering, control of firearms, alternative development and the fight against drug trafficking. It represented the Executive Secretariat in various forums and prepared a report for the Committee on Hemispheric Security on arms dealers. The Department also advised the task force created by the Secretary General to investigate a case of diversion of arms.

Advisory services to the General Secretariat

The Department of Legal Services helped the Secretary General's Office prepare and draft the 8 executive orders issued in 2002 and with other matters as well. It advised the Assistant Secretary General's Office on various matters related to the OAS' verification missions, such as the wording of the Agreement for the Special OAS Mission to Strengthen Democracy in Haiti. It also advised the Conferences area on the wording and revision of agreements and contracts related to conferences and events held in the various member states, and helped resolve some business problems that arose in connection with those conferences and events. It also advised the Model General Assembly program and the Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States on the wording and revision of various lease contracts for office space, and on tax and labor issues.

At the request of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, the Department participated in the negotiation of an agreement with the Government of Brazil for use of office space for the seat of the Inter-American Juridical Committee.

The Department of Legal Services provided advisory services to the Executive Secretariat of the IACD by answering legal questions, helping it to draft and negotiate agreements, polishing the model agreements for project execution, drafting agreements for execution of specific projects like the agreements with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the Ministry of Education of Guatemala, and reviewing a general cooperation agreement with the Government of Brazil. At the express request of the Executive Secretariat of the IACD, legal audits were done of two projects being carried out in El Salvador. The Department also continued to help prepare the legal documents related to the execution of a large project to rebuild houses in communities affected by Hurricane Mitch in Honduras.

The Department continued to collaborate with the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD) on organizing and reviewing agreements and contracts for the electoral observation missions, for performance of demining operations, for projects on election automation in various electoral processes, for projects in State modernization and promotion of citizen participation in electoral processes, and for staging seminars and training programs in a variety of related areas. One staff member of the Department served as an observer and legal advisor on the UPD's Electoral Observation Missions for the presidential elections in Colombia and Ecuador.

The Department of Legal Services also cooperated with the Unit on Sustainable Development and Environment, assisting it with preparation and review of project-execution agreements in various countries. It was particularly instrumental in negotiating with the World Bank and with the countries involved during preparation and review of the agreements and contracts for the project on environmental protection and sustainable management of the Guaraní Aquifer System, to be funded by the Global Environment Facility.

The Department provided advisory services to the Inter-sectoral Unit on Tourism concerning preparation and review of projects in various countries and establishment of a small fund designed to raise external resources for the development of small hotels in the Caribbean. Advisory assistance was provided to the Unit on Social Development, Education and Culture related to the drafting of agreements with organizations like the Regional Centre for the Promotion of Books in Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLALC), the Organization of the Wider Caribbean on Monuments and Sites (CARIMOS), UNESCO and the Andrés Bello Agreement.

It also provided advisory assistance for the negotiation and preparation of agreements with Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and with the governments of Norway, Sweden and Denmark under which those countries have been providing generous resources for projects run by the UPD and the Trade Unit. At the Trade Unit's request, the Department took active part in the negotiation and drafting of the principal legal documents associated with the transfer of the Secretariat of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) to Mexico.

In the case of the Secretariat for Management, the Department advised on, negotiated, drafted and reviewed the legal papers related to the remodeling work on the General Secretariat Building (GSB), including the contracts for the construction work, elevators, security equipment, furnishings, transfer of electronic data and telecommunications. It continued to provide advisory assistance to that area on administrative matters, the application of the rules in concrete cases (requests for hearings and reconsideration, reclassification of posts, repatriation benefits, the educational subsidy, home leave and the like), and on personnel policies and financial and budgetary matters.

The Department continued collaborating with the Inspector General's Office by reviewing the terms of reference of the contracts to conduct audits in the various member states, answering queries related to the Organization's legal system and participating in audits of projects and cases, providing the necessary legal grounds. The Department also continued to advise the Museum of Art of the Americas with the language and review of the legal paperwork involved with the art exhibits and advised it on other exhibit-related matters such as cost, shipping and insurance. It continued to provide advisory assistance on business and tax matters to nonprofit institutions associated with the Organization, such as the Inter-American Studies Foundation for the Model OAS General Assembly, the Organization of the Women of the Americas, the "Young Americas Business Trust" and the Foundation for the Americas.

In 2002, Department staff again continued to participate in various committees and working groups within the Secretariat, as full members and/or legal advisors. These included the Insurance Committee, the Selection and Promotion Committee and the Sales Committee.

Litigation

The Secretariat defended the General Secretariat in an 800 thousand dollar case brought to the Administrative Tribunal by a former staff member whose fixed-term contract had not been renewed. The Tribunal upheld the General Secretariat's decision, although it did order the Secretariat to pay attorney's fees in the sum of three thousand dollars and complainant compensation in the amount of one thousand dollars. The Department also represented the General Secretariat in two other complaints, both involving reclassification. In those cases, the Tribunal recognized the recommendation made by the specialist in job classification who had been hired under the rules governing the Administrative Tribunal. It also defended the General Secretariat in another case concerning termination of a contract, which was dismissed without prejudice on procedural grounds.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The activities of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) are responsive to the provisions of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat, Chapter XV of the Budgetary and Financial Rules, and Executive Order No. 95-05. Those provisions establish the internal audit function that helps the Secretary General and the governing bodies monitor to ensure that the various levels of administration are fully discharging their responsibilities with regard to the programs and resources of the General Secretariat. The purpose is to ensure a systematic review of the General Secretariat's operating procedures and financial transactions at headquarters and at its offices in the member states. The Inspector General's Office also checks to ensure that the established policies, rules and practices are being observed and carried out correctly, efficiently and economically.

Audits

In the period between March 1, 2002 and February 28, 2003, the Office of the Inspector General conducted 14 audits to check operations and compliance, for a systematic review of internal accounting and management controls. During the Office's audits of operations, it endeavored to cover as much activity at headquarters as possible. The audits focused on the higher-risk operations and on those with the most potential for yielding greater efficiency, economy and effectiveness. The Office of the Inspector General operated independently, with unrestricted access to all functions, activities, operations, records, properties and staff of the General Secretariat, both at headquarters and in the field.

During this period, the Office performed the functions associated with audits at headquarters, to evaluate the internal and administrative controls and to ensure that OAS directives and procedure were being observed. The Inspector General's Office reviewed the operations of the ORACLE – NT Server system; Applications and Security and implementation of the ORACLE 11i administered by the Secretariat for Management: by the Department of Technology and Facility Services (DTFS) and by the Department of Management Analysis, Planning and Support Services (MAPSS), the Leo S. Rowe Commemorative Fund, the Leo S. Rowe Pan American Fund, internal and operational controls within the Secretariat of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), internal and operational controls within the Department of Financial Services (DFS), and internal controls within the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development, including management projects (IACD). Reviews were also done of the operational and financial activities of the General Secretariat's offices in Uruguay, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname, Panama and Mexico to determine whether they were performing their activities according to the OAS' rules and regulations.

The Office of the Inspector General also reviewed 20 projects executed in various member states, to make certain the agreements were being honored and to determine whether the specified objectives were achieved. The following were among the projects audited: (1) Institutional Strengthening of Basic Education Programming in Rural Communities; (2) Caribbean Heritage Tourism Development; (3) Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of Governments to Implement Development Objectives; (4) Freshwater Resources Management in the Small Islands Developing States; (5) Strengthening

Knowledge/Information Networking in Biotechnology and Food Technology in the Caribbean and with Latin America; (6) Cooperative Strengthening of National Institutions to Enhance Integrated Water Resource Management; (7) Mission Enterprise: Promotion of Rural Economic Development; (8) Diagnosis and Promoting Education Success in Trinidad and Tobago; (9) Strengthening of the Institutional Infrastructure of the Environmental Department; (10) Gender and Media in the Caribbean; (11) Mexico-Central American Regional Cooperation Program on Distance Education; (12) Strengthening of the Activities of the Social Network of Latin America and the Caribbean; (13) Consolidation of Mexico's Integral Cooperation with Central America and the Caribbean; (14) Use of the regional flora as a source of anti-carcinogenic and anti-parasitic drugs; (15) Third Refresher Course in International Law; (16) Standing Program to Train Human Resources in Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Assets; (17) Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM); (18) CICAD: Nursing Schools in the Prevention of Drug Use and Abuse, Social Integration, Health Promotion in Latin America; (19) Generalized Land-Use Evaluation and Management Tool (GLEAM); and (20) Andean Community Antidrug Intelligence School.

Other activities

The Office of the Inspector General continued to monitor to ensure that recommendations from the reports previously issued by this Office were applied. It also continued to provide advice and assistance through its analyses, evaluations, research and recommendations on the activities checked. It participated as an observer in various committees within the General Secretariat.

PROTOCOL OFFICE

The Protocol Office plans and coordinates the official ceremonies of the political bodies of the Organization of American States (OAS), the Permanent Council, the Secretary General, the Assistant Secretary General, and the Executive Secretariats. It serves as liaison between the permanent missions to the OAS and the United States Department of State in matters concerning the privileges and immunities of the members of the missions. It also organizes and coordinates the use of the OAS' Main Building for protocol-related and social functions.

Protocol and Ceremony

The Protocol Office organized the following events: a Protocol Meeting for the Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis; special meetings of the Permanent Council for the visits of the Foreign Minister of Uruguay and the Vice President of Costa Rica; ceremonies and protocol meetings for Pan American Day, for the anniversary of the birth of Simón Bolívar and to commemorate the Discover of America: Encounter of Two Worlds. It also organized and provided protocol-related assistance on the occasion of the visit of the President of the United States, the Honorable George Bush, for an event hosted by the World Affairs Council. It helped organize and stage the meeting of the Montevideo Circle, composed of former presidents and distinguished figures. The Office coordinated the presentation of credentials by 6 Permanent Representatives and courtesy visits made by a number of permanent observers. Receptions were organized to bid farewell to the ambassadors of Argentina, Bolivia, Guatemala, Ecuador, Honduras, Paraguay, Nicaragua and Colombia.

The Protocol Office also provided protocol-related assistance for the openings of all the exhibits that the Museum of Art of the Americas staged in 2002. It also organized all the ceremonies at which member countries signed, deposited or ratified conventions and protocols and signed agreements with the OAS. At the General Assembly in Barbados, the Office organized a large reception for some 500 guests, hosted by the Secretary General.

Administration of the Main Building

The Protocol Office handles all matters related to the use of the Main Building. During the year, more than 300 receptions, luncheons, dinners and conferences were held. The proceeds from the rental of the Building in 2002 came to \$180,000. The Office also coordinated 18 "Country Weeks", a program in which the member and permanent observer States are assigned one week to stage cultural or academic events. The Office helped organize two art exhibits and nine recitals unrelated to the Country Weeks Program. The Office worked closely with the Organization of Women of the Americas to organize and hold the Americas Food Festival. Indeed, assistance was provided to that organization throughout the year.

Support to the Permanent Missions, the General Secretariat and Liaison with the Department of State

The Protocol Office reviewed and processed 3,800 requests from the Permanent Missions and their staff, before they were sent to the Department of State. These included accreditations, visa changes

and renewals, work permits and renewals thereof, importation and exportation of items duty-free, filing for and renewal of tax exemption cards and driver's licenses, registration applications, registration renewals, verification of insurance, and sale or exportation of vehicles. It also arranged for visas for high-ranking OAS officials and letters for driver's licenses for OAS staff.

The "Directory of Missions, Heads of State/Government and High-ranking Government Officials, OAS Organs and Affiliated Entities" was updated, published and distributed, as were the monthly schedule of activities in the Main Building and letters of congratulations to the Permanent Representatives and Observers on the occasion of their independence day.

OFFICE OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The Office of External Relations was established by Executive Order 97-4, of July 23, 1997. Its purpose is to advise the various offices of the General Secretariat and the governing bodies on all activities associated with external relations, while promoting and maintaining communication with the headquarters country of the Organization, nongovernmental organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, nonprofit organizations, and the like.

In the period covered in this report, the Office of External Relations engaged in a number of activities to better acquaint others with the programs of the Organization of American States (OAS) and to increase support for and contributions to its projects and initiatives, thereby strengthening the OAS' external relations. These activities included meetings with representatives of the observer States and with their officials to exchange ideas and information on topics of mutual interest, negotiate cooperation agreements with the General Secretariat and organize joint events to increase their participation. This Office negotiated significant monetary and in-kind contributions from a number of permanent observers.

After teaming up with the technical areas, the Office of External Relations prepared a file containing detailed information on a number of technical cooperation projects administered by the General Secretariat and in need of funding. The file was then sent to the governments of the permanent observer countries for consideration. Likewise, the Office organized a number of ceremonies at which contributions from the observer countries were received. It then arranged for issuance of the respective press release. The Office also continued to update and expand its Web page on permanent observers, which has information and documents about permanent-observer status, detailed information on each observer country and general information about their contribution to and participation in the Organization's activities. For more information on the Permanent Observers, see Chapter VI of this report.

The speakers program run by the Office of External Relations arranged a lecture series in conjunction with the Center for Latin American Issues of George Washington University. The purpose of the lecture series was to enrich the hemispheric dialogue on the issues that are of priority importance for the member states. This round of lectures featured topics such as "Combating Drugs in the Hemisphere: from Confrontation to Cooperation"; "South America: Promoting Integration and Development by Improving the Energy Supply." The Office also teamed up with the UPD to organize a forum titled "Reflections on the First Anniversary of the Inter-American Democratic Charter," where the President of Peru, the Honorable Alejandro Toledo, delivered the keynote address, followed by a panel of notables from the Hemisphere like the Secretary General of the Organization, Dr. César Gaviria, the Minister of Government of Chile, Hernando Muñoz, the President of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, Barbara McDougall, the Assistant Secretary General of CARICOM, Mr. Colin Granderson, the President of the Foundation for the Americas, and others. This event was widely covered in the media, especially the UNIVISION television network whose anchor, Maria Elena Salinas, was a participant. During the course of this year, the Office met with IDB representatives to agree upon a joint lecture series.

The speakers program also organized a special event for the delegates from the missions and high-ranking officials with the General Secretariat on "How Washington Works," led by Ralph Nurnberger,

foreign affairs counselor with Preston Gates & Ellis, who gave the presentation. The Office of External Relations also coordinated the event held to launch the Spanish-language version of *Foreign Affairs*, where Robert Zoellick, United States Trade Representative, and other distinguished figures were special guests. It also organized an informative meeting for journalists, which talked about the OAS and its activities.

The Office coordinated the participation of Organization experts in a seminar sponsored by Southeastern Louisiana University, and asked the Permanent Representative of Panama to the OAS, Ambassador Juan Manuel Castulovich, to attend. He spoke on OAS-related issues and about its role in the Hemisphere. Working with the Public Relations Center of the University of Maryland, the Office of External Relations sent two representatives to that university to talk to groups of students about multilateral public relations. It also made the arrangements for the Chairman of the Permanent Council, Ambassador Denis G. Antoine, to attend the Second Ministerial Conference of the Community of Democracies in Seoul, Korea.

The Office organized the IV annual seminar of the Americas Project in conjunction with the Baker Institute at Rice University. In attendance were young leaders from 16 member states, who discussed the topic "The Political Consequences of Economic Turmoil in Latin America." The keynote addresses were delivered by the Permanent Representative of the United States to the OAS, Ambassador Roger Noriega, and the former Mayor of Bogota, Enrique Peñalosa.

The Office welcomed 4,118 visitors as it escorted tours of the OAS Main Building requested by high schools, universities and other academic institutions. The program of informative sessions conducted 155 meetings this year for high school and university students, military personnel, congressmen, journalists and international guests. The total number of informative sessions was double the number given the previous year, while the number of sessions presented by the Permanent Missions for interested groups outside the inter-American system was eight times what it was in 2001.

The Office answered over 70 requests for information received by E-mail, letter, and phone. It also continued to assist the editorial boards of more than 10 encyclopedias so that they could update their information on the Organization.

The Office of External Relations further expanded and updated its centralized, comprehensive database available to all areas of the General Secretariat and the Permanent Missions for reference and use. It also continued to build and expand the "OAS Children's Corner," the OAS page on the Internet for children, students, teachers and the general public. Finally, the Office assisted in the work of the Department of Public Information on the television program "Despejando Dudas/Today in the Americas," the purpose of which is to inform the public about the Organization's activities.

SECRETARIAT FOR THE SUMMIT PROCESS

On May 31, 2002, the Secretary General signed Executive Order No. 02-03, creating the Secretariat for the Summit Process to replace the Office of Summit Follow-up. The latter had been established by Executive Order 98-3, of July 16, 1998, to coordinate the activities and follow up on the mandates assigned in the Plan of Action of Santiago, from the Second Summit of the Americas. The Secretariat for the Summit Process is the office within the General Secretariat that advises the Secretary General, the Assistant Secretary General and the political organs of the Organization on matters related to summit follow-up.

Secretariat for the Summit Process

Since the Third Summit of the Americas, and in compliance with resolutions AG/RES 1824 (XXXI-O/01) and AG/RES 1847 (XXXII-O/02), this office has been serving as Secretariat for the Summit Process. As such, it provides technical and logistical support to the meetings of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) and its Executive Committee, drafts, maintains, updates and publishes all the documents of those meetings at the governments' section of the Summit of the Americas Information Network, keeps the institutional memory of the Summit process, constantly updates information on the activities conducted to follow-up on the mandates approved by the chiefs of State and heads of government of the Americas, and provides all information that the countries need about the Summit process.

Support provided to the proceedings of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG)

The Secretariat for the Summit Process provided assistance to the SIRG meetings held in Washington, D.C. in March, in Barbados in June, and again in Washington in November. This assistance concerned both logistical and technical aspects of the meeting and preparation of the Summit Implementation and Monitoring Chart. The purpose of this chart is to record the work done by the member states and the multilateral organizations to implement the Summit mandates. The Secretariat also provided its support to the meeting of the SIRG Executive Committee, held in late January 2003, to examine other mechanisms for monitoring and disseminating implementation of Summit mandates.

The Secretariat also maintains and manages the Summit of the Americas Information Network web site, which includes a section for the exclusive use of national coordinators. This page contains the basic documents of the Summit process, such as addresses, declarations and summaries of the meetings and events that have been held in connection with implementation of the mandates from the Summit of the Americas.

Follow up of meetings of ministers and high-ranking officials, related to the Summit Process

As part of the follow-up of the ministerial meetings related to the Summit process, this Secretariat has coordinated with the OAS technical areas in charge of Summit matters and has assisted with and provided support to the following meetings:

- **Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas, Trinidad and Tobago, March 10-13, 2002.**

This meeting discussed the following topics: legal and judicial cooperation in fighting transnational organized crime and terrorism; information exchange network for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters; improving the administration of justice, and cyber-crime. A report by the Justice Studies Center of the Americas was also presented. A Working Group was created to prepare the draft recommendations of REMJA IV and the draft agenda for the Fifth Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas. At REMJA IV, Dr. Jaime Aparicio, Executive Secretary of the Secretariat for the Summit Process, gave a presentation underscoring the fact that REMJA IV was part of a vast system of information and cooperation in the region, based on a common agenda put together by the heads of State and of Government as part of the Summits of the Americas Process.

- **Meeting of Ministers of Culture, Cartagena, Colombia, July 12-13, 2002**

At this meeting, held pursuant to a mandate from the Third Summit of the Americas, the participants examined the topic of cultural diversity and adopted the Declaration and Plan of Action of Cartagena de Indias. The discussions among the representatives of the Organization's member states centered on the commitment that cultural policies must make to social equity and to fighting poverty, given the development opportunities that creativity in a setting of equality, liberty and dignity opens up. Another objective was to adopt common policies to ensure democratic access to cultural goods and services.

At this same meeting, the Ministers of Culture of the Americas created the Inter-American Committee on Culture, which will promote joint cultural policies for the region. The meeting of high authorities signed the Declaration of Cartagena de Indias, which spells out the agreements reached and establishes the Inter-American Committee on Culture. The Cartagena Plan of Action also makes provision for a study on the feasibility of creating, within the framework of the Inter-American Committee on Culture, an Inter-American Cultural Policy Observatory.

The Executive Secretary of the Secretariat for the Summit Process gave a presentation on the general backdrop of the Summits and on implementation of their mandates. He also participated in a special dialogue about civil society.

- **The Americas Conference on Corporate Social Responsibility, Miami, Florida, September 22-24, 2002**

The Conference brought together more than 500 corporate executives, representatives of governments, multilateral institutions, and civil society, academics and representatives of the media. A total of 84 speakers addressed 12 sessions, spread over a two-day period. Thirty-two countries participated in this Conference, 25 of which were from the region. Fifty percent of the participants were women. Those present discussed partnerships with civil society in local and community economic development, through the new philanthropy and volunteerism; the role of the oversight agencies and multilaterals and the role of the media.

- **Free Trade Area of the Americas Trade Ministerial, Quito, Ecuador, November 1, 2002**

The Ministers of Trade convened to continue negotiations on the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). They confirmed their commitment to conclude the negotiations by no later than 2005, the deadline set by the Heads of State and of Government at the Third Summit of the Americas. The latest progress made since the last trade ministerial includes the following: preparation of a second draft of the FTAA agreement and its publication; establishment of rules and timetables for the negotiations on market access; the agreement to deal with the various levels of development and sizes of economies, and the start of the Hemispheric Cooperation Program to help the countries with the negotiations, with implementation of FTAA commitments and with economic adjustments relating to the FTAA.

Responsibilities were assigned and timetables were established for the next phase of negotiations, which will include negotiations on such topics as agriculture, labor, civil society and the FTAA institutional framework. Brazil and the United States became partners in chairing the FTAA negotiations. The last two trade ministerials are slated for late 2003 in Miami, and 2004 in Brazil.

- **Meeting of Defense Ministers, Santiago, Chile, November 19-22, 2002.**

The ministers discussed a variety of topics, such as new threats to regional security, trans-border cooperation in prevention and containment, the role of the Defense Book as an indicator of mutual confidence, combined forces in peacekeeping operations, demining experiences, the armed forces; contribution to social development, and the role of the armed forces in the event of natural disasters.

The Ministers of Defense approved the Declaration of Santiago, encouraging mutual understanding and a sharing of ideas in the area of defense and security. The next meeting of the Defense Ministers will be in Ecuador in 2004.

Support to civil society's participation in the Summit Process

In response to the mandate in the Quebec Plan of Action, the OAS Secretariat for the Summit Process prepared proposed recommendations on the contributions that civil society can make to monitoring and implementing the mandates from the Third Summit of the Americas. It presented those proposals to the SIRG at the meeting held in November 2002. The proposal is based on the strategy developed by PARTICIPA Corporation, in partnership with the Regional Coordinator of Economic and Social Research (CRIES) -a network of organizations in the Greater Caribbean-, the Department of Political Science at Colombia's Universidad de los Andes (UNIANDES), Canada's FOCAL, the ESQUEL Foundation in the United States and FLACSO-Chile. There were contributions from the participants in the Workshop on "Evaluation of the Summit Process and Design of a Strategy to Monitor Implementation of the Quebec Plan of Action," convoked by PARTICIPA and held in Buenos Aires, May 23 and 24, 2002. The strategy is to design and implement mechanisms that make it possible to monitor the Plan of Action on issues related to strengthening democracy.

Support provided to the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities

By a decision adopted by the Permanent Council, effective August 2002 the Special Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Committee on Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities were merged into a single Committee. The Secretariat for the Summit Process provided this

Committee with technical support and coordinates civil society's participation in its meetings, and the accreditation of nongovernmental organizations in the Organization. During the period covered by this report, a special meeting was held, attended by representatives of civil society. The idea was to get their input on the Quebec Plan of Action, all during four working sessions attended by representatives of the organizations accredited to the OAS.

The Secretariat also provided the Committee with support and advisory services on preparation of policy documents, bearing in mind the objective of promoting and facilitating greater participation by civil society in the political bodies and technical areas of the OAS. To that end, the Committee created the Working Group on Guidelines and Strategies for Civil Society's Participation in OAS Activities, which met several times and presented its recommendations to the Organization's political bodies.

The Secretariat also coordinated the accreditation of 14 civil society organizations to participate in OAS activities, taking into account the "Guidelines for Civil Society Organizations' Participation in OAS Activities."

As for follow up of the mandates from the Third Summit of the Americas, this Committee held a meeting on October 31, 2002, attended by representatives of civil society. As on past occasions, the meeting's purpose was to hear civil society's own recommendations about following up on the mandates from the Summit, in order to convey those recommendations to the SIRG meeting in November. At that meeting, Mr. José Miguel Vivanco, Director of Human Rights Watch, gave a presentation on the inter-American human rights system today and the role of civil society. The Executive Secretariat of the Secretariat for the Summit Process also presented a report on the status of implementation of the Summit mandates.

Joint Summit Working Group of International Organizations

Through a letter of understanding signed in July 2001, the Joint Summit Working Group of international organizations was established. It is a partnership of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the Andean Development Corporation (CAF), the Central American Bank of Economic Integration (CABEI), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), and the World Bank. The OAS Secretariat for the Summit Process provides secretariat services to that Working Group and is in charge of coordinating its activities.

This Group has met periodically to share information about the activities to follow up on and implement the mandates from the Third Summit of the Americas. The OAS Secretariat for the Summit Process convokes the meetings, presents an agenda, drafts the minutes of the meeting, compiles joint reports and conducts a follow-up on the decisions adopted. This group of institutions participated in three SIRG meetings held in 2002, where it presented a report on activities conducted in furtherance of the Summit mandates. At the OAS General Assembly, a Hemispheric Report was presented to every minister of foreign affairs and the heads of each institution, containing all the activities conducted by the members of that Working Group in compliance with the Summit mandates. The Group also prepared and presented the publication titled *Official Documents of the Summits of the Americas Process from Miami to Quebec*.

At the invitation of the President of the IDB and the Secretary General of the OAS, the first meeting of the heads of all the agencies represented in the Working Group was held on October 1, 2002, to strengthen coordination and cooperation on implementation of the mandates from the Third Summit of the Americas. At that meeting, joint activities were proposed and greater support to the ministerial meetings was recommended.

Activities with civil society organizations

The Secretariat for the Summit Process organized a working session while the General Assembly was meeting in Barbados. Attending that working session were representatives of over 30 nongovernmental organizations, the Secretary General and various ministers of foreign affairs of the member states. They discussed the role of civil society in implementing the mandates from the Summit of the Americas. The dialogue covered such questions as how to make the governments more responsible in strengthening democracy, protecting human rights and complying with other mandates from the Summits of the Americas.

At the First Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Culture, close to 20 representatives of civil society and 4 ministers of culture held a dialogue on the Plan of Action of Cartagena, particularly on the subject of cultural diversity and other issues related to culture and equity. They also mapped out strategies for civil society to collaborate in making policy for the sector. A declaration with contributions from the movie, radio, book, and television industries was presented, detailing the importance of freedom of expression in their work.

With a view to building up relations with civil society, the Secretariat has kept the Web page updated with all the latest pertinent information. It also updated the database of nongovernmental organizations accredited to the OAS and of those that participated in the Summit of the Americas. An e-mail account was created to improve communications with civil society organizations and to send and receive documents on the subject. Finally, this Secretariat and the OAS Office of Public Information teamed up for a special issue of the E-zine Americas Forum, to foster an exchange of experiences about civil society's participation in the multilateral organizations of the Hemisphere.

Dissemination of the Summits Process

In an effort to circulate information on the implementation of the mandates from the Summit of the Americas, the Secretariat for the Summit Process has published three issues of the *Bulletin of the Summits of the Americas*. This publication is a vehicle for airing opinions on various Summit topics and is distributed to the governments, NGOs, academic institutions, think tanks and newspapers across the region.

The Secretariat participated in, gave presentations at and, in some cases, provided support to the following events:

- Second Meeting of the Interparliamentary Forum of the Americas, Mexico, March 2002
- III Inter-American Conference of Mayors and Local Authorities, Miami, June 11 and 12, 2002
- Hemispheric Conference on Vulnerability Reduction to Natural Hazards, Tampa, Florida, June 12-14, 2002
- XXIX Course on International Law, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, August 18-21, 2002

- Presentation at the Université Laval, Quebec, September 10-12, 2002 «*Le Sommet de Québec, un an et demi après: bilan et perspectives* »
- Lecture on “Security and Development, Challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean,” Washington, D.C., September 20, 2002
- Lecture on the Challenges of the Inter-American System, Georgetown University, Washington D.C., December 2, 2002

Support provided to the Working Group to prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Secretariat for the Summit Process provided logistical and technical support to the Working Group to prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which is a working group of the OAS Permanent Council’s Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs. It helped prepare its Work Plan and presented a draft for the creation of a Specific Fund to finance the participation of representatives of the indigenous peoples in the discussion of the draft Declaration.

The Secretariat assisted with the Working Group’s meetings on Section Five of the Draft Declaration, with special emphasis on “Traditional forms of ownership and cultural survival; rights to lands, territories and resources”, especially the meeting of November 7 and 8, 2002. Participating in that meeting were representatives of the member states and of the indigenous peoples of various countries, as well as nine experts from Germany, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and the United States, among others. Framed as a technical dialogue, participants examined the progress in international and domestic law, theory and practice in relation to the traditional forms of ownership, lands, territories and natural resources.

It also provided its support to prepare for the Special Meeting the Working Group to continue examining the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which will be held February 24 to 28, 2003, in Washington, D.C. The Secretariat set up an e-mail account (summitindigenas@oas.org) to send and receive documents on this topic and a database with 354 entries. It also administered the Specific Fund to Support Preparation of the American Declaration, which had contributions from Brazil, Canada, Finland and the United States.

Other activities

The Secretariat for the Summit Process manages the web site on the Western Hemisphere Transportation Initiative, through which the Ministers of Transportation communicate with one another and publish their follow-up reports on this topic.

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Office of Science and Technology (OST) was created by Executive Order No. 97-1, of January 29, 1997. This is the advisory office on all matters pertaining to science and technology. Its duties and functions are: to strengthen the technical capability and programs that have some scientific and/or technological component; to assist the member states in matters within its competence; to cooperate with and support the activities of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development; to foster the exchange and circulation of specialized information, and to coordinate the Inter-American Prizes awarded within its area of specialization.

Policy and dissemination

As Technical Secretariat of a number of policy-making and technical bodies of the region, the Office of Science and Technology has continued to provide ongoing technical advisory services in science and technology to national institutions, regional bodies and OAS organs, among them the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD), the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), the Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology (COMCYT) and others. These advisory services include the following matters, related to the formulation and implementation of scientific and technological policies: design, review and evaluation of proposed projects and activities that further the development, dissemination and popularization of science, technology and innovation in the Americas, such as seminars, workshops, and lectures by experts on the subject.

In April, the OST was instrumental in organizing the technical program for the regional workshop on "Indicators in Biotechnology," held at the Universidad Técnica de Ambato, Ecuador in October. The resulting methodological study, the first of its kind in the Western Hemisphere, was requested by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and other organizations engaged in technological, economic and social development. In June, the OST participated in the Tenth Scientific Conference of the Ibero-American Program of Science and Technology for Development (CYTED), in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, in coordination with that country's Secretariat of State for Higher Education, Science and Technology. This meeting was held within the framework of the XI Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, and the OST prepared and presented a document on "Increasing the Competitiveness and Productivity of Small- and Medium-sized Enterprise through the Use of Clean Technologies."

At the invitation of Brazil's Minister of Science and Technology, the OST attended the ALCUE-Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology as an observer. At that conference, held in Brazil in March, ministers and high-ranking authorities in science and technology from Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union discussed various opportunities for mutual cooperation in science and technology. The official in charge of the OST had a private meeting with Brazil's Minister of Science and Technology and the Vice Chairman of the CNPq, to coordinate joint cooperative activities.

As Technical Secretariat of the forthcoming Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities of Science and Technology of the Hemisphere, the OST continues its coordination activities, especially those involving the preparation of reference documents in priority areas for the hemisphere. These reference documents will then be used as input in putting together the Plan of Action in Science and Technology for the years ahead. In the preparations for this meeting, the Office of Science and Technology and George Washington University have teamed up to organize a conference. Once that conference is finished, its documents will be examined, elaborated upon, and circulated among the national science and technology councils in the region.

The OST also took part in the “Workshop for Reflection: Indicators and New Policies in Science, Technology and Innovation in Latin America,” held in Sao Paulo in July. There, it gave a presentation on the “OAS’ Contribution to the Ibero-American/Inter-American Network of Science and Technology Indicators.” The presentation underscored the Organization’s role in developing the network, which was specifically mentioned by the Quebec Summit.

The OST participated as an observer at the General Assembly of the *International Congress of Scientific Unions (ICSU)*, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in October.

The OST also financed publication and circulation of the printed and on-line versions of various publications, among them the Bulletin of the Common Market of Scientific and Technological Knowledge (MERCOCYT) and the periodical of the Inter-American Metrology System (SIM), called INFOSIM Magazine. It also financed publication of the following books: “Metrology for non-Metrologists” and *‘Programa Interamericano de Cooperación en Tecnologías Ambientales en Sectores Clave de la Industria’*. The names of other publications and papers, prepared in previous years, can be found at the OST’s website. Pursuing the Organization’s policy of dissemination, specialists from the OST gave interviews to a journalist from “Nature Magazine,” a U.S. periodical, to promote the science and technology activities that the OAS is conducting in the region.

Alliances with other institutions and international organizations

The OST has had talks with potential donors from observer countries. In April, specialists from the OST met with representatives from Germany’s *Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB)* to lay the groundwork for cooperation in the areas of metrology and accreditation and to establish the framework for a three-year financial assistance agreement. Also in April, OST experts met with representatives of Chile’s Technological Research Corporation (*Corporación de Investigación Tecnológica - INTEC*), to look at the possibilities for future cooperation in a number of areas of interest.

The OST is working closely with the Ibero-American Program of Science and Technology for Development [*Programa Iberoamericano de Ciencia y Tecnología (CYTED)*] and with the Spanish Agency of International Cooperation [*Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional (AECI)*] to coordinate a fellowships program jointly with the IACD, used for regional workshops. These cooperative undertakings succeeded in funding 30 fellowship recipients from Colombia, Bolivia and Guatemala, enabling them to participate in workshops examining topics related to the problem of water, the use of wind energy, and biomaterials for human health. At the present time, efforts are underway to do the same in the year 2003, for other priority issues. Also, the OST and the IACD’s

Fellowship Division continue to work together on evaluating applications for fellowships to participate in the Regular Training Program (PRA) and the Special Caribbean Fellowships Program (SPECRAF).

The OST participated in the preparation of an agreement involving cooperation among the OAS, the CYTED, the Ibero-American Network of Science and Technology Indicators (RICyT), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Andrés Bello Agreement (CAB), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI). That agreement is currently in the process of being approved by the various international organizations involved. Its purpose is to form a Regional Science and Technology Observatory, an issue explicitly mentioned in the Plan of Action of the Quebec Summit of the Americas.

Technological services

In addition to the efforts for cooperation in metrology with the German government, the OST is assisting in the development of national metrology institutes (NMIs) in the 34 member states, principally in the four subregions (Andean - ANDIMET, Central America - CAMET, the Caribbean – CARIMET, and MERCOSUR - SURAMET). To that end, it is collaborating with the region's most advanced NMIs, especially for courses and special training for the staff of the institutes in the various subregions of the Inter-American Metrology System (SIM). Support continued to be provided for conducting exercises to compare patterns in physical metrology, chemical metrology and legal metrology, and the region's NMIs have been given support in the form of needed advisory and technical assistance and presentations on various related issues of interest.

Two seminars were held in May and July, both on the subject of "The Economic Impact of Metrology." The first was in El Salvador and was targeted at the Central American countries, while the second was held in Trinidad and Tobago and was for the Caribbean group. Both seminars were intended to further the development of the NMIs in those subregions. A training program has been maintained for the various subregions of the SIM. In October, the SIM held its Eighth General Assembly, with 26 NMIs in attendance, representing the five subregions of the 34 member states of the OAS. Another event held in October was the Seventh Annual Meeting of the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC), where that organization's new institutional structure was approved and where the OAS-supported project was presented, a project that the OST is following.

Also in October, the OST played an active role in organizing a touring workshop in Chile, Peru and Colombia, about the Biosecurity Protocol approved in Canada in 2000. The idea was to work with the countries in putting that Protocol into practice for moving living plants and organisms across borders.

Connectivity and information and communication technologies

The OST, through the Hemisphere Wide Inter-University Scientific and Technological Information System (RedHUCyT), provides permanent technical assistance to the member states that request it, in order to promote specialized information systems, such as the Ibero-American/Inter-American Network of Science and Technology Indicators (RICYT), the Latin American Chemistry Net (RELAQ), and the Latin American and Caribbean Scientific and Technological Information Network (INFOCYT). Internet statistics in the region are periodically updated and can be found at the Web

page. This effort is being made to further the dissemination of scientific and technological information. Likewise, the OST continues to develop its Internet portal and to update the mirror pages for these networks and the mirror pages for the Inter-American Metrology System (SIM), the Specialized Biotechnology and Food Technology Network (SIMBIOSIS), the Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology (COMCYT) and Quality Management and PYMEs (OAS/GTZ), among others. The OST portal features a series of publications on a number of its priority areas and can be viewed at <http://www.science.oas.org/english/default.htm>.

In June, the OST participated in the Annual Meeting of the Co-ordinating Committee for Intercontinental Research Networking (CCIRN), organized by the National Science Foundation of the United States. There, the OST introduced the many attendees, who came from Asia, Europe and North America, to the most recent advances in connectivity in Latin America and the Caribbean.

TRADE UNIT

The Trade Unit was created by Executive Order No. 95-4, of April 3, 1995. Its basic purpose is to assist the member states in trade-related matters, which includes the functions assigned to the OAS at the Summit of the Americas in connection with the establishment of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). Its functions are: to provide technical support to the Special Committee on Trade (CEC); to study the various aspects of trade relations in the Hemisphere; to ensure effective coordination with regional and subregional integration organizations, and to strengthen the trade information systems.

At its thirty-second regular session, held in Bridgetown, Barbados, the General Assembly adopted a resolution on "Trade and Integration in the Americas" (AG/RES. 1861/XXXII-O/02), wherein it affirmed the OAS' commitment to supporting the process of free trade and economic integration in the hemisphere.

Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA)

During the period covered by this report, the Trade Unit assisted the member states during the three levels of the FTAA process: the meetings of the FTAA negotiating groups; the Seventh Meeting of Ministers of Trade, on November 1 in Quito, Ecuador; and the three vice ministerials held in May on Isla de Margarita, Venezuela, in August in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, and in October in Quito, Ecuador, respectively.

These activities were coordinated with the other two institutions serving with the OAS on the Tripartite Committee (TC), namely the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). During the period leading up to the Quito Ministerial, the OAS was coordinating the TC. Its term began in July 2002, based on the six-month rotation system established.

The work the Trade Unit performed to assist the negotiating groups was a function of those groups' mandate and included compilations, studies, analyses and technical assistance services requested by the groups.

In the Quito Declaration, the Ministers made a number of specific requests of the Tripartite Committee, namely: 1) That the Tripartite Committee and the Consultative Group on Smaller Economies (CGSE) continue to support the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) to prepare a report on the progress achieved in relation to the treatment of differences in the levels of development and size of economies in each of the Negotiating Groups; 2) That the TNC, with the support of the Tripartite Committee, facilitate meetings of the Consultative Group on Smaller Economies (CGSE), inviting appropriate development and financial officials, international financial institutions, international agencies, and interested private entities to discuss financing and implementation of the HCP.

During this period, the Trade Unit continued to provide support to seven of the ten negotiating groups: Investment; Services; Intellectual Property Rights; Subsidies, Antidumping and Countervailing Duties; Competition Policy; and Dispute Settlement. The Trade Unit also provided assistance on Standards and Technical Barriers to Trade, being examined by the Market Access Negotiating Group. Various

types of advisory assistance were provided on the following subjects to the bodies indicated: Smaller Economies, to the Technical Committee on Institutional Matters and to the Consultative Group; the Participation of Civil Society, to the Committee of Government Representatives, to the Joint Committee of Experts from the Public and Private Sectors on E-commerce; and Management and Budget, to the TNC's Subcommittee.

The Tripartite Committee also continued to carry out the specific requests that the Ministers made in the Ministerial Declarations of Toronto and Buenos Aires.

Foreign Trade Information System

The purpose of the Foreign Trade Information System (SICE) is to provide up-to-date and complete information on trade in the hemisphere, in the OAS' four official languages. Ever since SICE's data was made available at the Web page (www.sice.oas.org), the number of users has increased steadily and numbered around 1,053,174 in 2002.

SICE has documents on the following topics: the FTAA process; trade agreements and bilateral investment agreements between the OAS member countries; intellectual property; commercial arbitration; trade-related institutions; general information about the countries; businesses and chambers of commerce; quantitative data, including trade flows, tariffs and prices. The full content of the site is now available for sale in CD-ROM format.

Thanks to SICE support and in conjunction with the FTAA Administrative Secretariat, the FTAA's Documents Distribution Service was launched on May 1, 1999. That service allows restricted access to documents prepared in the process of the negotiation of the FTAA. The number of documents available at the site increased dramatically between 1999 and 2002. Initially the service had 598 documents, but by the end of 2002, the number of documents available at the site exceeded 23,000.

As part of the mandates received at the ministerial meeting held in Toronto in November 1999, the Trade Unit-SICE, as a member of the Tripartite Committee, is responsible for keeping an updated timetable with the deadlines set by the negotiating groups for receiving the delegations' contributions.

Interinstitutional cooperation

Within the framework of the Tripartite Committee, the Trade Unit is working closely with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the United Nations' Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) to lend support to various bodies within the FTAA process. It has also worked on specific projects with other international institutions such as the World Trade Organization (WTO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and subregional organizations like the Latin American Integration Organization (ALADI), the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), the Andean Community, the Caribbean Regional Negotiations Mechanism (CRNM) and MERCOSUR.

Technical cooperation

In response to the mandates received, the emphasis during this period has been on technical assistance functions. For many countries of the region, especially the smaller economies, activities of this type are

vital as they make it possible for the smaller economies to actively participate in the trade negotiations underway and strengthen their capacity to implement the results of those negotiations.

Officials from the Trade Unit have worked with the member states, acting upon requests for assistance with specific projects in the area of trade and integration, while also participating in seminars, workshops conferences and lectures to which they were invited as experts.

Starting in the final quarter of 2002, the Trade Unit provided technical assistance to the Government of El Salvador to help it put together its National Plan of Action for Trade-related Capacity Building. That Plan is being prepared in order to define, prioritize and coordinate what that country will need to build capacities in the process of negotiating the NAFTA-USA-CA Negotiation Process. Also, as part of that negotiation process, the Trade Unit played an active role in the cooperation component, as a member of the coordinating group –along with the IDB and ECLAC- and of the Donors Committee for Central America.

The key factor in the area of technical assistance was the program titled “Trade and Integration in the Americas: Advanced Training Program for Government Officials,” financed by the IACD and sponsored by a member state. Under this program, the following multilateral and subregional seminars and workshops were conducted:

- Sponsored by Trinidad and Tobago, the “Workshop on Services for Government Officials” was held in Guatemala City, Guatemala, in February 2002. At that workshop, information was circulated and shared with government officials from Central America, Mexico and the Dominican Republic, about the FTAA process and particularly trade in services in the context of the WTO and FTAA negotiations.
- In May, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago was the venue of the Conference on “Trade-related Capacity Building: Focus on the Americas Conference and Donors’ Workshop,” organized by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in conjunction with the OAS, the IDB and ECLAC. The donors discussed their strategies and objectives for trade-related capacity building in the Americas.
- In June 2002, the “Advanced training course for government officials on multilateral and regional trade approaches for the Americas” was held for the fifth consecutive year. In the last five years, this course has been the centerpiece of the OAS’ trade-related capacity building activities, with particular emphasis on the smaller economies. The course was coordinated in partnership with the WTO and Georgetown University and this year was given in English. It received funding from the United States Government and the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD).
- With the sponsorship of Trinidad and Tobago, three meetings of the Research Network on Trade in the Americas (NetAmericas) were held in Washington, D.C. in June and November. The purpose of the first, titled “Challenges on Key Issues for Modern Trade Agreements,” was to provide an opportunity to exchange views on the multilateral and regional trade negotiations. The second, titled “Third Meeting of the NetAmericas Coordinating Committee,” helped examine the membership of the network and approved panels and the distribution of the budget for the annual conference, titled

“Integrating the Americas.” In November, the conference on “Integrating the Americas” was held. The papers and other materials of interest are available at <http://www.netamericas.net>.

Seminars, workshops and publications

The seminar on “The Doha Development Agenda and the FTAA Process: the Challenge of Capacity Building” took place in Washington, D.C. in February 2002. Organized by the Trade Unit, its purpose was to inform the OAS missions and trade specialists about the progress in the FTAA process and its linkages, particularly with respect to the Doha Development Agenda and the FTAA process. Participating in this seminar were Mr. Mike Moore, Director General de la WTO, and Mr. Miguel Rodríguez Mendoza, Deputy Director General, as well as Peter Allgeier, the United States Deputy Trade Representative.

In February 2002, Panajachel, Guatemala, was the site of a “Seminar on the FTAA and the WTO: Implications and challenges for the smaller economies of the hemisphere,” co-sponsored by the OAS, the International Development Research Center (IDRC), the Latin American Trade Network (LATN) and the World Bank.

In February 2002, a Workshop on Investment was held in Jamaica, organized by the Trade Unit and the Jamaica Promotions Corporation (JAMPRO) and financed by the Caribbean Region Investment Initiative (CRII). The objective of that seminar was to circulate and exchange information among Jamaican government officials about the FTAA process, particularly where investments are concerned.

In February, August, September and October 2002, four workshops were held on services and investments. The first two workshops were in the Dominican Republic; both were government organized. The first was titled “Services Workshop on Modalities and Procedures for the Services Negotiations” and afforded an opportunity to discuss key issues related to trade in services and the liberalization of services in the context of the WTO and FTAA negotiations. The workshop was for more than 20 officials involved in the services area. The second was an intensive workshop on the topic of services and investments. The third, held in September in El Salvador, was titled “Financial Services and the International Trade Negotiations on Services.” It was sponsored jointly by the OAS and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The fourth workshop, held in Lima, was an investment training event sponsored jointly by the OAS, the WTO, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Institute for Latin American and Caribbean Integration (INTAL).

In April 2002, a National Seminar on the FTAA was held in Belmopán, Belize, co-sponsored by the Centre for Trade Policy and Law (Canada) and the Caribbean Regional Negotiation Machinery (CRNM).

In May 2002, the Trade Unit and ECLAC organized the Conference on Hemispheric Cooperation on Competition Policies, where high-level government representatives and academics were able to exchange views on issues of fundamental importance to the countries of the Western Hemisphere, specifically to establish mechanisms of transboundary cooperation in the area of competition policies.

In July 2002, the Trade Unit partnered with the CRNM and the Ambassadors in the Washington, D.C. area to hold a seminar about the Caribbean's business future in the FTAA.

In October 2002, the following studies were published as part of the Trade Unit's Studies series: *Can Regional Liberalization of Services go further than Multilateral Liberalization under the GATT?*, by Sherry Stephenson, and *Proliferation of Sub-Regional Trade Agreements in the Americas: An Assessment of Key Analytical and Policy Issues*, by José M. Salazar-Xirinachs.

The Special Committee on Trade and its Advisory Group

The Special Committee on Trade (SCT) and its Advisory Group did not meet in 2002. Consequently, the Trade Unit did not have occasion to provide these bodies with support. At its thirtieth regular session, in Windsor, Ontario, the General Assembly resolved "To accept the recommendation of the Chairman of the SCT, based on his consultations with the member states of the SCT, to maintain the *status quo*, that is, to maintain the existence of the SCT without convening the Committee."

UNIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

The Unit for Social Development and Education was created by Executive Order No. 96-5, of June 1996. It is responsible for providing technical and operational support to the member states and to the OAS' deliberative bodies in the following areas: strengthening educational systems; promoting job opportunities and job training, and formulating public policies and strategies aimed at combating poverty and discrimination. To achieve this objective, the Unit conducts and coordinates studies, research, and exchanges of information and experiences. It also promotes training, supports initiatives to build partnership among countries, among international cooperation and development agencies, and among governmental and nongovernmental institutions on formulation of policies in social development, education, culture, employment.

In the course of 2002, the Unit continued to follow an intense program of technical and operational support to the political bodies of the OAS, advisory services, and activities to strengthen inter-American cooperation in the areas of education, employment, social development and culture. The Unit's priorities have centered on follow-up of the mandates from the Summits of the Americas, the General Assembly and the CIDI. To comply with those mandates, the Unit worked closely with other agencies of the inter-American system, other international cooperation and development agencies, and civil society organizations.

Social development and overcoming poverty

The Unit continued its support as Technical Secretariat of the Social Network of Latin America and the Caribbean. Its job is to administer the Network's voluntary fund and to facilitate the holding of the annual conference, seminars and fellowships contemplated in the Network's 2002 work program. The Ninth Annual Conference of the Social Network was held in Asuncion, Paraguay, December 4 through 6. The event was organized by the Social Network, Paraguay's Secretariat for Social Action and the OAS. At this meeting, the Network's 2003 Work Program was approved, as was the Declaration of Asuncion. During this period, the following three seminars were also organized: the Special Meeting of the Social Network of Latin America and the Caribbean, January 30 to February 1, in Cartagena de Indias; a seminar on social policies and decentralization, March 18 through 21, in La Paz, Bolivia; and a seminar on "Social Policy Today: New Prospects from Latin America and the Caribbean," in Mexico City, October 16 through 18.

Under an agreement signed with the IDB, the UDSE is serving as executing agency of the Intra-Regional Fellowships Program among the member institutions of the Social Network. Under this program, the UDSE organized, in partnership with the IDB's Inter-American Institute for Social Development (INDES), a "Seminar on Social Management for Directors of the Social Investment Funds that are members of the Social Network," held at INDES headquarters in Washington, D.C., August 19 through 23.

Pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1854 (XXXII-O/02) "Poverty, Equity and Social Inclusion," the UDSE provided support to the CEPICIDI Subcommittee on Partnership for Development Policies during the preparations for the Inter-American Forum on Poverty, Equity and Social Inclusion, which was scheduled to be held in Caracas, Venezuela, November 20 through 22.

Following the directives of the Third Summit of the Americas, the Inter-American Democratic Charter, the Declaration against Violence that the Ministers of Education signed at the Second Meeting of Ministers in the CIDI framework, and the specific mandate contained in resolution AG/RES. 1869 (XXXII-O02) "Promotion of Democratic Culture" –where the UDSE is asked to do a study on how member states include instruction on the values and principles of democracy in the member states' educational curricula, the Unit launched research on this subject whose results are listed below:

- Preparation of a research proposal titled "*Strengthening Democracy in the Americas: Values, Citizenship and Education*", which received a grant from the Permanent Mission of the United States to the OAS so that the research can be conducted in 2002-2003.
- Formalization of a cooperation agreement to conduct the above research, concluded with the Director of the International Project on Civic Education of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), who will provide technical support to the OAS project, as will other professionals.
- Holding of the First Meeting of the Project Advisory Committee at OAS headquarters on May 7. Based on an analysis of the OAS project, the Committee presented a number of guidelines for conducting the project.
- Preparation of the first version of the study, which will be submitted to the Advisory Committee to consider at its Second Meeting, slated for the first quarter of 2003.

The UDSE is also conducting a hemispheric inquiry to identify the consolidated programs on education for democracy and civic values existing in the various member states, through the strategy of horizontal cooperation developed through the Permanent Portfolio of Consolidated Programs.

The Unit prepared the document titled "Best Practices in Social Development: Experiences of the Social Investment Funds." That document compiles and organizes information on programs conducted by the hemisphere's social investment funds in the following areas: 1) Execution of social policies; 2) Community participation; 3) Programs targeted at vulnerable groups; and 4) Employment- and income-generating programs. The horizontal cooperation programs planned in the area of social development for 2003 are based on the experiences compiled in that document.

In conjunction with the IACD, the UDSE prepared a proposal to respond to the mandate contained in resolution AG/RES 1865 (XXXII-O/02) "Follow-up on the International Conference on Financing for Development," which calls upon the member states to look for mechanisms to transform the commitments of the international donor community into concrete actions that have an impact on national development efforts. This proposal has been presented to and discussed by CEPICIDI and the OAS Permanent Council. It has also been submitted to and discussed with the IDB, ECLAC and PAHO, among other agencies of the inter-American system.

Education

In response to the mandate from the Third Summit of the Americas and as Technical Secretariat of the Second Meeting of Ministers of Education in the CIDI framework, the UDSE organized a series of meetings and participated actively in others, all to make headway in identifying educational challenges and prepare the content of the best practices for horizontal cooperation.

In compliance with the decision of the Ministers of Education and under the coordination of Mexico as the country organizing the educational theme in the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG), the UDSE worked on preparation of a set of proposed regulations and an agreement for the creation of the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE). Those documents were studied and discussed by all the member countries in various forums. In Resolution AG/RES. 1859, the General Assembly resolved to create the CIE and instructed CEPCIDI to approve its regulations *ad referendum* of the next regular or special meeting of the CIDI. At a regular meeting held on November 14, the CEPCIDI approved the regulations, whereupon the CIE was installed. With this phase completed, the system now has a body for critical reflection and consensus-building on the educational challenges of the hemisphere, which will make it possible to prepare and follow up on the ministerial commitments undertaken within the framework of the Summits of the Americas.

- *Meeting of the Expanded G-11.* As coordinator of the G-11, Mexico invited the representatives of the ministries of education to meet on December 9 and 10 at OAS headquarters in Washington, and asked the UDSE to act as technical secretariat of the meeting. This meeting examined the question of what would become of the G-11 now that the CIE had been created. Work also got underway on the priority hemispheric issues with a view to the Third Meeting of Ministers of Education, to be held in August 2003. The following delegations attended: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador (also representing Guatemala), Mexico, Peru, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, and the United States. It was agreed that the CIE would be inaugurated at the Third Meeting of the Ministers of Education, where the fate of the G-11 would also be decided. Argentina offered to host the preparatory meeting for the education ministerial. Topics were proposed for inclusion on its agenda.

- *Horizontal cooperation strategy / Permanent Portfolio of Consolidated Programs.* In response to the Education Ministers' stated commitment to strengthen horizontal cooperation among countries, the UDSE put together a permanent portfolio of consolidated programs which now has 17 programs in 17 countries of the hemisphere, and can be found at Web page www.oas.org/udse. Based on this report, a hemispheric inquiry was conducted to establish a grid of supply and demand for educational programs, to identify those most needed. Once the inquiry had been conducted, the second phase of the cooperation strategy got underway with the education programs in greatest demand. This second phase involves internships for up to 15 days, where officials from the countries interested in each of the experiences will have an opportunity to get to know the education programs firsthand, to meet with the educators directly involved and to examine how the programs might be carried over and applied in their own specific contexts. The officials pledge that upon returning to their countries, they will follow up on the lessons learned and develop a pilot project based on those lessons. Once the internship has been completed, the UDSE remains in contact with the participants and keeps informed by means of a Web page designed exclusively for that purpose. Each of the internships has a Web page.

In a joint undertaking wherein the countries offering courses were partnered with those interested in them, the UDSE and the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation (IACD) conducted the following internships:

- *Educational Informatics in Costa Rica.* Held in coordination with the Fundación Omar Dengo, from September 30 to October 11. Participating were officials from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, and Venezuela. For more information, go to the following Web address: <http://www.oas.org/udse/pasantia-costarica/index.html>
- *EDUCO of El Salvador.* From November 4 through 15, with officials from Argentina, Colombia, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay participating. For more information, visit the following Web address: <http://www.oas.org/udse/pasantia-elsalvador/index.html>
- *Enlaces de Chile.* Held December 5 through 13, with officials from Argentina, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Uruguay participating.

Other internships have been planned for the coming year and will focus on experiences with *Institutional Management* in Mexico and Argentina, *Rural Post-primary Education* in Colombia, and *Secondary Distance Education for Adults* in Mexico.

- *Cooperation strategies.* Responding to the mandates to devise horizontal cooperation strategies on the priority issues in the 5 thematic areas, three projects were submitted to various agencies in an effort to find funding for them. One such project proposal was submitted to the World Bank under the title "*The OAS Country-Based Education Advisory Service and Network for increasing Equity with Quality in Lower Secondary Education*", and received funding from the Bank to develop the program on a Knowledge and Advisory Service Network (CONARED).
- *OAS-SEP Cooperation Agreement* among the UDSE, the IACD and the Latin American Institute for Educational Communication (ILCE). In the spirit of cooperation, through its Secretariat for Public Education (SEP) and ILCE, Mexico has offered all the member states free access to Mexico's educational satellite system, the "EDUSAT Educational Television Satellite Network." Use of this signal and of the educational programming content developed by the SEP will make it possible to conduct joint programs aimed at raising the quality of basic education in the hemisphere. Officials from the SEP and ILCE are working out the terms of a cooperation agreement. On their visit to Washington, ILCE's representatives gave a presentation about EDUSAT's technical features at the CEPICDI meeting on November 14.
- *Bilingual education in multicultural settings.* The UDSE and the IACD teamed up with Mexico's Secretariat of Public Education to conduct a seminar on The Quality of Education in Multicultural Settings, December 4 through 13. The seminar discussed the challenges of educational quality in multicultural settings and the need to assist with the critical transfer of the lessons learned from each country's intercultural programs. Participating in the seminar were government representatives, academics and indigenous leaders from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Peru.

- *Teacher training and refresher courses.* The UDSE is working on a proposal for an "International Program for Teacher Refresher Courses." At the request of Mexico's Secretariat for Public Education, a concrete proposal was put together involving cooperation with U.S. agencies to train teachers and principals from the Federal District. At the same time, the Unit is also working on a hemispheric proposal to devise strategies for cooperation on the subject of teacher training and refresher courses.
- *Hemispheric diagnostic study on education and social development.* In the area of education and in the Unit's other areas, subregional diagnostic studies are being done to identify the most vulnerable populations and the subregion's needs. The Unit is working on proposals that are responsive to those needs, the priority being to combat poverty. This undertaking will serve as input for the *Hemispheric Diagnostic Study on Education and Social Development* that the Unit has been performing. This ongoing diagnostic study makes it possible to identify the key problems and underscores the importance in the hemisphere of sustained social policy coupled with ever-increasing investment.
- *OAS/Harvard University-Rockefeller Center Cooperation Program.* As a result of the agreement concluded with Harvard University's Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, six graduate students from the schools of Education and Government worked on the Unit's activities during the summer months. The main activities included preparation of subregional diagnostic studies and funding proposals, and collaboration in identifying and institutionalizing best practices in the UDSE's thematic areas.
- *Advances in subregional cooperation.* On November 12, the UDSE and the IACD welcomed the Ministers of Education of Mexico, Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama. The meeting was about focusing cooperation strategies in the region around their specific challenges and priorities. A decision was made to focus efforts on initial education, secondary education and certification of job skills.
- *Advisory services for the IACD's financing strategy.* The UDSE has been providing the IACD with technical advice about the programs presented in the education area for funding under the 2003 FEMCIDI account, to ensure that those programs fit the educational priorities delineated at the Third Summit of the Americas. The UDSE also provides technical advisory services on programming FEMCIDI funds for 2003, by participating in and providing technical support at the subregional meetings where countries map out their development priorities and later when the features of subregional projects in education, social development, labor and culture are determined.

Cooperation with other agencies and international organizations

- The Unit participated in the Twelfth Ibero-American Conference on Education, convened by the Organization of Ibero-American States and held in the Dominican Republic on July 1 and 2. The meeting highlighted opportunities for joint endeavors in the areas of initial education, the use of technologies in education, and higher education.
- Through the Unit, the OAS continued to work with UNESCO to provide support to countries on issues related to the Dakar agreements on Education for All and the Third Summit of the Americas.
- The OAS and PAHO teamed up to offer quality education and related assistance to vulnerable groups in the countries.

Culture

First Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of Culture and preparatory activities

In compliance with the mandates from the Third Summit of the Americas and resolutions CIDI/RES. 127 (VII-O/02) and AG/RES. 1868 (XXXII-O/02), support was provided to prepare, organize and stage the First Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of Culture within the framework of CIDI, held in Cartagena de Indias July 12 and 13. In preparation for the meeting, assistance was provided with the following:

- The holding of the First Seminar of Experts on Cultural Diversity, held in Vancouver on March 18 and 19. Logistical support was provided for the staging of this event, as was coordination of the various delegations' participation.
- Preparatory Meeting for the First Meeting of Ministers of Culture, held at OAS headquarters on June 13 and 14. The Preparatory Meeting discussed and approved the final versions of the agenda, draft Declaration and draft Plan of Action, which were then considered at the Ministerial itself.
- The UDSE served as Technical Secretariat of the 10 meetings held by the CEPCIDI Working Group on the First Meeting of Ministers of Culture, the Preparatory Meeting and finally the Ministerial itself.

Inter-agency coordination

Inter-agency meetings on cultural diversity were convoked and coordinated in furtherance of the Cartagena de Indias Action Plan. These took place at OAS headquarters, April 29 and 30, and in Cartagena de Indias, July 11. Participating in these meetings were the following organizations: the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECD), the IDB, the World Bank, the Regional Centre for the Promotion of Books in Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLALC), the International Council on Monuments and Sites, United States chapter (ICOMOS), the National Endowment for the Arts, the Organization of Ibero-American States (OEI), the Andrés Bello Agreement (CAB), UNESCO, the International Network on Cultural Policy (INCP) and the International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies (IFACCA).

As a result of the meetings and to bolster the Plan of Action, two inter-agency cooperation grids were created that summarize each organization's programs in each of the five areas on cultural diversity. Also, a "Strategy for Inter-agency Cultural Cooperation" was adopted in support of the commitments undertaken vis-à-vis cultural diversity.

- *Promotion of civil society's participation.* Civil society's participation in the First Cultural Ministerial was furthered through the "Virtual Forum on Cultural Diversity in the Hemisphere." Support was provided to meetings that civil society organizations held during the First Meeting of Ministers of Culture, to help them prepare a document with their recommendations, contributions and comments on the Declaration and Plan of Action of Cartagena de Indias.
- *Cooperation agreements with Hispanic organizations in the United States.* The UDSE participated in the Fourth Conference of the National Association of Latino Arts and Culture, held in

Austin, Texas in September. It presented a report titled "Cultural diversity and negotiating unity," which emphasized the challenge of building a multicultural citizenry where Latino culture is recognized. It also emphasized how important it was that the Latino community organize in order to be recognized as a force within the broader community.

- *Horizontal cooperation strategy.* Following the strategy of horizontal cooperation proposed by its Director and approved in Cartagena, the UDSE prepared a Permanent Portfolio of 29 consolidated programs presented by the member states. It was then circulated in order to establish which programs elicited the greatest interest from all the countries. Based on the responses received from the countries, 6 programs were selected; internships or exchange activities will be conducted in connection with those 6 programs in 2003. Participants will be introduced to the programs, thus achieving the critical carry-over effect so that those programs may be applied in other contexts.
- *Support for the formation of the Inter-American Committee on Culture and the Inter-American Cultural Policy Observatory.* The UDSE is assisting CEPAC's Subcommittee on Policies with preparation of a feasibility study on the creation of an Inter-American Cultural Policy Observatory, with funds from the Government of Canada and the Andres Bello Agreement. It is also providing that Subcommittee with technical support in compiling the member states' observations on the draft Regulations for establishment of the Inter-American Committee on Culture, created at the First Meeting of Ministers of Culture, and for establishment of a timetable for starting up that Committee.
- *Participation in meetings and conferences.* Through the UDSE, the OAS was a speaker at the First Inter-American Languages Management Seminar, organized by the *Conseil de la langue française*, the Government of Quebec and other organizations. It also participated in the Seminar on Cultural Statistics, organized by the Government of Canada, the Government of Quebec, Canada Statistics, the UNESCO Statistics Institute and the Rockefeller Foundation.
- *Agreements with international organizations and nongovernmental organizations.* Talks got underway with Art Without Borders, a nongovernmental organization, to study the possibility of a cooperation agreement between the UDSE and that organization. Contacts were also established with representatives of the Pan American Round Tables, a nongovernmental organization officially accredited by the Permanent Council. The idea is to examine jointly the development of projects and activities. At the UDSE's initiative, the General Secretariat signed cooperation agreements with the following nongovernmental organizations: the Youth Orchestra of the Americas, the UNESCO Centre for the Promotion of Books in Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLALC), and the Andres Bello Agreement. Execution of an agreement with the IDB's Cultural Center continued, to co-sponsor a lecture series on Culture and Development. At the UDSE's initiative, the General Secretariat signed a cooperation agreement with the Latin Union. Also, the cooperation agreement between the General Secretariat and the Andres Bello Agreement was updated to renew joint projects and activities.
- *Publications and studies.* Experts were contracted to prepare studies that would contribute to the thinking and discussion about the relationship between cultural diversity, globalization and development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The documents produced under these contracts and the names of their authors are as follows: Bernardo Subercaseaux. "*Globalización, nación y cultura en América Latina (Desafíos y estrategias para preservar la diversidad cultural)*"; Rodolfo Stavenhagen. "*La Diversidad Cultural en el Desarrollo de las Américas - Los pueblos*

indígenas y los estados nacionales en Hispanoamérica"; José Alvaro Moisés. *"Diversidad Cultural y Desarrollo en las Américas"*; Ian Isidore Smart. *"El papel de la Diversidad Cultural en el Desarrollo de las Américas"*; Néstor García Canclini. *"Las Industrias Culturales y el Desarrollo de los Países Americanos"*.

Employment and labor development

- *Support to the working groups of the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor.* Through the UDSE the OAS participated in and supported the meetings of the Working Groups established by the Twelfth Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor. Group I on the Labor Dimensions of the Summit of the Americas Process, and Group II on Capacity Building in the Ministries of Labor, held their meetings in the Dominican Republic in April. As a result of the agreements reached at those meetings, the UDSE prepared a subregional diagnostic report (MERCOSUR, Andean Community, Central America, the Caribbean and North America) on the status of unemployment, poverty, eradication of child labor and the number of children who do not attend school. This report will be instrumental in steering the Unit's work by pointing up each region's needs.

- *Participation in seminars.* As technical secretariat of the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor, the UDSE sent representatives to two technical seminars in preparation for the Twelfth Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor. The first, New Labor Relations and the Digital Divide, and the second, Unemployment Insurance Systems in the Americas, were held in Montreal and Miami, respectively. As a result of its participation in these two seminars, the UDSE submitted two projects to the IACD for funding. These two projects draw on the experiences of the countries that attended. It also offered to organize another seminar on gender and work.

- *Horizontal cooperation strategy.* To promote horizontal cooperation among countries, the UDSE prepared a grid of the supply and demand for consolidated programs for training and certification of job skills, labor mediation, placement services, and the needs of the smaller economies in building up the labor systems' capacities, particularly in Central America and CARICOM. As part of this horizontal cooperation strategy, in partnership with Mexico's Secretariat of Labor and Social Security and with financial support from the IACD, the UDSE organized workshops in Mexico and Panama on the CONOCER program in Mexico. The UDSE plans to conduct an on-line course on certification of job skills for the Central American countries and a classroom course on the same topic for the Caribbean countries.

- *Inter-agency coordination.* The UDSE held coordination meetings with the IACD, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), to set up joint working channels and to coordinate its activities with them. A joint undertaking with these institutions got underway, focusing in particular on identification and sharing of best practices in the area of health and job safety, with a view to promoting the sharing of those programs among the countries of the Americas sometime in the future.

The UDSE is working closely with the ILO team in charge of the project to assist the XII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (CIMT) with the follow-up and support of the working groups and the definition of cooperation activities.

La UDSE participated in the Hispanic Forum on a Safe and Healthy Environment, where it described the OAS' vision of the labor and social challenges that the regional integration processes pose.

- *Support with project preparation.* At the request of certain Caribbean countries, the Unit provided advisory services in connection with preparation of the project on Enhancement of the Labor Inspection Function in Selected Caribbean Countries, which will receive FEMCIDI funding in 2003.

UNIT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

The Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment was created by Executive Order No. 96-6, of June 28, 1996. It is the General Secretariat's principal unit for matters directly related to sustainable development and environment. Its purpose is to support the activities of the Organization, its organs and entities with formulation of policies on sustainable development and environment in the region. It devises, evaluates, and executes the technical cooperation projects in its areas of competence and provides advisory services and technical support on matters related to sustainable development, including the programs designed to develop environmental legislation, the transfer of environmentally sound technologies, and environmental education. The Unit is also active in areas highlighted by the hemispheric summits and has a particularly vital role to play in monitoring the Santa Cruz Plan of Act, adopted by the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development (Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, December 1996).

The Unit's activities in 2002 were driven by the mandates from the Summits; the resolutions approved by the Organization's General Assembly; the mandates emanating from the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development, approved by the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh regular session, held in Lima, Peru, June 1997; the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 2002-2005, and the resolutions approved at the Third Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development, February 11 and 12, 2002.

At the present time, the portfolio of projects that the USDE currently has underway totals approximately US\$62 million. More than 95% of that amount is financed with funding from sources outside the OAS. The Unit's Web page features the principal activities currently in progress and their links, and can be visited at the following Web address (<http://www.oas.org/usde>.)

Activities associated with the Bolivia Summit

The activities to coordinate and follow up the Santa Cruz Plan of Action continued. The Unit assisted the Working Group of the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development (CIDS), created under the CEPCIDI umbrella, with preparations for the III CIDS meeting. A grid was circulated among the member states to evaluate the progress made in executing the Santa Cruz Plan of Action.

In furtherance of the mandates related to the Santa Cruz Plan of Action and contained in the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development, the USDE conducted the following activities:

The USDE carried on with the implementation phase of the Inter-American Strategy for the Promotion of Public Participation in Decision-Making on Sustainable Development (ISP), acting on resolution CIDI/CIDS/RES. 6 (III-O/02), approved by the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development (CIDS III) on February 12, 2002. It also continued to back efforts to put that strategy into practice, by developing mechanisms enabling close collaboration between the public and private sectors on issues of sustainable development and environment.

The Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN) was created in 1996 as an initiative of the Summit of the Americas, a conclave of the chiefs of State of the member countries. This initiative continues to grow. By now, 29 countries have already been designated as focal points for IABIN. This initiative will provide the infrastructure for the information network (such as standards and protocols) as well as the scientific content that the countries of this hemisphere need to improve decision-making, especially where human development and preservation of the biodiversity are at odds. Early in 2002, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the financial arm of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), contributed US\$650,000 to consolidate the Network and to prepare a more sweeping project that will be presented to the GEF Council in 2003.

The Inter-American Forum on Environmental Law (FIDA) was the brainchild of the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development, held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, in 1996. Its purpose was to serve as a "hemispheric network of officials and experts in environmental law, enforcement, and compliance," working in coordination with the OAS. In keeping with the purposes that its creation set out to achieve, an on-line dialogue was conducted about cleaner and more energy-efficient production policies in South America. It was done with the support of the Andean Development Corporation (CAF), UNIDO and other organizations. Also, working with the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD), a workshop was organized in Managua, Nicaragua, on policies available for cleaner production in the Central American region. The Inter-American Forum on Environmental Law (FIDA) produced reports on the results of both activities.

FIDA is working with governmental and nongovernmental partners in the Americas to conduct national evaluations of the environmental impact of the proposed Free Trade Area of the Americas Agreement (FTAA) and to discuss alternative policies with OAS member states. The project began in September 2001 with studies on Argentina and Brazil. These studies will be reviewed by groups of experts in March 2003. Early in 2003, work will begin on the reports on Paraguay, Uruguay and two or more Central American countries.

During this same period, the Final Report of the Fourth Inter-American Dialogue on Water Management was published and two special issues of the newsletter of the Inter-American Water Resources Network, *Dialogue Update*, were prepared in three languages.

Following up on point II.4 of the Santa Cruz Plan of Action, point 4.4 of the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development, and resolution CIDI/CIDS/RES. 3 (II-O/99), the USDE continued execution of special projects that help shape national and regional policies on integrated management of water resources and coastal areas in various countries of the Americas. Together, they represent a portfolio of around US\$30,000,000.

Inter-agency Task Force (IATF) on the Bolivia Summit Follow-up

As chair of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) Working Group on Mainstreaming Disaster Reduction in Development (MDRD), the Unit organized the Third Workshop on Vulnerability Assessment Techniques and Applications (VAT III) in collaboration with the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) –which sponsored the event- and the U.S. National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The Secretariat of the Summit Process currently has the IATF's role in the structure of the Summit Follow-up under review.

Activities related to the Summit of the Americas

As mandated by the Third Summit of the Americas, the Third Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development (CIDS) and Santa Cruz+ 5 was held at OAS headquarters, February 11 and 12. Its objectives included presentation of contributions for the Rio+10 Summit in 2002. For the occasion, the USDE prepared and circulated the General Secretariat's Second Report on the progress made toward sustainable development in the Americas, titled *Toward Sustainable Development in the Americas, Report on Summit Implementation*.

In compliance with mandates from the Second and Third Summits of the Americas, a cooperation agreement was concluded with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), for a USAID grant of US\$97,635 to further the advances made with implementation of the program to improve property records. That program is being carried out through the Virtual Office of the Inter-Summit Property Systems Initiative (IPSI), a mechanisms that USAID and the OAS created for that purpose.

The USDE is working with the General Secretariat, which chairs the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR), on preparing the draft of the Inter-American Strategic Plan for Disaster Reduction, Risk Management and Emergency Preparedness, for the member states to consider implementing.

Activities associated with General Assembly mandates

In compliance with General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 1896 "Human Rights and Environment," the Unit launched an initiative intended to help promote institutional collaboration within the Organization on the subject of human rights and the environment, particularly between the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the USDE.

Similarly, the Unit participated in a general hearing with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, requested by CEDHA. The hearing looked at the effects of environmental degradation on the exercise and enjoyment of human rights in the hemisphere.

Activities with international organizations.

Through the USDE, the General Secretariat's role began in the official consultation launched by the Inter-American Development Bank to prepare the Bank's Environmental Strategy in conjunction with other organizations.

Technical cooperation activities

Water resources and transboundary ecosystems

The Unit continued its efforts to strengthen technical cooperation among the member states for integrated and sustainable management of water resources in transboundary basins and coastal areas. The USDE is a member of the Executive Committee of the GEF/Block B project titled Integrated Freshwater Basin and Coastal Area Management in Small Developing Island States. Under the Strategic Plan of Action for the Bermejo River Binational Basin (PEA), the Unit continued to implement activities geared to reducing and controlling environmental degradation and promoting

development of the binational basin, as programmed during the planning phase. The project is being executed in cooperation with the governments of Argentina and Bolivia, through the Binational Commission for Development of the Upper Bermejo and Grande de Tarija River Basin, with funding from the GEF in the amount of US\$11.4 million. According to plan, the project will be completed in October 2005.

During 2002, the USDE continued its activities in connection with the project on Implementation of Integrated Watershed Management Practices for the Pantanal and Upper Paraguay River Basin, executed in Brazil by the National Water Agency (ANA) with support from the USDE and the UNEP, and a GEF grant of US\$6.6million. Implemented using a new approach to product-based project management, 32 contracts were signed for execution of 31 subprojects. By a decision of the Executive Committee, the project-execution period was extended until November 2004.

During 2002, the project on Integrated Management of Land-based Activities in the São Francisco River Basin was executed with a GEF grant of US\$4.7 million and entered into its final phase of execution. Ten sub-projects were completed and the first draft of the Analytical Diagnostic was presented. The terms of reference for formulation of the Integrated Management Program (IMP) were also drawn up. As part of the project, thematic, technical and coordination workshops were held, as were two meetings of the Executive Committee. Activities were conducted to provide support to the São Francisco River Basin's Integrated Committee, which is to be officially inaugurated in December. The Executive Committee decided that the project-execution period would be extended to December 2003.

Also in Brazil, work continued on the project titled Program of Strategic Activities for the Amazon Basin (PRODEAM) and the project on Strengthening the Institutional Structure Shaping National Water Resource Policies in Brazil (SRH).

In 2002, execution of the project on Formulation of a Strategic Action Program for the Integrated Management of Water Resources and Sustainable Development of the San Juan River Basin and its Coastal Area (CRSJ) continued. The governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua are conducting this project with a GEF grant of US\$4 million. Also during 2002, a series of events, workshops and thematic seminars were held. These included a Dialogue on Water and Climate, conducted in partnership with the International Secretariat of the Dialogue on Water and Climate of the 3rd World Water Forum with financing from the Government of the Netherlands in the amount of €2,616.

Under the project on "Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of the Guarani Aquifer System," a cooperation agreement was concluded between the OAS General Secretariat and the World Bank. The first of these institutions will serve as project executing agency, whereas the second will serve as project implementation agency, both in collaboration with the governments of Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay. The project will be carried out with GEF funding in the amount of US\$13.4 million. The project's total cost is US\$26.76 million. The bilateral agreements between the participating countries and the OAS General Secretariat were recently finalized, which means that the project's activities can officially get underway during the first quarter of 2003. In 2002, measures were taken to decide the location of project headquarters, tendering and selection of the project's Secretary General, formation of the Upper Executive Committee and preparation of the Technical-Financial Operations Manual (PIP).

By way of the Brazilian Agency for Cooperation, the Brazilian Government presented the agreement for the project “Plan of Action for Integrated Development of the Paranaíba Valley” (PLANAP), signed by the parties in February 2002. The government already made a payment of US\$2,000 for project start-up. With financing from the GEF’s Block A, in the amount of US\$25,000, the USDE advised the five River Plate Basin countries to put together a proposal under the GEF’s Block B, for US\$700,000. The proposal is for preparation of a “Framework Program for Water Resource Management in the River Plate Basin, to better cope with climate variability and change,” and was approved by the Coordinating Inter-governmental Committee of the River Plate Basin Countries (CIC), by the five countries that signed the River Plate Basin Treaty (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay).

Inter-American Water Resources Network

The USDE continued to serve as the technical secretariat of the Inter-American Water Resources Network (IWRN), which makes possible permanent contact, a sharing of experiences and technical information relevant to the topic. The network has 34 national focal points designated by the member states. During the period under analysis, the Network was particularly active in preparing the Final Report of the IV Inter-American Dialogue on Water Management, held in Foz de Iguazú, Brazil in September 2001. The Unit also followed up on and supported the national dialogues on governability in water resource management, conducted with funding from the Japanese Government under the Japan Water Resources Association in the amount of US\$177,000. Finally, as Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Water Resources Network (IWRN), support was provided for negotiations with the GEF and the UNEP for approval of the Medium-sized Project to Strengthen the Inter-American Water Resources Network. As reported elsewhere in this report, the project was approved with funding of US\$972,000.

Medium-sized Project to Strengthen the Inter-American Water Resources Network - IWRN

In September 2002, the GEF approved the project titled Development and Implementation of Mechanisms to Disseminate Lessons Learned and Best Practices in Integrated Transboundary Water Resources Management in Latin America and the Caribbean, submitted to the GEF by Brazil as co-Chair of the IWRN. With US\$972,000 in funding from the GEF, the project will last 18 months.

III World Water Forum – Day of the Americas

The USDE was on the Organizing Committee for Day of the Americas, which will be March 19, 2003, during the III World Water Forum in Japan. To that end, with US\$177,000 in funding from the Japan Water Resource Association, national dialogues were established on governability in water resource management.

Water Vision for the Caribbean

The project on “Achieving the Hemispheric Water Vision,” funded by the Japan Water Resources Association (JAWA) and executed by the Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment of the Organization of American States (USDE/OAS) with the assistance of the Caribbean Environment and

Health Institute (CEHI), promotes the collaboration of civil society and government in accomplishing a hemispheric water vision of governance in water resource management.

One element of this project specifically pertains to the Caribbean and consists of two activities: 1) a pilot project in St. Vincent and the Grenadines on water resource policies; and 2) review of a document and a draft declaration and summary. Through the pilot project, technical assistance is being provided to the government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to assist with harmonization and improvement of legislation and regulations currently governing water resources. The focus is on one priority area for St. Vincent and the Grenadines and sound regulations to govern waste management.

Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change (MACC)

The project on Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Climate Change (CPACC) was completed in December 2001, at which point the participating countries requested a PDF-B grant from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in order to prepare the follow-up to the project, which is called Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change (MACC).

To ensure the continuity of the region's efforts to adapt to climate change, a grant of CDN\$3.2 million was assured by CARICOM for a project on Climate Change in the Caribbean.

The Unit is presently assisting CARICOM's Secretariat with development of the implementation plan and preparation of the operations manual for the project on Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change, and is also providing entries in the development of the project on Information Management Systems. The work is expected to be completed in February 2003.

Caribbean Dialogue on Water and Climate (CDWC)

The Caribbean Dialogue on Water and Climate (CDWC) was established to promote and coordinate policy discussion and action on water and climate among Caribbean countries. The forum provides a vehicle for disseminating information, sharing experiences, cooperating and communicating to address climate change and water resource management. Funded by the Netherlands-based International Secretariat for the Dialogue on Water and Climate, the Caribbean initiative is also designed to promote the exchange of information and experiences with small island states (SIDS) of the Pacific Region. CEHI and the OAS Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment are serving as the Dialogue convener and secretariat, respectively.

The first phase of the Dialogue covers the period from May 2002 to March 2003, the date of the III World Water Forum. Funding has been requested from the global Dialogue on Water and Climate (DWC) for this phase, on the understanding that the DWC will allow funding for the second phase to be requested before the first phase has been completed. During this first phase, the activities are: public awareness campaigns; consultations with the stakeholder; workshops; sites on the DWC's Internet page for the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) of the Caribbean; and documents of interest about participating in the III World Water Forum. The Unit also designed the web site (www.oas.org/cdwc). Collaboration also began on the Small Island States Water and Climate Fact Sheet.

Caribbean disaster mitigation projects

In June 2002, the OAS and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) signed an agreement with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for the Caribbean Hazard Mitigation Capacity Building Project (CHAMP). That program is a three-year project involving upwards of US\$1.4 million, to go toward training CARICOM state officials in how to mitigate the risk of natural hazards. The first two components of this project are support for natural hazard mitigation development policies and implementation of sounder training. The project agreement was signed at the OAS General Assembly in June. The OAS/USDE will serve as executing agency and CDERA as project implementation agency.

Information for making decisions regarding sustainable development

The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (SG/OAS) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) to serve as field management institution on a small project to be implemented in the Caribbean. The project is named "Capacity to create information tools for more informed decision-making about the sustainable development of the small island developing states (SIDS) of the Caribbean" involving a total of \$271,000.

One of the first activities scheduled is a mission to Barbados in December 2002, to meet with various international, regional and national organizations to discuss how the new project can dovetail with activities either already underway or on the drawingboard. The Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment will be working with a number of organizations in the region, among them the University of the West Indies.

Trade Corridors

The Inter-American Program for Training and Research for Trade Corridor Development (PROCORREDOR) continues to support regional training and research projects on related topics, in order to advise governments, consult with the private sector and prepare the next generation of specialists in the development of trade corridors, with the emphasis on the transportation sector. The centers collaborating with PROCORREDOR, which include centers in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Peru, the United States and Uruguay, provided documents on experiences and activities. Those documents were then used at the Second Hemispheric Conference on Vulnerability Reduction of Trade Corridors to Socio-Natural Disasters (TCC II), held in Tampa, Florida, in June 2002. TCC III will be held in 2003, in Zamorano, Honduras.

Disaster reduction in the development context

The sixth phase of the project titled Flood Vulnerability Reduction and Development of Early Warning Systems in Minor River Basins in Central America (SVP) was launched in coordination with the Federation of Central American Isthmus Municipalities (FEMICA), the Coordination Center for Disaster Prevention in Central America (CEPREDENAC), and the Regional Hydraulic Resources Committee (CRRH). With support from the Government of the Netherlands, through the International Secretariat of the Dialogue on Water and Climate, the terms for setting up a Regional Platform for the SVP were established, whereby a consortium of NGOs will provide technical advisory services and training to local, national and regional groups interested in reducing the exposure to flooding. Plans are

to use seed funds as a way to multiply the contributions received from the selected consortium. The DWC process has made it possible to bring the experiences of the OAS member states with water and climate to the attention of the III World Water Forum, to be held in Japan in March 2003.

One of the programs the USDE became involved in when responding to the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch in four Central American countries was the Water Level Observatory Network for Central America (RONMAC), financed by USAID through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

As part of the School Natural Hazard Vulnerability Reduction Program –EDUPLAN, the USDE continues to support the program's technical secretariats in Argentina, Costa Rica, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States and Venezuela, at the community, educational, administrative and/or geographic levels, in efforts to collaborate to voluntarily reduce schools' exposure to natural hazards through measures in the academic area, public participation and physical infrastructure.

In coordination with the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), the CEPREDENAC, and the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT), the USDE continues to help update the Study on the Vulnerability of Central American Roads to Natural Hazards and the process for Reciprocal Assistance in the Event of Damage to the Transportation Infrastructure from Natural Disasters in Central America.

Renewable energy in the Americas

The USDE serves as technical secretariat of the Renewable Energy in the Americas (REIA) Program. In 2002, REIA undertook a series of new initiatives and broadened the scope of some of the activities already underway. In conjunction with the World Bank, it administers a hemispheric alliance that serves as a catalyst to bring modern energy services into rural, low-income areas of Latin America and the Caribbean. The global sustainable energy alliance -Latin America and the Caribbean (GVERP-LAC) - will be beneficial to numerous national strategies for rural energy development and will help steer technical and financial assistance resources toward execution of such programs. Following up on the adoption of the Sustainable Energy Plan in Saint Lucia, in 2001 the REIA began working with Dominica and Grenada to devise similar strategies, which can be used as maps for the transformation of energy sectors through the use of sustainable energy technologies (renewable energy and energy output systems). The REIA is also promoting technical assistance to various countries -the Dominican Republic and Guatemala among them- for analysis and development of renewable energy policies. Through its partnership with the IACD, the REIA continues to assist with the development of rural telecommunications and energy projects. En el 2002, as a result of an OAS-financed pilot project designed by the REIA and the IACD, the Inter-American Development Bank provided Honduras with a loan of \$8.5 million for the National Rural Connectivity and Energy Initiatives.

Virtual Office of the Inter-Summit Property Systems Initiative

As a result of the Second Summit of the Americas (Chile 1998) and in response to the property records mandates in the Santiago Plan of Action, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), in partnership with the OAS, created the Virtual Office of the Inter-Summit Property Systems Initiative. During the Summit, member states expressed their commitment to organize and standardize their own national property records systems. Accordingly, the purpose of the Virtual Office of the Inter-Summit Property Systems Initiative is to offer extensive assistance in the form of information at its portal at www.property-registration.org, for the efforts that are now being made to overhaul some aspects of the property records system.

INTER-SECTORAL UNIT FOR TOURISM

Established by Executive Order 96-7, the Inter-sectoral Unit for Tourism promotes interdisciplinary tourism development, strengthens and stabilizes practical cooperation with other regional and international organizations, revitalizes the Inter-American Travel Congress (CIT), and directs technical cooperation and training programs to promote sustainable development in the member states.

Formulation of policies and plans

As part of the emergency response program designed to help the tourism sectors in the Caribbean member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) whose tourism sectors and economies suffered from the severe slowdown in 2001, in 2002 the Inter-Sectoral Unit for Tourism (UTUR) provided Dominica with consulting services to help it revitalize its tourism sector.

Development of tourism products

The USAID-funded Small Tourism Enterprises Project (STEP) was put together in response to the poor performance and profits that are virtually the norm within the small hotel subsector. It is also because market demands indicate that attention must be devoted to environmental factors when designing and operating tourism businesses. During the period under consideration, the following was done under the various components of the STEP project:

Creation of the Caribbean Experiences brands and standards for hotels and related tourism businesses.

In 2002, the UTUR conducted an important series of product tests for the Caribbean Experiences brands and standards, involving some 450 small hotels in the participating countries. Seminars were organized in the seven participating countries for 120 hotel owners and managers. The Unit did follow-up checks with the small-hotel owners, prepared a report on the product launch and obtained information to fine-tune the Caribbean Experiences approach. The exercise will also help improve the structure of integration and be useful in preparing the *Caribbean Experiences* business plan project.

Tourism sites, attractions and community tourism

The Tourism Sites and Attractions component of the STEP project was launched with preparation of a list of 26 attractions (15 in Saint Lucia and 11 in Barbados). The UTUR also began talks with the Canadian International Development Agency's Caribbean Regional Human Resource Development Program for Economic Competitiveness (CIDA-CPEC), to jointly disseminate the development standards and community tourism activities.

One important feature of the initiatives involving tourism sites, attractions and community tourism is the potential that events and festivals have to add value to the tourism product and increase the member states' tourism revenues. To underscore this potential, the UTUR organized a regional seminar on event planning and management. The seminar, held November 4 through 6, 2002, was attended by more than 60 event managers and organizers.

Creation of an Internet site for managers of tourism attractions

The staff of the UTUR and a NetCorps volunteer created a new Web site for owners and managers of tourism sites, attractions and community tourism projects. The site is being studied and will be released to the public early in 2003.

Development of an environmental management system

The UTUR worked with staff from USAID and *Caribbean Action for Sustainable Tourism (CAST)* on formulation of a program of environmental courses of action for small hotels as a first step in a series of technical initiatives to help small properties implement environmental management systems. By December 31, 2002, 60 courses of action will have been completed and more than 160 hoteliers will have made contact with environmental management programs. By the end of 2002, more than 1700 people and 400 organizations will have had contact with these initiatives from the time the program started.

Information and technology transfer systems

Creation of an Internet-based medium

UTUR created a digital tool to provide commercial visibility to the hotels and other businesses participating in the STEP program. The core of the project is a registered Internet portal, *Caribbeanexperiences.com*, which hotels and other tourism businesses can use to advertise on the Internet. In 2002, the UTUR hired a tourism reservations service to start setting up the portal and the reservation service, before *Caribbean Experiences* is launched. The portal will be ready by December 2002 and test runs will begin early in 2003.

Delivery of technological assistance

The program to deliver technological assistance to small tourism businesses has proven to be a tremendous success among the small hotel community. In 2002, thanks to collaboration with the Net Corps Americas and Net Corps Canada programs, training was delivered to more than 65 properties and 162 employees in 8 member states. Also, through collaboration with the Canadian Executive Service Overseas (CESO), volunteers assisted some 30 hotels with hotel management, operations, food and beverages.

Creation of an on-line virtual resource center, "CaribbeanInnkeeper.com"

In 2002, the UTUR began to update and fine-tune the virtual resource center at the Web page *CaribbeanInnkeeper.com*. This involved adding information and services related to training programs, equipment, tools and materials now available through the STEP project. This project gives hotel operators, researchers, students and personnel in the sector a significant amount of information relevant to the operation of tourism businesses, information they can access via the Internet.

Creation of walk-in resource centers

The virtual resource center at CaribbeanInnkeeper.com will be matched by walk-in resource centers in the countries participating in the STEP project. These centers, which will serve as a primary vehicle for introducing the STEP project in the participating States, will offer training materials, a video library for small hotels, a facility for TV and video projection, Internet access and pamphlets. They will also make available CAST's information about its programs and the brochures on environmental management prepared for the STEP program. By the end of 2002, resource centers will have been established in 8 member states; another 5 will be ready early in 2003. The UTUR also organized a "mobile" resource center that will be used in larger countries like Guyana and the Bahamas, so that the project reaches small properties beyond the principal centers of tourism.

Preparation of instructive pamphlets

The purpose of the pamphlets is to present the operating practices and best practices in the sector, both in electronic format and in print. The goal is that the best practices illustrated in the pamphlets will make tourism businesses more efficient and profitable. In 2001 and 2002, 17 pamphlets were prepared on a variety of business-related issues, among them environmental conservation, energy management, room improvements, businesses, rapid solutions, maintenance, room service and positioning in the market.

Education and training

Certification for workers in the sector

In 2002, the UTUR collaborated with the CIDA's CEPC and the *American Hotel and Lodging Association* (AHLA) to prepare and adapt training materials and food-service certification and room service for small hotels. With the permission of the AHLA, this material was made available at the start of the year, for a number of hotel owners, regional experts and instructors to test the products. All the participants agreed that the instructive materials were well adapted to small hotels' needs. In mid 2002, 75 educators participated in seminars providing training to instructors in AHLA training certification using the adapted material. A team of instructors is essential to achieve the goal for 2003, which is to train 500 hotel staff.

Instructive manuals for schools

In keeping with the mandate from the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Tourism Development, the Unit, working with the Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO), wrapped up the following activities: a) major development of the Tourism Learning System for the Caribbean, in cooperation with Canadian counterparts, to consolidate and coordinate the tourism education and training activities in the region; b) implementation of seminars and activities to promote and introduce tourism modules in the school systems in the region, modules that were developed as part of OAS-financed activities in 2001; and c) implementation of tourism awareness activities in the region.

Institution- and capacity-building

Convinced that effective implementation of the STEP project will depend upon the capacity of the counterpart coordinators participating in the member states, training courses were organized in 2002 for STEP coordinators, who were trained in environmental awareness, environmental assessment,

hotel management, food services and health and food safety precautions. The coordinators also participated in a training and certification program for small hotels and the communications media. The program was conducted with the assistance of Loyola University.

The Unit's activities in Central America

During the last year, the Unit provided assistance to the following tourism projects in Central America:

Regional small hotel assistance projects

The regional projects to assist small hotels involved six OAS member states (Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama) to provide advisory services to enhance their competitiveness. Implementation was held up for almost all of 2002 owing to the executing agency's institutional problems. However, the UTUR was able to introduce a change in the agreements on financing and executing agencies in the last quarter of the year in order to effect the first disbursement of funding to the Caribbean Small Tourism Enterprises Project. By year's end, the diagnostic study of the sector's problems was partially complete.

Coffee Tourism Route Project

The goal of the Coffee Tourism Route Project is to generate tourism benefits in the Los Santos region by using a native product like coffee. This project will help diversify the region's predominantly coffee-based economy and strengthen its assets and culture. A pilot project is being conducted in Costa Rica. Cooperation is also being provided to similar undertakings in Nicaragua and Guatemala. During the year, a list of tourism products was put together, a community awareness program launched, and a study of the pilot products undertaken with tourism operators and agencies and possible counterparts. Marketing and advertising activities were conducted toward year's end.

Other activities in Latin America

During the period under consideration, UTUR staff participated in the IV National Congress of Legislative Committees on Tourism and Economic Development, held in Acapulco, Mexico, in February. There they presented a document on the Growth of Tourism in Latin America – Current trends and prospects.

Staff of the Unit had talks with the Director of the OAS Office in Uruguay, to obtain that office's assistance in identifying opportunities for the Unit's tourism development program in the region.

Research to use in formulating policies and programs

Research was done on a project to involve the indigenous peoples of Dominica, St. Vincent and Belize in the tourism sector. The report on the study is being used in designing a project for funding. The project will be included in the UTUR work program.

Research has been conducted on a project to maximize the benefits and economic return from sports tourism. The report on the study was used as the principal reference at a symposium held in Grenada in November.

Projects approved by the Permanent Council in October 2001 got underway. These projects are intended to help the tourism sectors of the member states whose economies suffered a serious slowdown that year. The activities conducted were in the following areas: marketing, planning and development of products; technical assistance to the small hotels subsector; establishment of resource centers and formulation of a short-term plan for reactivation of tourism in Dominica.

Institutional mechanisms

In the period under consideration, the Inter-Sectoral Unit for Tourism participated in discussions with various institutions in the area, including the Caribbean Tourism Organisation, the Caribbean Hotel Association, Caribbean Action for Sustainable Development, the Caribbean Epidemiology Centre (CAREC), George Washington University, Loyola University, the Caribbean Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the European Investment Bank, and the Canadian International Development Agency's Caribbean Regional Human Resource Development Program for Economic Competitiveness (CIDA-CPEC). The Unit also concluded the substantive preparations for the XVIII Inter-American Travel Congress. However, the Congress was postponed until mid 2003; it had originally been slated for September 2002.

Funding

To secure funding for parts of the UTUR work program, during the year talks were conducted with the Inter-American Development Bank's Multilateral Investment Fund, the World Bank's International Finance Corporation, the European Investment Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank, the Bank of Nova Scotia and the Canadian International Development Agency.

UNIT FOR THE PROMOTION OF DEMOCRACY

Established through Executive Order No. 90-3, of October 15, 1990, pursuant to General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 1063 (XX-O/90), the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD) was created to put into practice a program of assistance to help preserve and strengthen member states' democratic political institutions and procedures. The Unit carries out its work plan under the Program of Support for the Promotion of Democracy, which the Permanent Council approved in its resolution CP/RES. 572 (882/91).

Office of the Executive Coordinator

In 2002, the Office of the Executive Coordinator coordinated and spearheaded the Unit's work, both to ensure fulfillment of the work program and to meet the various needs that arose during the year.

The Office of the Executive Coordinator also headed up the Unit's work in connection with the Inter-American Forum on Political Parties. The Forum was created in Miami in December 2001, with the support of more than a hundred representatives of various political organizations in the hemisphere and the most important international organizations that in one way or another work with political parties. In 2002, the Forum has succeeded in establishing itself as a venue to meet and promote initiatives to improve the quality of the party systems and political parties of the region.

In August 2002, the Inter-American Forum on Political Parties held a workshop in Santiago, Chile. It brought together international groupings of political parties, institutes and foundations, thus giving the Forum an opportunity to partner with the principal international groupings of party representation to engage in joint undertakings. A study was launched in the 34 countries of the Hemisphere on political financing. A group of high-level experts was convened for a workshop in Costa Rica in October, where the parameters of the study were determined. Finally, in December 2002, Vancouver was the site of the Forum's second meeting, where some of the most important political leaders of the hemisphere convened to converse and share their views on issues related to political finance and reform. The IAFPP's Vancouver meeting also saw the creation of the Forum's Advisory Council, whose members include some of the most important figures involved in strengthening the party systems in the hemisphere. It will help steer the Forum and keep it on track to meet its future objectives.

Strategic programs for strengthening democracy

To facilitate a sharing of experiences and ideas and to further inter-parliamentary cooperation, in 2002 the Program on Strengthening Legislative Institutions (PAFIL) helped organize the first meeting of the Inter-parliamentary Forum of the Americas (FIPA). The venue for the meeting was the Congressional Building in Mexico City. Also, in collaboration with the Andean Parliament, the program was instrumental in staging a seminar on the role of political parties and congresses in the political reform of the Andean countries, held in Colombia's Congress Building. It also provided advisory assistance to MERCOSUR's Joint Parliamentary Commission for the launch of the *Inter-parliamentary Legislative Information Network*. Also, in keeping with the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism and in support of the Forum of the Heads of the Legislative Branches of Government in

Central America (FOPREL), the program assisted an initiative involving Central American inter-parliamentary cooperation to devise a regional legislative strategy and bring current the related domestic laws. It also provided assistance to members of the United States Congress and Venezuela's National Assembly in organizing the Inter-parliamentary Forum between the two countries, held in Brewster, Massachusetts in September 2002.

A study on "*Congresos y Procuradores de Derechos Humanos en la Protección de los Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales en Centro América*" [Congresses and State's Attorneys for Human Rights in the Protection of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Central America] was completed, as part of the mission of discovering and reporting new facts about the role of the legislative branch in a democracy. A program targeted at parliamentarians was also concluded that focused on press relations strategies. A study was undertaken on best parliamentary practices in relations between the legislative branch of government and civil society, and in the field of legislative information sciences and legislative advisory systems. Work also started on preparation of the Manual of Legislative Techniques for Parliaments in the Hemisphere, and the study on the "Budget Process and Political Control in the Andean Region."

To promote better understanding of the role that the legislative branch plays in a democracy, the "IV MERCOSUR Regional Course, the Legislative Branch of Government in a Democracy and Integration" was conducted in cooperation with the Congress of the Republic of Brazil. Participating were some fifty young people from the region's political parties, national and provincial congresses, municipal councils, and other such bodies.

During this same period, technical assistance was provided to devise legislative modernization programs for the Congress of the Province of Cordoba, Argentina, and the Congresses of the Dominican Republic and Bolivia.

In 2002, through its Program to Support Decentralization and Citizen Participation Processes, the UPD continued to support the member states' efforts to strengthen the legal and institutional framework in this area. Ever since the 2001 creation of the High-level Inter-American Network on Decentralization, Local Government and Citizen Participation (RIAD) within the OAS and in response to the commitments undertaken in this area at the Summits of the Americas, the Program has focused on supporting the activities of this new vehicle of hemispheric cooperation. As RIAD's technical secretariat, the UPD collaborated with RIAD's Chair Pro Tempore and Vice Chair Pro Tempore, which are Bolivia and Mexico, respectively, on planning the Network's activities. The UPD collaborated with the Government of Mexico to hold a specialized workshop and to organize a working meeting in Cancun, Mexico, where RIAD's members decided what its priority areas would be.

As requested by the Specialized Meeting of MERCOSUR Municipalities and Intendencies (REMI), a specialized subregional body, the UPD collaborated with MERCOSUR in holding a subregional forum on decentralization and local government in Mar del Plata, Argentina, and provided technical assistance to organize studies on decentralization and local autonomy in the MERCOSUR subregion. In the Andean region, at the Peruvian government's request the UPD was one of the international co-sponsors of a seminar on decentralization and regional development, held in Lima, Peru. Its purpose was to help further decentralization in that country.

In Central America, a technical cooperation agreement was concluded with the Inter-American Development Program for the program “Support to Strengthen Political Decentralization in Central America,” which will help build the central governments’ capacity to devise and implement decentralization policies. Its theme and method were introduced and examined at a high-level subregional seminar on “The Political Dimension of Decentralization,” held in the Dominican Republic with the sponsorship and collaboration of the National Council for State Reform and the World Bank.

In keeping with the specific mandates from the Inter-American Demographic Charter on “Promotion of a Democratic Culture,” the Program for Promotion of Democratic Leadership and Citizenry continued to offer its assistance for regional and national courses teaching the young leaders of the hemisphere about democratic institutions, values and practices.

In cooperation with the Inter-American Development Bank and the Inter-American Commission of Women, the “First Central American Course for Young Women Leaders on Democratic Governance” was held in Managua, Nicaragua in May 2002. Participating were some 30 prominent young women from Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, representing the sectors that shape public opinion, such as political parties, nongovernmental organizations, the press and academia. In cooperation with the Political Science Institute of the Universidad de la República del Uruguay and with the sponsorship of the Uruguayan Congress, the “First Regional Course on Democracy and Political Management” was held, attended by some forty young leaders from the MERCOSUR subregion’s political parties, electoral bodies, congresses, municipalities and media.

The program of national courses for Training Democratic Leaders (CALIDEM) about democratic institutions, values and practices was set up with IDB financial support. Its purpose is to help form a democratic leadership in countries of the hemisphere. Two national courses were conducted under this program, one in Peru and the other in Paraguay. National courses in Ecuador and Guyana are scheduled, as is a subregional course for Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica and St. Kitts and Nevis.

Finally, in cooperation with the United States Center for Civic Education, the UPD started work on the design of a series of workshops to train teachers in normal schools and officials from the ministries of education, the goal being to promote instruction in democratic values and practices within the educational system.

Strengthening of electoral processes and systems

In 2002, the area responded to various mandates and directives concerning elections-related matters by providing advisory services and technical assistance and conducting research on how the electoral systems of the hemisphere might be strengthened.

In Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras and Paraguay, support was provided in 2002 for the efforts of those governments to strengthen their countries’ electoral systems. The Unit helped design concrete measures and strategies aimed at promoting the use of better instruments and procedures in the area of electoral organization.

In countries in the Andean region, Central America and the Caribbean, the Unit continued the programs to modernize and automate electoral mechanisms using leading-edge technology developed

by experts from the area. A Cooperation Agreement was signed with Ecuador's Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE), for providing advisory assistance to the TSE to help it develop systems for vote tabulation, appointments, and reporting of results during the election process that culminated with the election of the President and Vice President in November 2002.

In those same regions, the Unit worked on developing and implementing civil registry programs, the basic objective being to organize the records, evaluate administrative structures, conduct studies on possible amendments to the pertinent laws, provide technological support for registration, notification and control procedures, provide training to registry officials, conduct promotional campaigns about the uses of the statistical data, and redefine the system's objectives.

Based on the Area's first experience in horizontal cooperation between the hemisphere's electoral bodies (Brazil-Paraguay) in July 2002, the General Secretariat and Brazil's Superior Electoral Tribunal concluded a framework cooperation agreement to regulate and implement future pilot programs in electronic voting in the member countries that so request. The main objective of these pilot plans is to enable the countries to test the electronic voting mechanism, which tends to facilitate the work of the members of the voting table and speed up the transmission of election results. In December, the General Secretariat received a request from Paraguay's Electoral Court to conduct a new pilot plan during the general elections slated for Paraguay in April 2003. At the present time, the UPD is taking the steps necessary to begin the project in January 2003.

In the area of horizontal cooperation, in December the Unit held a meeting in preparation for the Inter-American Conference of Electoral Authorities, which will take place in Panama in March 2003. Attending this preparatory meeting were representatives of the electoral bodies of Brazil, Canada, Mexico and Panama. At the meeting, the General Secretariat and Panama's Electoral Tribunal signed a cooperation agreement.

In the field of citizen participation in elections and civic education about voting, the Unit cooperated with Guatemala's Superior Electoral Tribunal in 2002 to stage workshops and seminars, and a media campaign was designed to help consolidate the democratic and participatory culture in the country.

In the first quarter of 2002, the Unit cooperated with Colombia's National Electoral Council and the Universidad Sergio Arboleda to organize the Forum on Democratic Culture and Electoral Tolerance, held in Bogota.

Information and dialogue on democracy

In both electronic and print formats, the UPD generated and disseminated information about its activities and the general theme of democratic development in the hemisphere, in order to make more critical, detailed and timely data on this topic available and get it to a wider audience. The UPD increased the information available on its Internet page, and created very complete and up-to-date pages for all the electoral observation missions conducted by the Organization and many of the Unit's special programs.

The UPD also updated the democracy-related databases and continues to work with Georgetown University's Center for Latin American Studies to build up the Database of the Americas.

The Unit has put enormous effort into producing promotional materials to disseminate information about its activities and programs. As a result, a number of CD ROMs and pamphlets were produced in English and Spanish and distributed to the Permanent Missions and Observer Missions, the OAS General Secretariat, and other institutions and individuals interested in the region's democratic development.

The Unit published reports on the electoral observation missions and special reports, as well as reports on UPD activities and seminars.

During 2002, emphasis was placed on promoting and disseminating the contents of the Inter-American Democratic Charter that the member states approved in September 2001. For example, a passport-sized version of the Inter-American Democratic Charter was published in the OAS' four official languages, featuring an introduction by the Secretary General. Those were distributed through the Organization's Offices, Permanent and Observer Missions, and at various UPD events, missions and programs in the member countries. The UPD provided support to a seminar on the Inter-American Democratic Charter in Montevideo, November 26 and 27, in partnership with the Uruguayan Foreign Ministry and the OAS Office in Uruguay. It also participated in an event sponsored by the Government of Peru, Transparency International and other agencies in September 2002, to commemorate the first anniversary of the approval of the Inter-American Democratic Charter. In 2002, the UPD also staged an event at Organization headquarters to analyze the Charter and its ramifications. That event was attended by the President of Peru, the Honorable Alejandro Toledo, as well as distinguished international experts.

Under the umbrella of the Democratic Forum, the Unit conducted a number of events during the year to further the discussion and debate of issues related to democratic development in the hemisphere. A seminar was held in Barbados, January 20 through 22, on Constitutional Reform in the Caribbean. On September 16, Washington, D.C. was the venue for a forum to celebrate the first anniversary of the Inter-American Democratic Charter. Lastly, on November 25, the UPD was instrumental in organizing a special meeting of the Permanent Council on Women's Participation in Political Processes.

Comprehensive Action against Antipersonnel Mines (AICMA)

As part of its mandate to support national reconciliation and the strengthening of the peace, the program on Comprehensive Action against Antipersonnel Mines (AICMA) continued to support anti-mine activities in the hemisphere and to support observance of the Ottawa Convention by its signatory States. The AICMA was particularly active in assisting demining activities in Central America, specifically in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, as well as Peru and Ecuador.

As part of the humanitarian demining component, the program assisted the member states' efforts in removing more than 19 thousand planted mines. In October 2002, Costa Rica completed its demining operations, which enabled it to declare itself mine-free. During the course of this year, Nicaragua, the most affected country in Central America, reached 60% of its goal of eliminating all antipersonnel mines laid in its territory. The program's activities in Honduras are now in their final stages, and the Honduran, Guatemalan, and Nicaraguan programs are expected to be completed in 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively. In August 2002, coordinated demining operations got underway on both sides of the border between Peru and Ecuador.

The OAS' leadership in support of the Ottawa Convention ("Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on their Destruction") was also apparent in the assistance that the AICMA program provided for the destruction of mines stockpiled in various member states. In August 2002, Nicaragua joined Ecuador, Honduras and Peru as a country free of mine stockpiles. The final stage is all that remains, which is the destruction of 136,000 mines in its arsenals. This year, the Government of Colombia requested the OAS' technical and financial assistance to comply with its obligations under the Ottawa Convention. Efforts got underway to coordinate a framework agreement for the AICMA program's support in preventive education, assistance to victims, and establishment and maintenance of a data bank.

For comprehensive coverage of the affected population's needs, support continued to be provided to the Care Program for Victims of Mines and Unexploded Ordnance, which has helped some 400 victims in Central America, most in Nicaragua. In 2002, the scope of the assistance to mine victims was broadened through a pilot program for post-rehabilitation job training. This program was done in cooperation with Nicaragua's National Institute of Technology. Initially plans are to train 55 rehabilitated victims in the first year; that figure could double in the second year.

With support from the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining, the AICMA program fine-tuned implementation of the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) in Nicaragua, as the system was being put into place in Ecuador and Peru. IMSMA serves as a primary data bank for prioritizing demining activities, preventive education, and victims' assistance efforts and will be used to develop a detailed study of the socioeconomic impact of mines on the affected regions.

Special programs

Special programs include the Organization's Electoral Observation Missions (EOMs), which is one of the most visible undertakings of the UPD and have more immediate impact. Throughout 2002, and at the request of the respective governments, the UPD organized and conducted Electoral Observation Missions in Bolivia, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Nicaragua, and Peru. Those Missions significantly added to the transparency of the respective electoral processes and bolstered voter confidence in them.

Established in 2000, the Special Program on Conflict Resolution and Promotion of Dialogue makes available to the member states and the Organization conceptual frames of reference, methods, mechanisms, and specialized human resources in the areas of promotion of dialogue, conflict resolution, and consensus building, all of which have been tested in the field and honed through initiatives undertaken in various countries of the hemisphere. This Special Program's activities include support for initiatives by governments and civil society aimed at promoting dialogue, building consensus and peacefully settling social conflicts.

Prominent among the activities carried out in 2002 was the technical support that the UPD provided to the General Secretariat in its efforts at political negotiation and mediation to resolve the political impasse in Venezuela.

In the second half of 2002, the Special Program supported establishment of the Central American Program (PCA) to prevent and settle conflicts. It seeks to promote socio-political dialogue on matters of mutual interest for the region, and to strengthen local, national and subregional strategies for dealing with these matters. It also works to develop a regional infrastructure to facilitate processes and establish mechanisms to manage conflicts between national, regional and local counterparts, mechanisms that work in the area of consensus building, dialogue and democratic governability in Central America.

During 2002, support was also provided to the last phase of implementation of the Program on the “Culture of Dialogue: Development of Resources for Peacebuilding (OAS/PROPAZ) in Guatemala,” whose activities focused on institutionalizing the program and transforming it into a completely Guatemalan foundation, the ProPaz Foundation. Expectations are that the ProPaz Foundation will be established by the first quarter of 2003, thereby continuing to support the peace process, political dialogue and democratic development in Guatemala. The goal here is to transfer the skills of the OAS-PROPAZ program, its mandates, resources, methods and conceptual frames of reference to this national institution.

Finally, in partnership with the *Peacebuilding and Development Summer Institute* at American University, the Special Program successfully coordinated a course titled “Peacebuilding and Development in Conflict Areas.” The purpose of the course was to provide practical skills and knowledge as well as field experience to international functionaries, government officials and members of civil society who work in the area of conflict resolution. The program covered different approaches to mediation, negotiation, reconciliation and dialogue, particularly in developing regions where conflictive levels run higher. Participants in these training sessions also explored the relationship of religion, culture and gender to the work of peacebuilding and development.

The technical cooperation programs for Peace and Reinsertion (including the “Hijos de Rio” Addendum) and Self-help Housing Construction in Nicaragua continued during 2002, completing the program of activities planned for this period. The programs succeeded in supplying beneficiary populations with infrastructure and installed capacity appropriate to each operating framework.

The National Governability Program (PRONAGOB), a specialized agency in Bolivia, and the Modernization of the Civil Register Program (MORECIV), a specialized agency in Paraguay, conducted all procedures planned in connection with the competitive bidding for and letting of contracts on goods and selection of personnel, as well as coordination among the government institutions associated with the corresponding programs. These activities are intended to strengthen the transparency of processes of this type, an initiative supported by the OAS and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the latter being the institution in charge of the financing. The activities of the specialized agency in Bolivia ended in August 2002 with the approval of the Governability Committee that has directed the program since 1996.

On July 18, 2001, the OAS General Secretariat and the Government of Guatemala signed a framework agreement establishing the OAS Program for Strengthening Democratic Institutions in Guatemala. That program focuses on four areas: electoral technical support, training and support in conflict resolution, promotion of democratic values and political management, and demining. The UPD has received substantial funding to help the recently appointed Supreme Electoral Tribunal with preparation of the general elections slated for the second half of 2003 and continues to support this

institution's efforts to design and conduct civic education and get-out-the-vote campaigns. The mine-clearing activities in Guatemala, already discussed in the section on the AICMA Program, have been completed in the department of San Marcos, the second most affected area according to the National Demining Plan. Next year, demining will begin in the area of Huehuetenango. Overall, demining operations in Guatemala are expected to be finished in 2004.

Working jointly with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the OAS/PROPAZ Program continued to assist important efforts at dialogue and consensus building in Guatemala, mainly with development of the "intersectoral tables" associated with the commitments undertaken in the Peace Accords. With the Program of Democratic Values and Political Management, the UPD endeavors to help modernize the political parties and party systems in Guatemala through training, seminars and applied research. The project is part of an even broader UPD effort, mentioned earlier and conducted within the hemisphere, to support reform and modernization of parties and party systems under the *Inter-American Forum on Political Parties*.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL

Under Article 115 of the Charter of the OAS and in keeping with the policy and practice decided by the General Assembly and with the respective resolutions of the Councils, the Office of the Assistant Secretary General is the Secretariat of the Permanent Council, provides advisory services to the Secretary General and is in charge of the other activities that the Secretary General entrusts to it.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary General provided technical and operational support for the holding of the thirty-second regular session of the General Assembly, held in Barbados, and the twenty-ninth special session of the General Assembly, held at Organization headquarters. It also coordinated technical and operational services in preparation for the thirty-third regular session, which the General Assembly will hold in Chile in June 2003.

Pursuant to Executive Order 97-2, the Office coordinated and supervised the following areas: the Secretariat of Meetings and Conferences, the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), the Columbus Memorial Library, the Inter-American Children's Institute (III), the Art Museum of the Americas, the Inter-American Emergency Aid Committee, and the Offices of the OAS General Secretariat in the member states. It orchestrated cooperative relations with the United Nations and its specialized organs, the organs of the inter-American system, the Association of Caribbean States, the Central American Integration System (SICA) and others. The Office of the Assistant Secretary General also performed specific functions involving coordination with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the World Bank in connection with the Haitian situation.

The Office contributed to the Secretary General's efforts to find solutions to the political-institutional crisis that Haiti is experiencing, in keeping with the express will of the member states of the Organization. It also organized and participated in the meetings of the Group of Friends of Haiti. The Office also supported the Secretary General's Office in the negotiation of a peaceful resolution of the territorial *differendum* between Belize and Guatemala and in the inquiry into the diversion of Nicaraguan weapons into the hands of the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia.

In his capacity as Secretary of the Permanent Council and its subsidiary bodies, the Assistant Secretary General worked with the representatives of the member countries and permanent observers on the preparation and holding of 33 regular meetings, 18 special meetings and 6 protocol meetings of the Permanent Council, as well as one meeting the Permanent Council held jointly with the CEPCIDI. He also monitored the proceedings of the more than 150 meetings held by the Permanent Council's committees and working groups.

OFFICES OF THE OAS GENERAL SECRETARIAT IN THE MEMBER STATES

The Offices of the OAS General Secretariat in the Member States assist with the preparation, execution and evaluation of the OAS' technical cooperation programs in their respective countries. They represent the General Secretariat, provide support to the Organization's other activities, and help publicize its purposes.

This report summarizes the activities that the Offices of the OAS General Secretariat in the member states from March 2002 to February 2003. One highlight of the year was the meeting that the Assistant Secretary General had with the directors of the OAS offices in the Caribbean. Timed to coincide with the thirty-second regular session of the General Assembly, the meeting was part of an ongoing effort to provide policy direction and exchange views on those offices' operations.

A number of the OAS' offices, especially the OAS/Haiti and OAS/Venezuela offices, deserve special mention for the support they provided during the period covered in this report, and that they continue to provide to the Secretary General and the Assistant Secretary General to facilitate resolution of the political problems those countries are experiencing. Similarly, the OAS' offices in Belize, Guatemala and Nicaragua have been particularly helpful in providing assistance to the Secretary General in his role as a witness of honor in the settlement of the differendum between Belize and Guatemala. Time and time again, the directors of these three offices have facilitated the Secretary General's efforts to deal with problems that arose in discharging his duties as a witness of honor. The contributions made by these offices were acknowledged at a ceremony held on September 30, 2002, marking the completion of the two facilitators' mission.

The OAS offices in Ecuador, Peru and Nicaragua provided invaluable help to the Electoral Observation Missions sent to those countries. The OAS/Ecuador office facilitated and supported the OAS Electoral Observation Mission during its presence for both rounds of the presidential elections. In fact, for the second round of the elections, the OAS Electoral Mission worked directly out of the OAS/Ecuador Office, where it was able to conduct all the coordination and support activities associated with this Mission. The OAS Office was of invaluable assistance to the Chief of the EOM as well.

The study of the OAS offices, prepared pursuant to a mandate of the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session and presented to the Chair of the Permanent Council on November 21, 2001 (CP/doc.3532/01), was submitted to the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP) early in 2002 and has still not been fully analyzed. Furthermore, pursuant to the mandate contained in resolution AG/RES. 1909 (XXXII-O/02), the Secretariat presented a document containing each office's work program and a report on the funds and subsidies that each one received from its host government.

The following are some of the principal activities carried out by the Offices of the OAS General Secretariat in the member states in the last year:

Administrative and logistical support provided to the organs of the OAS

The OAS offices assisted the various organs of the Organization through execution of programs and projects approved for their respective countries. A good portion of the offices' activities were associated with the fellowships awarded to citizens of member states and support provided to the new fellowships program. Almost all the offices offered a wide range of fellowship-related services and assisted fellowship recipients. The services included publication of fellowship announcements, advising applicants about the process, receiving and dispatching applications, information on the award of fellowship and follow up on the fellowship recipients' progress. Working in collaboration with the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD), the OAS offices in the member states also promoted technical cooperation between the OAS and the member states. A number of offices, perhaps even the majority, provided direct assistance with preparation of projects submitted to the IACD to request financing. The OAS offices maintained regular contact –including meetings in some cases- with the resident representatives of the donor governments and regional and multilateral organizations to make it easier to put current and future projects into practice.

Specifically the OAS offices performed administrative functions associated, for example, with assistance to the Secretariat of Conferences and Meetings. The Office of the OAS General Secretariat in Barbados helped with the planning of and preparations for the regular session of the General Assembly in Barbados; the OAS Office in the Dominican Republic performed similar functions for the CIM Assembly of Delegates, held in Punta Cana in October 2002; the Office of the OAS General Secretariat in Trinidad and Tobago did the same for the meeting of Ministers of Justice held there in March 2002; the OAS Office in Mexico helped with preparations for the CICAD session held in December 2002. The offices also represented the General Secretariat at a variety of workshops, conferences and symposiums, serving as the Organization's institutional presence in the member states.

Support for cooperation

The OAS offices continued supervising project execution and disbursed considerable funding for projects in the member states on behalf of several areas of the General Secretariat. While this type of activity varied from one office to another, it continued to be one of their most vital services. The OAS offices in the member states have, *inter alia*, actively promoted integral development through the activities in partnership for development administered by the Agency and other areas of the GS/OAS. They also facilitate the support that the GS/OAS provides to the Free Trade Area of the Americas. In collaboration with the Trade Unit, the offices helped arrange for seminars, workshops and training sessions about the FTAA Agreement.

The OAS Offices in the member states also assisted the following organs: the IACD's Department of Information Technology and Human Development; the Office of Cultural Affairs; the Office of Science and Technology; the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD); the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL); the Trade Unit; the Unit for Social Development and Education; the Unit of Sustainable Development and Environment; the Inter-sectoral Unit on Tourism; the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD); the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR); the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM); the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN); and the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI). The following were some of the activities undertaken:

- Combating drugs: the OAS offices in the member states facilitated CICAD's efforts to prepare and modernize national anti-drug plans. They also assisted the member states' participation in the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM).
- Promoting women's rights: the OAS offices in the member states collaborated with the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission of Women on the seminars and workshops conducted under the project to promote equal treatment for women in the public and private sectors.
- Consolidating democracy: collaborating with the UPD, the OAS offices in the member states were instrumental in increasing citizen participation in political processes by assisting the electoral observation missions, the peace processes and democratic institution-building. A number of the offices in the member states also worked with the Department of Public Information to circulate information about the Inter-American Democratic Charter, pursuant to the mandates from the General Assembly and the Permanent Council. For example, the OAS/Uruguay Office organized a seminar in Montevideo on the Democratic Charter. The speakers at that meeting included the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay, His Excellency Didier Opertti, and UPD Executive Coordinator Elizabeth Spehar.
- Promoting free trade: in collaboration with the Trade Unit and under its direction, the offices were instrumental in facilitating the member states' participation in the FTAA negotiations and related technical cooperation.
- Protecting the environment: sustainable development was encouraged, underscoring the importance of environmental conservation.
- Defending human rights: the OAS offices in the member states facilitated the work of the IACHR to protect citizens whose human rights had been violated.
- Tourism development: the OAS offices provided cooperation to the Inter-sectoral Unit on Tourism to participate in the buildup of the local tourism infrastructure and promote local potential, especially the Caribbean Tourism Competitiveness and Sustainability Project.
- Promoting education: assistance was provided to various areas of the GS/OAS to raise the standards and improve the conditions of education everywhere in the region.
- Support to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption: in cooperation with the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, a number of offices -OAS/Saint Lucia among them- helped arrange regional seminars to inform government officials and legal personnel about their operations and obligations under that Convention.

Exchange of information

In cooperation with the Department of Public Information/Office of External Relations, the OAS offices in the member states served as principal agents facilitating information-sharing in the member states. They regularly sent information to, and received and disseminated information from, the appropriate government agencies (local, regional, international), NGOs, and news agencies. The OAS offices also regularly convened seminars and workshops to publicize the various technical assistance programs the OAS had underway in the country. The OAS offices also followed up on the political

and economic success stories in their respective member states and informed the pertinent areas at headquarters about their results, through reports or bulletins.

The exchange of information was both formal and informal. Many OAS offices in the member states worked in close contact with the local government information services to prepare adequate programs and press releases to be delivered to both the print and electronic media. The OAS offices also publicized the various OAS-sponsored fellowships for studies and research, and other opportunities available to the citizens of the member states. This was made possible thanks to the innovative partnership between the OAS/Uruguay Office and the OAS fellowship recipients to get resources and fellowships in the country. The following are some concrete examples of the exchange of information headed up by each Office:

- Periodic meetings with the agencies for liaison between the government and the OAS, to discuss present and future development projects.
- Distribution of fellowship application forms and information about the PRA and SPECAF programs and the occasional training initiatives.
- Circulation of all materials prepared by the Department of Public Information and *Americas Magazine*, making them available to the local public, the government, the private sector and the NGOs.
- Announcement of visits by OAS staff.
- Creation of Web pages by the OAS offices in Uruguay and Guatemala.

The OAS General Secretariat will work with the Department of Public Information to regularly turn out in-depth articles and materials to publicize the work of the OAS offices in the member states.

Cooperation with other donors

The majority –if not all- of the OAS offices kept up a constant dialogue with the local offices of international donors and other multilateral organizations so as to improve coordination within the local donor community. In many cases, the OAS offices also participated in the monthly or quarterly meetings of the local donor community and, when so requested, cooperated with informative sessions held for missions of visiting donors and officials of other governments.

The degree of donor coordination was perhaps more intense among agencies of the inter-American system and in areas in which the cooperation programs conducted by the OAS in certain member states were exceptional and of considerable importance to those States.

Summit Mandates

Most OAS offices in the member states are now being used with greater frequency to execute mandates from the Summits of the Americas. About half the offices are participating in measures that assist the General Secretariat's work as an "institutional partner" in the Summits process. Clearly, more direction from the pertinent areas of the Secretariat is needed to use the OAS offices in the member states to maximum advantage in carrying out Summit mandates. The Secretariat for the Summit Process has recognized this and, working with the Office of the Assistant Secretary General,

will design specific activities and initiatives to make better use of the offices so as to facilitate execution of the Summit mandates. One topic now being explored is the support that the offices can provide to civil society in each member state to enable them to participate in the Organization's work.

SECRETARIAT FOR CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

The Secretariat for Conferences and Meetings was created in March 1997 by Executive Order No. 97-2, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions AG/RES. 954 (XVIII-O/88) and AG/RES. 1381 (XXVI-O/96), to unify and improve the General Secretariat's conference services. The SCR is composed of the Office of the Director and three divisions, whose functions are coordination of conference services, services in the official languages, and production and distribution of documents and information.

In the period under review in this report, the modernization process ordered in Executive Order 97-2 continued and expanded, in tandem with other processes involving remodeling of the General Secretariat buildings. Services were improved both qualitatively and quantitatively.

Management of conferences and meetings

With the financial support of the Secretariat for Management and the technical collaboration of the Department of Technology and Facility Services, the Office of the Director of the Secretariat for Conferences and Meetings (SCR) replaced and modernized the equipment and facilities that delegates in the Simon Bolivar Room use to request the floor, and that meeting room's simultaneous interpretation equipment. The new digital equipment can provide both the conventional services and the new "multimedia" conference facilities, all integrated and compatible with the services that the Department of Public Information provides. In 2002, the new multimedia capability of the Secretariat for Conferences and Meetings and the Department of Public Information made it possible to stage important Permanent Council meetings and deliberations, with the remote participation of the Secretary General, in real time, using videoconferencing and fully integrated simultaneous interpretation in the Organization's four official languages.

The Secretariat for Conferences and Meetings and the Secretariat for Management worked together to develop administrative procedures for executing the budgets of the Organization's meetings using the OASES System. For development and operation of the systems, the Secretariat worked closely with the Information Technologies Unit and integrated the computerized conference services platform. Internet access to these services is simpler and more user friendly. By remote means, users and the general public can now check the schedule of meetings, obtain official documents for the meetings over the Internet and look up information stored in the database of reference materials available to the public. The Secretariat continues to work on the databases in order to integrate the existing services systems with the administrative systems. The evaluation phase of this process will get underway in 2003.

Conference Services

Organizational and logistical support was provided to stage some 540 meetings. A total of 502 meetings of political and technical bodies were held, involving the Permanent Council and its subsidiary bodies, CIDI and its subsidiary bodies, and the following specialized organizations and agencies: the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR); the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM); the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL); the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), and the Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI). In the

member states, 13 high-level meetings were held, such as the thirty-second regular session of the General Assembly, the XXXII Session of CICAD, the IV Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas, and a variety of technical meetings of the IACHR, CITEL and CICAD. During this period, the Secretariat updated the six-month schedule of Organization meetings, as a tool for rationalizing the use of resources for conference services. That schedule provides the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs with the information it needs so that unprogrammed resources available in the Regular Fund of the Organization's budget can be earmarked for Organization meetings.

Language Services

The Secretariat pursued the policy of updating equipment and procuring software in the four languages. One important step was the effort made to initiate and maintain professional and functional contact with language services divisions in other international and domestic organizations, with a view to sharing technology and glossaries. The Internet portal of the Secretariat for Conferences and Meetings has been updated so that an extensive electronic library can be accessed from anywhere in the world.

The SCR's List of Outside Translators and Interpreters has grown significantly, with the addition of names of professionals from throughout the Hemisphere. An added effort has been made to increase the number of translators and interpreters in the member states, which represents a substantial savings when conferences are held away from headquarters.

Documents and Information Division

The Documents and Information Division serviced all areas of the General Secretariat, the Permanent Council and its committees, as well as all the Permanent Missions and Permanent Observers that requested documents and information services.

During the period covered in this report, the *Printing Unit* printed 4,933 documents, totaling approximately 5,980,675 pages printed.

The *Documents and Publications Distribution Unit* continued to distribute documents to the Permanent Missions and Permanent Observers through an outside courier service (*Council Run*). At the same time, the documents were also electronically distributed to all the Missions and Permanent Observers and to the offices of the OAS General Secretariat at headquarters and away.

The Intelligent Document Management Service (IDMS) program continued to be used, which allows precise tracking of documents from start to final storage.

Model General Assembly

The Secretariat provided support to the OAS Model General Assembly for Universities, held April 7 through 12, 2002, in Washington, D.C.

At OAS headquarters, 400 students, 39 professors and 34 high schools in the United States and Puerto Rico participated in the XXI Regular Session of the OAS Model General Assembly for High Schools, held December 3 through 7, 2002.

Costa Rica had its First Model OAS General Assembly for High Schools in San José, December 2 through 6, 2002. Some 200 high school students, 50 students at the School of International Affairs of the Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica and 34 teachers from the country's five provinces participated in the event.

The Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, through the Government of that country, repeated its offer to host the XXII Regular Session of the OAS Model General Assembly for Universities, which will be held March 23 through 28, 2003, in Querétaro, Mexico, under an agreement signed by the General Secretariat and the Government of Mexico.

ART MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAS

The Art Museum of the Americas was created by an OAS Permanent Council resolution in 1976, to stimulate the study of and interest in the art of the Americas, increase inter-American exchange and promote artistic creation in the Hemisphere. With its exhibits, collections, educational programs and reference services, the Museum is a vital center promoting and documenting the art of the Hemisphere.

Exhibits

The number of temporary exhibits continues to increase. They awaken an appreciation and understanding of the various forms of artistic expression in the Americas. During the period covered by this report, a total of 10 exhibits were organized. The following exhibits were staged at the Museum: *Art of the Fantastic by Muriel Kalish of the United States; Sheep, by Maria Fernanda Cardoso of Colombia;* and *Important Works in the Permanent Collection*. The following exhibits were staged in the Gallery: *A Selection of Photographs from the Permanent Collection; Transitory Spaces by Anaida Hernández and Rosa Irigoyen of Puerto Rico; Imaginary Lines, by Carolina Sardi of Argentina; Evoking a Caribbean, by Annalee Davis of Barbados; Variables, by Iraida Icaza of Panama; A Selection of Drawings from the Permanent Collection; and Recent Works of Claudio Fontini of Costa Rica*. A number of the exhibits and their artists were written up in the press, including Canada's Jeannie Thib in the *Washington Post* (4/4/02); Anaida Hernández and Rosa Irigoyen of Puerto Rico in *Washington Hispanic* (5/17/02), *Revista Domingo* (05/19/02) and *Gaceta Iberoamericana* (05-06/02); Argentina's Carolina Sardi in *La Plata* (07/16/02) and *Arte al Dia Internacional* (07-08/02); the United States' Muriel Kalish in the *Washington Post* (08/08/02); Barbados' Annalee David in *Bomb* (Winter 2002-03); and Colombia's Maria Fernanda Cardoso in the *Washington Post* (09/08/02, 12/14/02) and *Arte Nexus* (12/12/02).

Permanent Collection

Since 1949 the Museum has been collecting, preserving and documenting the work of leading artists in the hemisphere. During the period under review in this report, another 76 new works were added to the Permanent Collection. These included 66 photographs by various artists featured in the touring exhibit that the Museum organized in 1989. The Friends of the Museum donated a large photograph by Marcelo Brodsky of Argentina and John Fein donated a drawing by Cuba's Amelia Peláez. A series of photographs of Guatemala by Hans Namuth and a series of xilographs by Costa Rican artists were moved from the archives to the collection. The Museum also received gifts from artists who participated in the program of temporary exhibits, like Puerto Rico's Anaida Hernández and Argentina's Carolina Sardi. Works of art in the permanent collection were loaned for exhibits organized by outside institutions like the Nassau County Museum of New York, the Chilean Mission for its *Art Week* and the Chilean Embassy for a posthumous tribute to Roberto Matta. Within the General Secretariat, 19 large paintings were loaned for exhibition in the new public areas of the GSB. During this period, 700 works were moved from the permanent collection to the Museum's new storage facility, the artworks loaned to offices in the three headquarters buildings were checked, and a list detailing the locations of all works in the collection was submitted to the Fixed Assets Division. The collection continued to be documented through a specialized database for museums.

Conservation and preservation

As part of the project to relocate works from the permanent collection to the new storage facility, the condition of 700 works was checked; general cleaning and maintenance was done and a list of priorities for future preservation treatment was prepared. With the help of the Department of Technology and Facility Services, the 18 paintings loaned for exhibition in the renovated areas of the GSB underwent preservation and stabilization treatments and framing. These included works by Manabu Mabe, Danilo di Prete, Marcelo Legrand, Hilda Crovo, Carmen Santos, Arturo Kubotta, Tomie Ohtake, Toyota Yutaka, David Manzur, Tikashi Fukushima, Antonio Maro, Manuel Hernández, Rogelio Polesello and Yolanda Mohalyi.

Art archives and audiovisual materials

Through the art archives, the Museum continues offering reference services to students, researchers and collectors interested in Latin American and Caribbean art. Through its audiovisuals programs, the Museum continues to lend and sell materials for use in the classroom and for reproduction in educational publications. During the period covered in this report, \$5,900 was received from the sale of films and slides about the art of the Americas. Another \$1,333 was received for the rights to reproduce works from the permanent collection in various publications. Also, 310 new slides were taken of the works in the temporary exhibits, for use in publications, the press and at the Museum's web site.

Education

To make the exhibits a more educational experience, 5 exhibit catalogues and 7 virtual brochures for the Museum web page were produced. The Museum also offered 8 art workshops for children; 2 lectures by artists Annalee Davis of Barbados and Rosa Irigoyen and Anaida Hernández of Puerto Rico; and 2 workshops for adults on the subject "How to Frame Pictures." The Museum continues to offer, on a regular basis, guided tours for university and high school groups, cultural organizations and the like.

Special activities

On the occasion of the launch of the Spanish-language version of the Spring 2002 issue of *Foreign Affairs* (a journal published by the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México), the Museum was the venue of a lecture on "The United States and the Hemisphere in 2002," with Ambassador Robert Zoellick (USTR) and the Assistant Secretary General, Ambassador Luigi Einaudi, participating. The conference was attended by some 200 people and carried by closed-circuit television. To coincide with the New Year festivities, the Museum organized the "Annual Sale" of works of art donated to help the Museum. The sale raised more than \$8,000. The proceeds from the lease of the Museum to outside groups came to \$7,900. Contributions were received from the following to defray the cost of temporary exhibits held during this period: the participating artists; various entities outside the Organization, including the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration, Ronces de Puerto Rico, the Australia Council for the Arts and the Charles Delmar Foundation; and from the missions of Colombia, Argentina and Panama, which cooperated in hosting the opening receptions. During this same period, an electronic mailing list was prepared to send out the digital version of the bulletin of the Museum's activities.

As a member of the “Neighbors to the President” Consortium, the Art Museum of the Americas participated in the annual “Museum Day,” which promotes the activities of the member museums. It also cooperated in producing a new edition of the Consortium’s brochure. The Museum provided technical support to the Protocol Office for setting up 4 exhibits for “Art Weeks;” to the Staff Association for the Fourth Annual Art Exhibit, and to the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy for an art contest. At the international level, the Museum’s Director gave 3 lectures at the Biblioteca Luis Ángel Arango on the Permanent Collection and the masters of Latin American art.

Attendance

At the Museum’s Web page, a total of 169,887 visits and 272,165 “page views” were recorded from January to November 2002. Some 15,000 people visited the Museum at headquarters.

COLUMBUS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Columbus Memorial Library was established by the First International Conference of American States on April 18, 1890. The Library operates as a modern information and documentation center that makes vital information available to the permanent missions, the General Secretariat, the diplomatic community and the general public. It is also custodian of the institutional history of the Organization of American States, its predecessor the Pan American Union, and the inter-American system over the last two centuries. Over the years, the Columbus Memorial Library has been able to evolve from a traditional library program, and has added the General Secretariat's Archives and Records Management Program. It is also the custodian of all OAS documents.

The Permanent Council decided to allocate US\$300,000 from the Reserve Subfund to the Columbus Memorial Library, to make its documents and files accessible electronically. Some of the plans include a project for retrospective conversion of a catalogue of documents, to convert approximately 15,000 works in the OAS Documents Collection to standard OCLC MARC format. This is done to make the works available at the Library's Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) and to get a larger client base to use the Internet and the Organization's Web page. A preservation and digitalization project is also being carried out to provide digital images to a select group of resolutions and declarations of the Permanent Council and proceedings and documents of the General Assembly.

Automation

The Library's Web page is continually updated. The Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) offers research access to 32,000 publications and documents catalogued by the Columbus Memorial Library since 1980. The following pages were developed during the year 2002: Flowers and Plants; Pan American Day; Suriname; Leo S. Rowe; the Discovery of America: Encounter of Two Worlds; and the References page. Many are time to coincide with the exhibits set up by the Library.

Procurements

The Procurements Program was energized by donations from many sources, including the Mission of Venezuela and the Inter-American Defense College. With the remodeling of the GSB, small libraries previously housed in the General Services Building were moved and are now in the care of the Columbus Memorial Library. The Library acquired a significant portion of the Library of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD).

Cataloging

This year, approximately 2,109 books were catalogued. The Library continues to assign the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) and the Cataloging-in-Publication (CIP) data for the new publications and documents of the OAS. This ensures that the OAS' new publications and documents will be available online immediately. The Library also continues to publish the *Selective List of Books Accessioned and New Periodicals Received in the Columbus Memorial Library*. This information is updated regularly and is in the Library's Public Archive.

Reference services

The demand for reference services continues to increase, as the Columbus Memorial Library provides access to resources that support the OAS' vision. The Library is assisting with current research needs, as the archives are documenting and giving access to historical measures already taken.

The Reference Unit circulated 15,710 books and 3,681 periodicals, and answered 4,573 requests for information; 173 copies of historic photographs were made to answer those requests. The Documents Control Unit answered 1,450 requests, and the Archives and Records Management answered 800 requests. The Library requested approximately 2000 articles on loan from other libraries, and loaned 1900 articles to other libraries. Some 9,257 photocopies were made for the General Secretariat, the Missions, and for outside users. E-mail requests totaled 1,466.

The capacity of the reference service has increased with the acquisition of more databases. The Library subscribes to *First Search* and can access information from 70 databases covering a wide array of topics, with access to thousands of libraries worldwide and to 5.9 million online articles from 9,000 periodicals, including 3,500 e-zines.

The "Search" on the Hispanic American Periodicals Index (HAPI) provides information about Central America and South America, Mexico and the Caribbean, the United States-Mexico border region, and the Hispanic community in the United States. The Library still has access to WorldCat, the United Nations Treaties Series Database and to Lexis-Nexis. Recently, it added the following to its subscriptions: *The Economic Intelligence Unit - Selected Country Profiles and the Official Document System of the United Nations On Line*.

Documents management

A total of 40,220 documents were processed. Two volumes of the *Summary of decisions taken at the meetings and the resolutions approved, 2000 and 2001*, were published and added to the Library's page on the Internet.

OAS documents and publications

During the period covered in this report, the Library continued to help relieve the problems caused when the OAS Bookshop was closed. All mail having to do with OAS documents and publications was sent to the Library. The latter received 686 requests for OAS publications. A librarian was named Technical Secretary of the Publications Committee.

The Columbus Memorial Library was invited to attend the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM) in Ithaca, NY. It gave a presentation about the OAS official documents and the person speaking for the Library was named Director of the Working Group on Official Publications.

Preservation

The Library microfilmed the Official Archives of the OAS for 1999.

Archives and records management service

Several training sessions were held about how to manage office files efficiently, including e-files, as the offices in the General Services Building prepared for the remodeling process. The Archives and Records Management Service (ARMS) was an integral part of the GSB Remodeling Project Task Force, and helped put together guides for the moving process.

Some 4,561 boxes were stored with an outside contractor. Another 300 boxes of obsolete files were destroyed. The Archives Management Center received 1,067 boxes of semi-active files for storage; it sent 1,409 empty boxes to the offices to be used to move and transfer their files, and it continually processed valuable records that were also stored.

Exhibits

The Columbus Memorial Library mounted ten exhibits, including the following: Books from Venezuela; Italy; the Commemoration of the Independence of Grenada; Flowers and Plants in the Americas; Pan American Day Celebrations; Festivals of the Americas; Suriname – 25 Years in the OAS; the Legacy of Dr. Leo S. Rowe; the Discovery of America: Encounter of Two Worlds; Holiday Celebrations in the Americas.

Visits

The Columbus Memorial Library welcomed a Delegation of Italy, headed by the Vice-Minister and professor at Italy's University L'Aquila, students from the Inter-American Defense College, scholars and researchers from the United States, Mexico, Canada, Spain, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, 82 international students, students participating in the OAS Model General Assembly and from different universities in the United States.

Technical assistance

The Library received technical assistance from the Department of Technology and Facility Services to improve the quality and capacity of its computers.

Friends of the Library

The Columbus Memorial Library has been greatly helped by the interns and volunteers who are assigned to specific projects to relieve the understaffing problem. The interns come from high schools and universities in the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as some permanent observer countries. Various manuals and bibliographies have been completed.

A retired Department of State employee, who is a volunteer working on the Map Cataloging Project, has created a database to enter information on the collection of historical maps for which the Library is custodian.

Training on Internet resources in Latin America

Two training sessions were given for the permanent missions to the OAS and General Secretariat staff about the Internet resources in Latin America.

Grant proposals

In response to General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 1839 (XXXI-0/01), which requires that the Columbus Memorial Library submit a three-year plan of action for strengthening the Columbus Memorial Library, proposing concrete ways in which non-Regular Fund resources can be obtained, the Library submitted two grant proposals. One was presented to the United States Peace Institute seeking funding for the procurement of library materials in a variety of formats and related to keeping the peace in Latin America and the Caribbean. The other proposal was submitted to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) seeking funding for the *Historical Photograph Preservation and Access Project - The House of Americas*.

Article published in the journal *American Libraries*

The December issue of the journal *American Libraries* of the American Library Association featured an article on the Columbus Memorial Library, titled *More than a Memory Center...The Organization of American States Library has much to offer American librarians and scholars*.

Friends of the Library

The Group of Friends of the Library was formally established in 1994, under the leadership of the Ambassador of Uruguay at that time, Dr. Julio César Jáuregui. The Group helps the Library carry out the planned activities and generate enthusiasm for its programs and activities.

Following a presentation by the Interim Director of the Permanent Council in October 2001, the Group was reorganized at a meeting in February 2002. The decision was to focus support on the Library while it moved forward with its Three-Year Plan of Action to strengthen its financial situation.

COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Under Article 112.h of the Charter, one of the functions of the General Secretariat is to establish “relations of cooperation, in accordance with the decisions reached by the General Assembly or the Councils, with the Specialized Organizations as well as other national and international organizations.”

Pursuant to the mandates from the General Assembly at sessions held in San José, Costa Rica, and Bridgetown, Barbados, and the resolutions adopted at previous sessions of the General Assembly, the General Secretariat continued to coordinate with other regional organizations and entities. The most significant level of cooperation was with the United Nations, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Pan American Health Organization, and the CARICOM Secretariat. One of the most important areas of cooperation with the United Nations and CARICOM specifically, has been the process of solving the political difficulties in Haiti.

CARICOM

In February 2002, following consultations between the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Saint Lucia, Senator Julian Hunte, Secretary General of CARICOM, and the Assistant Secretary General of the OAS, the CARICOM Secretariat became a partner in the OAS’ efforts to prepare another joint mission to Haiti. This one was headed by Minister of Foreign Affairs Hunte and the OAS’ Assistant Secretary General, Ambassador Luigi Einaudi. This joint mission visited Haiti three times: in May, June and July 2002. The Secretariat of CARICOM actively supported the OAS’ efforts to facilitate the negotiations among the political parties, members of civil society and other Haitian sectors. The Secretary General attended and participated in CARICOM’s Annual Meeting of Chiefs of State and Heads of Government, in Georgetown, Guyana, July 3 through 5. This meeting was an opportunity for dialogue with the Chiefs of State and Heads of Government on topics and events in the Hemisphere, which included the Haitian situation. The CARICOM Secretariat remains actively engaged in this issue.

Pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1893 (XXXII-O/02), a general meeting between the Secretariats of the OAS and CARICOM was convoked for October 28, 2002, at OAS headquarters. The meeting was an opportunity to analyze current areas of cooperation, explore new areas and modalities of cooperation, and to share information on political issues, including the Haitian situation, and other issues of mutual interest and concern to both the OAS Secretariat and the CARICOM Secretariat. A more thorough report of this meeting will be part of the Secretary General’s Report to the General Assembly on cooperation with the Secretariats of CARICOM, the United Nations, SICA and ACS, which will be presented to the General Assembly at its thirty-third regular session, to be held in Santiago, Chile.

United Nations

The most important cooperative program between the OAS and the United Nations in the past year has focused on finding solutions to the difficulties in Haiti. There have been regular, continuous exchanges of information with the United Nations official in charge of OAS affairs and with the Director of the Americas Division of the United Nations Department of Political Affairs. Once the

OAS Special Mission to Strengthen Democracy in Haiti was established, the Chief of Mission, Mr. David Lee, visited New York in April to meet with the Director of the Americas Division of the United Nations Department of Political Affairs, Angela Kane, and with other United Nations officials to get information about their experience with similar missions to that country. The Chief of Mission conferred again with Mrs. Kane in September. The Mission benefited greatly from the cooperation received from the UNDP office in Haiti, which has helped with a number of the Mission's programs. Salient among these was the Seminar on Disarmament, on October 28 and 29. The Assistant Secretary General, Ambassador Luigi Einaudi, also conferred with Mrs. Kane on November 19. They examined the OAS/United Nations cooperation activities, including the Haitian situation. A United Nations representative participated in the thirty-second regular session of the General Assembly, held in Bridgetown, Barbados. Sectoral cooperation was also cultivated, involving various units and offices of the OAS General Secretariat and their counterparts in the United Nations. Based on these collaborative efforts, projects have been conducted in a number of areas institutionally related to the United Nations, among them a number of environmental projects supported by the Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment and UNDP-supported projects in demining, governability and democracy.

Other organizations

The OAS has continued to conduct cooperation programs and projects with other regional organizations with which it has concluded formal cooperation agreements. These include the following: the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA); the Association of Caribbean States (ACS); and the Secretariat of the Central American Integration System (SICA). Mutual support was arranged with the ACS, where the two organizations attend each other's annual meetings and, pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1893, conduct joint projects in substantive areas of cooperation. The consultations with ACS officials were timed to coincide with the regular session of the General Assembly held in Costa Rica. Cooperation activities and the inter-American system as a whole have been strengthened through the work of the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction and the active participation of PAHO, the IDB, and the PADF, which have been working with the OAS General Secretariat to confront natural disasters and hazard reduction issues.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT/ INTER-AMERICAN AGENCY FOR COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Under Article 98 of the Charter of the Organization, the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) is entrusted by the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) with programs, projects, and activities in partnership for development. The Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) is a subsidiary body of the CIDI, which determines the IACD's policies and guidelines at its regular and special meetings and at the sectoral meetings at the ministerial or equivalent level in its areas of competence. The IACD was established by the General Assembly in June 1999 and was launched in January 2000. Its purpose is to promote, coordinate, manage and facilitate the planning and execution of programs, projects and activities in partnership for development in the OAS, in accordance with the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development.

In 2002, the IACD continued its unflagging efforts to enable the Agency to implement high-caliber development projects that meet the member states' vital development needs, that are able to attract outside funding, and that make more resourceful and effective use of their resources, all in order to further development efforts in the region.

This period's main thrust is reflected in the following activities: the successful initial phase of the Educational Portal of the Americas, to bring distance learning opportunities to the poorest and most under-served rural areas of the Hemisphere; expansion of the Training Fellowships Program as the number of fellowships increased from 1176 in 2001 to 3721 in 2002; consolidation of the Government Best Practices Program, whose purpose is to encourage multilateral cooperation among the governments of the region; and strengthening of the Special Multilateral Fund of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (FEMCIDI), which will become a focal point for meaningful integration of IACD operations and for implementation of the policy mandates adopted at the meetings of ministers or high-ranking authorities in CIDI's sectoral areas.

Important efforts were made to strengthen FEMCIDI in order to make it a more effective development grant fund with a real multiplier effect in the region. One of the Agency's chief concerns was the real significance of CIDI as the OAS Development Council, with a mandate to focus on integral development and partnership. While the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development lists eight areas in which activities can be undertaken, it instructs the IACD to integrate its approach. The Agency also has to integrate its various instruments, the development grant fund, its fellowship and training resources, and its effort to widen application of best practices. Because its emphasis is development grants rather than loans, FEMCIDI is the logical instrument for achieving that integration.

Since its establishment, the IACD has adopted a number of measures to make FEMCIDI a more effective development fund. In 2001, measures were adopted to allow it to finance multi-year projects based on development objectives (rather than confine itself to one-year projects). Early in 2002, the Board approved setting aside a portion of the reserve fund for evaluating projects, a move that was essential to gain credibility with sources of financing. While these measures substantially strengthened FEMCIDI as a development fund, steps still need to be taken to reduce the large number of projects

that the member states are presenting to the Fund and to change the criteria so that FEMCIDI can better serve the Hemisphere's priority development needs.

In May and June 2002, two regional programming meetings were held -one in the Caribbean and the other in Central America- to discuss the idea of establishing multi-year regional priorities in which FEMCIDI grant resources could be used more effectively for intra-regional cooperation, to promote more effective cross regional cooperation and as a seed fund using FEMCIDI to attract co-financing. The two programming meetings were held jointly with the subregional development banks, the Caribbean Development Bank and the Central American Bank for Economic Integration. Cooperating with both meetings were the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Secretariat of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and the Central American Integration System (SICA).

These changes will bring significant collateral benefits for the Agency's management and its role in the OAS. Agency staff will be able to focus on a handful of major fields and develop relevant expertise to help the countries improve their projects, collaborate on a multinational basis, and apply relevant best practices that were successful in other regions. Under the current system, the Agency's small staff is required to analyze projects over such a wide array of subjects that they are unable to cultivate a meaningful core of expertise and take advantage of their presence in Washington, close to the World Bank and the IDB, to provide needed professional assistance to the countries. It will also serve as a centripetal force, more effectively drawing in the expertise of the OAS substantive units.

The IACD is proceeding cautiously and prudently with the countries in examining the best ways to make this approach useful to them. The Secretariat is optimistic that the member states will fine-tune the approach in the coming months and that it will come up with new approaches to present to the Management Board in the year ahead, in its desire to enable the OAS to become a more useful instrument with which to meet the ever-evolving challenges that development poses for it.

To further the objective of enabling CIDI and the IACD to act as facilitators of greater collaboration among the Hemisphere's development agencies, a network of restricted sites was completed and put into operation. It links the Management Board with the other development agencies in each member state.

In another area of responsibility, related to development policy, the IACD continues to work with the OAS' independent units in their shared commitment to provide services to the ministerial meetings within CIDI's area of competence. The Agency took active part in the preparations for and staging of CIDI's regular meeting and the Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Culture. The Agency has also been deeply involved in the study and recommendation of new approaches to meeting the tremendous pressures that the member states are under, particularly in connection with follow-up on the Monterrey Development Financing Conference. The IACD has worked hard to involve other important inter-American organizations in this undertaking, like the IDB and ECLAC, as well as civil society and the private sector. Based on these joint efforts, the IACD is optimistic that both ECLAC and the IDB will be receptive to invitations to participate in the CIDI meetings to help put together joint recommendations within OAS/IACD.

Concerning administrative and accounting matters, the observations made by the external auditors are in the process of being corrected. Work on the first recommendation has been completed, which was to integrate the trust funds managed by the Agency in the countries into dollar accounts and a single Washington-based combined financial process using the Oracle financial management system of the OAS. The second recommendation, which has to do with the management reporting of the Trust Fund for the Americas, has also been implemented. Nevertheless, the Agency staff responsible for managing the IACD's funds is small, which raises the concern that problems could recur for reasons having little to do with the substance of the financial management. The Agency is therefore negotiating a broader agreement with the General Secretariat to manage all its financial transactions using the Oracle system.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION

A. Special Multilateral Fund of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (FEMCIDI)

- **FEMCIDI 2002**

The FEMCIDI programming cycle for 2002 received 232 project profiles. As of May 31 -the deadline for the member states to make their contributions and to specify how they were to be apportioned among the accounts- the total amount pledged to FEMCIDI for 2002 came to US\$ 8,228,916.61. As in years past, the number of projects presented and the amount of resources requested far exceeded the amounts pledged. The result was that projects were excluded not just because their technical quality was not up to the required standard, but also because of a lack of resources.

The project profiles that satisfied the selection requirements were sent to the members of the Nonpermanent Specialized Committees – CENPES 2001, and to the units and specialized offices of the GS/OAS, requesting their technical opinion of the profiles. Based on the technical opinions received and the pledge level in each sectoral account, the Executive Secretariat pinpointed the project profiles that, based on their technical merits, it felt could best serve to meet the member states' development needs. Consequently, 114 projects presented by 32 countries were included in the Preliminary Programming Proposal. The latter was sent to the Permanent Missions on June 13, 2002, and was examined at the VI Meeting of the CENPES. Of those 114 projects, ninety-two (92) received favorable recommendations.

At its Eleventh Meeting on October 15, 2002, the Management Board approved the Programming of FEMCIDI 2002 Activities in Partnership for Development. It includes the 92 projects that the CENPES recommended, plus one more project whose inclusion the Management Board approved. The total amount approved for execution of the projects was US \$6,549,094, apportioned as follows:

SECTORAL ACCOUNT	NO. OF PROJECTS	AMOUNT APPROVED (US\$)
Trade	8	695,000
Social Development	18	848,712
Education	23	1,631,565
Culture	5	153, 518
Science and Technology	21	1,598, 245
Democracy	5	412,373

Tourism	4	438,316
Environment	9	771,365
TOTAL	93	6,549,094

- Execution FEMCIDI 2001

In the first months of the year, execution got underway of the projects recommended by the CENPES at their meeting of October 2001 and approved by the IACD Management Board on November 1, 2001, in the amount of US \$1,147,849. Of the 89 projects approved, 48 are regional and 41 are national. The following is the distribution of those projects by sectoral account:

SECTORAL ACCOUNT	NO. OF PROJECTS	AMOUNT APPROVED (US\$)
Trade	5	490,352
Social Development	20	1,250,301
Education	22	1,961,412
Culture	2	103,000
Science and Technology	21	1,656,841
Democracy	6	484,524
Tourism	6	485,000
Environment	7	716,419
TOTAL	89	7,147,849

By late October, US \$5,048,466.50 had been disbursed for 84 projects, whose activities will get underway once the signed Execution Agreements or Memorandums of Understanding have been received and the corresponding plans of execution duly completed. In the case of 36 of these projects, the IACD Management Board agreed to extend the execution deadline to March 31, 2003; the deadline for another 25 projects was June 30, 2003.

B. New Cooperation Mechanisms (Best Practices)

Under the IACD Business Plan, one of the Agency's main objectives is to refine new mechanisms for conducting programs, based on the use of existing best practices in the countries of the Hemisphere and elsewhere in the world. The new mechanisms should also facilitate private-sector and civil society participation in inter-American technical cooperation and training initiatives.

The programs worked to achieve the following objectives: supporting governments in identifying opportunities for action, lessons learned, and best practices in electronic government procurement and electronic government, and municipal development; developing technical cooperation and training programs with the best practices institutions; developing projects that make use of best practices; and finding co-financing for institution building and for the formulation of projects using best practices, working jointly with institutions in the public and private sectors.

- Government Procurement Program

The purpose of the Government Procurement Program is to support the efforts of the governments of the Hemisphere aimed at: improving the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of government-procurement transactions, this as part of the member states' efforts to reduce corruption, strengthen democratic governance, and foster economic growth and development; promoting and facilitating small-business participation in public sector procurement and other forms of e-commerce, with a view to increasing employment and reducing poverty; and strengthening provincial and municipal governments so that they can provide the local communities with better service and enable businesses to grow.

- Electronic Government Program

The IACD-OAS Electronic Government Program is intended to be a catalyst for electronic-government initiatives and provide governments of this region with overall support at every stage of the implementation of electronic government. Using best practices in developing electronic government is an innovative approach designed to hasten modernization through efficient use of scarce public resources and to mitigate the risks inherent in incorporating a technological component in projects developed from square one, by using proven solutions transferred with the help of the governments that developed them.

With the user government playing the role of protagonist, the IACD-OAS has developed a method of its own for identifying, documenting and transferring best practices based on cooperation and teamwork with the institutions involved. In consultation with potential users, the IACD Electronic Government Program is focusing initial efforts on the following areas: electronic government procurement; taxes, licenses, permits, records, and access to services supporting small-business development.

- Municipal Development Program

The purpose of the Municipal Development Program is technical assistance and training to member states' local governments (municipalities) in order to upgrade their managerial and technical skills for delivery of services. This will be done by applying municipal best practices existing in the region. The development of this initiative is supported with a grant from the U.S. Mission to the OAS and a contribution from the Andean Development Corporation (CAF).

The program being implemented is intended to support local governments in identifying opportunities for action, lessons learned and best practices in the areas of modernization of cadastre systems, e-government applied to municipal management, and management of water and sanitation services; developing technical cooperation and training programs with the best practice institution; developing projects that use the best practices selected by the user local governments; and providing assistance in securing co-financing with grants and loans to prepare and implement projects working with both public and private sector institutions.

- Occupational Health and Safety Program

In support of OAS member states' efforts to strengthen democratic institutions, improve governance, promote equitable growth and help reduce poverty and inequality, the IACD is developing a program to assist the ministries of labor of the region in their efforts to modernize the services provided to workers and make those services more efficient. This program will also strive to make business leaders more sensitive to the need to practice corporate social responsibility principles in their businesses, mainly through a planned regional program developed in conjunction with Business for Social Responsibility (BSR) and Forum EMPRESAS.

Although the occupational health and safety program is still at a preliminary stage, considerable headway was made in putting the program together, initiating and firming up contacts at OAS/IACD headquarters. The IACD is working particularly hard with the Forum EMPRESAS and Business for Social Responsibility (BSR) to finalize a corporate social responsibility program especially related to occupational health and safety, focusing on small- and medium-sized businesses in Latin America and the Caribbean. Work was done with Chile as a purveyor of best practices in occupational health and safety.

DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN POTENTIAL

A. Fellowships Program

In compliance with its mandate and based on the priority areas indicated in the Strategic Plan of Partnership for Development, the rules and procedures necessary to grant fellowships for and administer short-term professional training courses and graduate and post-graduate studies were awarded. The Fellowships Program also started to offer e-fellowships as a low-cost alternative that can expand learning opportunities, especially to reach into remote areas of the hemisphere. The e-fellowships give students the ability to pursue studies without having to leave their country. Also, in keeping with its mandate, the administration of fellowships was made easier in order to increase opportunities for study. The fellowships awarded during 2002 are itemized in Appendix F of this report.

- Regular Training Program (PRA)

Fellowships awarded under the Regular Training Program (PRA) were for graduate (masters and doctorate) studies and research at universities in the region. In 2002, 108 fellowships originally granted in 2001 were extended for one more year. In the 2002 fellowship cycle, 185 new fellowships were awarded. The goal was to achieve a geographic distribution and focus that matched the priority areas in CIDI's Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development. The 2002 PRA fellowships and extensions cost approximately US\$5.13 million. Most of the recipients studied in the United States (47.5%), although a considerable number went to Chile (9.8%), Mexico (9.4%), Canada (8.8%) and Costa Rica (6.7%).

- Special Caribbean Fellowships Program (SPECAP)

This program provides scholarships for undergraduate studies in development areas that are priorities for the region, taking into account those that have an impact on integral and sustainable development.

The SPECAF program awarded 29 new fellowships for the 2002 cycle and 24 extensions of 2001 fellowships. The approximate cost of the new fellowships and extensions for one school year was US\$813,500.

- Professional development courses

The short-term specialized training courses are supported by the member states, permanent observers and specialized units of GS/OAS. They are of three types:

The *Program of Horizontal Cooperation for Training Fellowships* (CHBA) provides short-term professional training through courses organized by institutions in the member states. Under this program, 411 fellowships were awarded for 32 courses; another 831 e-fellowships were provided for 10 online courses. The OAS provides logistical and administrative support for these courses and covers the cost of international travel.

The *Special Training Program* (PEC) provides awards for long-term training in courses organized by permanent observer institutions. In 2002, Korea and Spain offered 64 scholarships for 7 walk-in courses and 84 e-fellowships for 3 courses offered online. For courses of this type, the OAS provides logistical and administrative support and covers international travel expenses.

The *Courses for Specialized Studies in Technical Areas* (CEAT) focus on a variety of professional areas designated by the OAS' technical units. A total of 36 fellowships were awarded for the course on International Law in Rio de Janeiro. Another 192 e-fellowships were awarded for various courses.

- OAS Fellowship Program/Consortium of Universities

This program is designed to establish a broad university consortium so that the member universities might help co-finance fellowships and training programs. This will multiply the effect of the OAS' limited resources because the costs of the fellowships will be shared with the participating universities and other centers of learning. The IACD signed 26 agreements with institutions of higher learning in 8 member states and is putting the final details in place to sign agreements with other centers and universities in the Hemisphere.

The IACD reached an agreement with LASPAU to provide technical support in the management of the individual scholarships that the OAS awards through the fellowships program. LASPAU will seek co-funding for 50 new fellowships in order to provide more opportunities for study.

- OAS Scholars Placement Mechanism

A mechanism was launched that will maximize the benefits resulting from the co-financing agreements concluded with institutions in the University Consortium. With this new mechanism, students will apply to the OAS for a fellowship; if they are selected, the IACD will place them in a university that is a member of the Consortium. In 2002, 31 new scholarships were awarded via this procedure. Another 20 fellowships were awarded through the OAS/Fulbright Ecology Initiative.

- OAS Corporate Scholarship Program

For some time now, the OAS member states have been asking the General Secretariat to step up its efforts to mobilize external resources for fellowships and training. Responding to the call from the heads of State and of government at the successive Summits of the Americas to accelerate development of and create conditions for the eradication of poverty, the IACD is working to open up more opportunities for human development to the citizens of the Hemisphere. To that end, a corporate scholarship program is being put together, to multiply the educational opportunities available to deserving students. This program will be a partnership with the private sector, giving businesses an opportunity to play a vital role in building up the technical expertise and improving economic conditions in their communities. By participating in this program, the corporate community will make it possible for young people to make their own productive contributions to society, and in so doing will demonstrate its own commitment to corporate social responsibility.

- Leo S. Rowe Fund

The Leo S. Rowe Pan American Funds provides interest-free loans to eligible students from Latin America and the Caribbean for undergraduate, graduate and professional development courses in the United States. The Fund also provides loans to OAS staff and their dependents. In 2002, the Rowe Fund Committee provided 103 student loans totaling \$659,710. It also provided 37 loans to OAS personnel, totaling \$268,672.

In accordance with its Statutes, the Rowe Fund is administered by a Committee of the Permanent Council. Efforts have been made to make the management of the loans more efficient and the loans more accessible to eligible students. The Rowe Fund has considered and worked with applicants who have not been able to put up the traditional type of guarantee and have offered institutions in their countries as guarantors of the loan. In the largest operation of this kind, the General Secretariat signed an agreement with Ecuador's Foundation for Science and Technology (FUNDACYT) and LASPAU, enabling 18 students from Ecuador who came to study in the United States to receive loans from the Rowe Fund.

- Inter-agency co-financing for educational opportunities and loans

New ways of collaborating with the agencies involved in awarding and financing loans are being devised. This includes co-financing fellowships with universities and developing supplemental loan programs to help applicants who have not obtained fellowships. The IACD has signed an agreement with the Pan American Association of Student Loan Institutions (APICE) to co-finance or serve as reciprocal guarantors of loans. With this program the Rowe Fund will be able to provide loans for undergraduate or graduate studies. This agreement will offer more opportunities to qualified students who have not been awarded a scholarship –as scholarships are limited in number- or to those who have received partial scholarships.

B. Information Technologies and Telecommunications

- The Educational Portal of the Americas

In 2002, the activities of the Educational Portal of the Americas (www.educoea.org) focused on expanding the services now offered and building up strategic partnerships with the public and private sectors. To commemorate its first anniversary, the Portal's new format was launched in the four

languages; new training tools were added. From the time it came online in September 2001, the Portal has received more than 30 million visits, from over 120 countries around the globe.

In addition to an extensive database providing access to more than 4,500 distance learning courses offered by over 1500 accredited universities in all academic disciplines, the Portal offers information on scholarship opportunities, digital libraries, communities of knowledge, forums, chats, news events and other links of interest.

During the period covered in this report, the Virtual Classroom was designed and programmed. It is to be an easily accessible online environment that emphasizes training for teachers, government officials and the private sector, in the priority areas of the Strategic Plan 2002-2005. The Virtual Classroom will be launched in the first half of 2003, featuring the following courses: "Quality of Basic Education" (Spanish, Portuguese and English versions), "Teachers as Counselors", "Education and Nutrition" and "Strategies for Teaching Mathematics." The Virtual Classroom program hopes to train more than 6,000 people in its first year in operation.

Agreements were concluded with more than 30 universities and institutions in the region, including the Inter-American University Organization (Canada), UNESCO (Brazil), Universidad Nacional de Quilmes (Argentina) and the Province of Tierra del Fuego (Argentina), to collaborate on socioeconomic and cultural initiatives that promote access to knowledge through distance education and learning.

- Institute of Advanced Studies for the Americas

Through a strategic partnership with Spain's Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED), in December 2002 the IACD launched the Institute of Advanced Studies for the Americas (INEAM), to be another tool to provide quality, innovative professional training in an inter-American context. With its academic headquarters in Miami, Florida, the INEAM combines conventional teaching techniques with new information technologies and telecommunications, all to further development and social change in the Hemisphere.

In 2002, the INEAM and the Educational Portal helped train more than 1,633 students, educators, and government officials from the region. In addition, 9 workshops, courses and lectures were held in Central America, where 379 participants were trained.

Another 1,105 received training via online studies programs offered in conjunction with other academic institutions, including Harvard University, the Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM), the International Telecommunications Union and Spain's Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED).

- IACD web site and restricted sites

The IACD continued its efforts to compile information for and constantly update the Agency's web site (www.iacd.oas.org), to provide pertinent, up-to-date information on the Agency's priority issues, particularly those related to technical cooperation and training. To that end, monthly news bulletins were published about its activities. The Agency also continued to promote closer cooperation with the

units of the OAS General Secretariat in order to introduce new and relevant content related to the goals set in CIDI's Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development and the IACD's Business Plan.

To foster dialogue between the Agency and various sectors, new restricted sites (virtual meeting rooms) were created where ideas and experiences can be shared. These include the National Development Agencies, LASPAU, the Embassy of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Task Force on Connectivity. Chat rooms were also created for the members of the CENPES and the Fellowship Selection Committee, among others.

SPECIFIC FUNDS

During the first half of 2002, the IACD was responsible for a number of Specific Funds related to the mandate for horizontal cooperation and socio-economic development.

A. United States Specific Fund

In recent years, the United States Government has been strongly supporting CIDI and the work of the IACD. Apart from its annual contributions to FEMCIDI, the US Government has also contributed additional, specifically earmarked funds. The value of the funds varied during the year between \$5.4 million and \$6.1 million, depending on the rate of expenditure and decisions made to supplement existing balances. Generally speaking, the US Specific Funds have constituted the principal source of funding to support the Agency's new programs, especially the Best Practices program and other new cooperation mechanisms. Also, a substantial portion of these Funds has been earmarked to support the IACD's human development programs.

B. Other specific funds

The IACD continued administering the specific funds of Argentina (a balance of \$1.0 million as of 12/31/02) and Mexico (\$2.8 million as of 12/31/02), to promote external cooperation resources from these countries. It provided support with the planning and execution of projects carried out in cooperation with the OAS-IDB White Helmets Commission (\$1.5 million value of the Agreement) and with the IACD-SOPTRAVI housing project in Honduras (\$6.0 value of the agreement).

The IACD is also administering Specific Funds for Member Governments to facilitate the execution of projects. In all these cases, the IACD is only responsible for the financial administration of the funds. Technical execution of the projects is the exclusively responsibility of the Member Governments. These projects are: the IACD-MINEDUC Literacy Project in Guatemala; the IACD-CONACYT Regional Metrology Project in El Salvador; and the IACD PROPRIVAT Privatization Program in Panama. The IACD also has an agreement with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture to provide financial management services for execution of the project on "Sustainable Development of Fragile Ecological Zones in the Trifinio Region" in El Salvador. The IACD also administers other specific or horizontal cooperation funds from Uruguay, Peru, Brazil, Colombia, Honduras, Israel and Spain, totaling approximately US\$250,000.

C. The Trust for the Americas

The Trust is a 501c3 foundation affiliated with the IACD. Its mandate is the mobilization of financial resources through partnerships with the private sector and other nonprofit entities. During the first half of 2002, the Trust continued to expand its principal existing programs and its cooperation agreements in two areas: transparency and connectivity.

In the area of connectivity the Trust continued using its Net Corps Americas volunteers as its primary mechanism to deliver communication and information technology training. More specifically, during the period under review, Net Corps sent out 18 volunteers to projects in Central America, the Caribbean and the Andean Region: 8 to tourism-related microenterprises in the Caribbean, in cooperation with the Small Tourism Enterprises Program (STEP); 9 to Central America in the context of its "Job Readiness and Technology Training" initiative for people with disabilities, and one to Colombia as part of the "Women Leaders in Technology" program.

As for transparency and good governance, in April 2002 the Trust, working in partnership with the Government of Mexico, organized the Conference on *México Contra la Corrupción*, which was broadcast via television throughout the Hemisphere. This event was the third in a series of conferences sponsored by the Trust as part of its efforts to increase public awareness of the problems that corruption causes in the economies of the Hemisphere. The conference was a great success and was seen by some 10,000 viewers; more than 1,000,000 people participated via the Internet.

Preparations are also underway for the establishment of the first *TRUST/OAS Award for Corporate Social Responsibility in the Americas*, which will be presented on January 31, 2003, at the "Gala for the Americas." The event, to be held at the Biltmore Hotel in Miami, will be carried out in partnership with the Association of American Chambers of Commerce in Latin America (AACCLA) which is holding its winter meeting in Miami that same week. The award by the Trust/OAS will recognize a company whose leadership has provided low-income communities with an avenue out of poverty and whose actions can serve as a model to facilitate socially responsible practices and actions by other corporations.

The Trust program received a grant for a second year from the United States Department of Labor, in the amount of US\$542,300.00.

SECRETARIAT FOR LEGAL AFFAIRS

The Secretariat for Legal Affairs assists the Organization's organs by preparing studies, documents and legal opinions and by providing technical secretariat services. It collaborates in the preparation of treaties, agreements, and other international instruments and is in charge of legal procedures related to the signing of those agreements and deposit of the instruments of ratification when the General Secretariat is depository. It also provides technical and secretariat services to the Inter-American Juridical Committee and to the Administrative Tribunal. The Secretariat was reorganized under Executive Order No. 96-4 of May 13, 1996. It now focuses on three areas: development of public and private international law, cooperation activities on law-related matters, and information and dissemination in matters of law. On July 31, 2002, the Secretary General of the Organization issued Executive Order No. 02-08, related to the establishment of a "Technical Secretariat for Legal Cooperation Mechanisms," to replace the Department of Legal Cooperation and Information. Therefore, the Secretariat for Legal Affairs is now composed of the Executive Office of the Assistant Secretary, the Department of International Law, the Technical Secretariat for Legal Cooperation Mechanisms and the Secretariat of the Administrative Tribunal.

Executive Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs

The Executive Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs focused its activities on supervising, planning, coordinating and managing the legal affairs area. In the case of the first three functions, the Office contributed to the development and codification of international law and to the planning and execution of legal cooperation and dissemination activities, and assisted with and supervised the reorganization of the Secretariat pursuant to Executive Order No.02-08. It also provided support and administrative supervision to the Secretariat of the Administrative Tribunal (TRIBAD). The basic purpose of Executive Order No. 02-08 was to adjust the functions of the then Department of Legal Cooperation and Information to fit the new priorities that have been established in this area within the OAS framework. Recently, a number of mechanisms have been created to strengthen juridical cooperation among the member states, such as the Meetings of Ministers of Justice or Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA) and the groups of government experts to carry out their conclusions and recommendations; the Mechanism for Follow-up of Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (Anti-corruption Mechanism); and the Consultative Committee of the Inter-American Convention against the Illegal Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials (CIFTA Committee).

The Secretariat provided legal advisory services on preparations for and the holding of the IV Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas, held in Trinidad and Tobago in March 2002. A number of papers were presented on topics that figured on the meeting's agenda, among them the paper this Office prepared on "Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms in the Justice Systems of the American Countries."

It also participated in and provided legal advisory services to the VI Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law (CIDIP VI), held at Organization headquarters in February

2002. This Conference adopted a Model Inter-American Law on Secured Transactions, a resolution on Applicable Law and Competency of International Jurisdiction with respect to Extracontractual Civil Liability, and a resolution on Standardized Commercial Documentation for International Transportation, with Special Reference to the 1989 Inter-American Convention on Contracts for the International Carriage of Goods by Road, and approval of documents on bills of lading.

The Executive Office of the Assistant Secretary attended and provided legal services to the Plenary and General Committee of the General Assembly's Thirty-second Regular Session, held in Bridgetown, Barbados in June 2002.

The Office provided technical support to the First Regular Session of the Inter-American Juridical Committee, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in March 2002, and then the Second Regular Session in August of that year. There it provided legal advisory assistance on such topics as the observations and comments of the Inter-American Juridical Committee on the Draft Inter-American Democratic Charter; a report the Committee presented at CIDIP VI; preparation of a draft inter-American convention against racism and all forms of discrimination and intolerance; the *travaux préparatoires* for drafting an inter-American convention against terrorism, and on the subject of competition law and the various forms of protectionism in the Americas. It also participated in the activities of the Course on International Law, held each year with the Secretariat for Legal Affairs coordinating. The Inter-American Juridical Committee holds the course every August.

The Secretariat for Legal Affairs, including the Office of the Assistant Secretary, organized and participated in the International Law Workshops held in Mexico in December 2001. It had an active role, delivering lectures, and other tasks involved in putting together various other documents. This unit also attended and collaborated in the International Law Workshops held in Florianópolis, Brazil, in December 2002.

The Office also participated in the Seminar on the "New Legal Agenda of the OAS and the Caribbean Region," held in Nassau, Bahamas in September 2002. There, the Office presented a paper on the OAS Charter and the juridical-political priorities on the Organization's new agenda.

As part of this Executive Office's responsibilities and functions in the areas of coordination and cooperation, in October 2002 it participated in the United Nations General Assembly, where it attended the meetings of the Sixth Committee, on Legal Matters, to hear the discussion of the topics contained in the report of the International Law Commission (ILC) and other matters related to this branch of law. There were also talks with the Chairman of this Commission for coordination purposes. The Executive Office was also present for presentation of the Annual Report of the International Court of Justice, where there were exchanges of views with the members and secretary of that international court. Finally, the Executive Office participated in the meeting of the Legal Advisors of the United Nations member states, where the most important issues related to the progressive development and codification of international law were discussed.

The Office also provided advisory services on specific issues to various levels of the Permanent Council. Those issues included the reform of the Permanent Council's statute and rules of procedure; amendment of the statute and rules of procedure of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICT); the work of the Committee on Hemispheric Security; coordination between the Secretariat for Legal Affairs and the Justice Studies Center of the Americas, and the Council's Working Group on Terrorism.

In 2001, this Office concluded a General Agreement with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to conduct a project on international business transactions in the Americas and the prospects for legal harmonization. The purpose of the initiative was to evaluate the opportunities to promote greater legal harmonization and uniformity in the area of commercial transactions at the hemispheric level, taking into account the problems caused by the fact that several different legal systems co-exist within the Americas. The project concluded with publication of a book titled "Legal Harmonization in the Americas: Business Transactions, Bijuralism and the OAS" and its presentation to the Permanent Council's Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs.

Finally, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs has kept up contacts, cooperative relations, collaborations and exchanges in the field of law with numerous institutions, among them Georgetown University, George Washington University, American University, the American Society of International Law, the American Law Institute (ALI), the World Bank's Legal Counsel, the American Bar Association, the North South Center and the American Bar Association, International Law and Practice Section. This Office has always actively cooperated with the General Secretariat's Internship Program, and has selected numerous attorneys.

Department of International Law

Advisory services to the organs, agencies and entities of the Organization

In 2002, the Department of International Law provided advisory and legal services in the field of public and private international law to the General Assembly (Bridgetown, Barbados, June 2002), the Permanent Council and its Committees on Juridical and Political Affairs and Hemispheric Security, and on the statutes, regulations and rules of procedure governing those bodies.

In the case of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs, the Department prepared a document related to the topic of the Inter-American Convention against racism and all forms of discrimination and intolerance, titled "References to discrimination and racism in the constitutions of the OAS member states," SG/SLA DDI/doc.9/01.

The Department of International Law also advised the Permanent Council's Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs regarding the evaluation of the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights, with a view to strengthening and perfecting it. The Department provided assistance and advisory services on the promotion and observance of international humanitarian law, the human rights of all migrant workers and their families, human rights defenders in the Americas, and support to the inter-American human rights instruments.

The Department also served as counsel to the Working Group charged with preparing the draft Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, a job that was completed when the General Assembly

adopted that Convention at its regular session in Barbados. It also provided advisory services to the Working Group to prepare the draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and participated in the special meeting held on March 11 and 15, 2002.

In the Committee on Hemispheric Security, the Department advised on preparations for the Special Conference on Security, which will be held in Mexico in May 2003. Much of its advisory assistance concerned the Conference's rules of procedures and the final documents it will approve. With regard to the Inter-American Specialized Conferences, the Department of International Law provided its support with activities intended to unify and harmonize the laws of the OAS member states in the area of private law, which culminated with the Sixth Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law (CIDIP VI), held at OAS headquarters in Washington, D.C., February 4 through 8, 2002. In the *travaux préparatoires* for that Specialized Conference, the Department of International Law presented various reference documents, salient among them the following: "The History of the CIDIP Process" (OEA./Ser.K/XXI.6/CIDIP-VI/doc. 11/02; Original: English); "Topic III: Part 1: Conflict of laws on extracontractual liability. Part 2: International civil liability in cases of transboundary pollution" (OEA./Ser.K/XXI/RE/CIDIP-VI/doc.7/98; Original: English); and "Background and list of documents for the meeting of government experts in preparation for the Sixth Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law" (OEA./Ser.K/XXI/RE/CIDIP-VI/doc. 11/02; Original: English). The Inter-American Juridical Committee also prepared a report, this one titled "CIDIP-VII and after" (CIDIP-VI/doc.10/02), which is based on numerous responses to a questionnaire prepared by the Department of International Law and circulated by the Inter-American Juridical Committee to a broad cross-section of academics, jurists and legal experts across the Hemisphere. During the Conference, the staff of the Department of International Law served as technical secretariat of the three working groups established at the Meeting of Experts held at OAS headquarters in Washington, D.C., February 14 through 18, 2000, pursuant to the provisions of resolutions AG/RES.1613 (XXIX-O/99) and CP/RES.744 (1185/99). At the end of the meeting, the Department compiled and published the texts and results from the event, which made possible the CIDIP-VI official publication. It is a two-volume publication: Volume I (Final Act), and Volume II (Documents).

In 2002, the Department of International Law, as Secretariat of the Inter-American Juridical Committee, provided technical and administrative support during the two regular sessions of the CJI, held in February-March and August 2002. It prepared the annotated agendas for both sessions, which covered the history of each point on the Committee's agenda. It also drafted documents summarizing the General Assembly's mandates to the CJI. It provided its assistance in preparing the respective draft resolutions; collaborated in the publication of the reports presented by the Committee members; prepared summary minutes of the proceedings of the Juridical Committee's meetings and was charged with preparing the Committee's Annual Report to the General Assembly of the Organization. During the recess between the sessions, the Department helped the rapporteurs develop their respective topics; organized the Committee members' participation as observers at various forums, and complied with the mandates contained in the resolutions and decisions of the Inter-American Juridical Committee. A particular focus was the organization of the CJI Centennial and the agreement between the Brazilian Government and the General Secretariat of the OAS whereby the Government of Brazil cedes the use of office space in Itamaraty Palace to the Inter-American Juridical Committee. The Department of International Law also supported the Permanent Council's Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs as it prepared its observations and recommendations on the CJI's annual report on its 2001 activities.

Development of International Law

In compliance with the mandates concerning the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law, and within the parameters of its competence and functions, the Department of International Law has organized and/or participated in the following activities during the period under review in this report.

- Course on International Law

In conjunction with the Inter-American Juridical Committee, the Department of International Law organized the XXIX Course on International Law, which was held August 5 through 30, 2002. In attendance were 21 professors from various countries in the Americas and Europe, and 28 OAS fellowship recipients selected from more than 50 candidates, and 7 students who defrayed their participation costs. The central theme of the course was “Natural resources, energy, environment and international law” and it was conducted at the Rio Business Center in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The Department of International Law prepared the course announcement, contacted the respective professors and arranged for their travel and accommodations in Rio; it selected the fellowship recipients for the Course, and provided them with all the information necessary for their participation and with academic and personal support during their stay in Rio. It also evaluated their participation for purposes of the respective certificate of approval.

- International Law Workshops

Between December 11 and 14, 2001, the Department of International Law conducted the International Law Workshops at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, with UNAM’s Institute of Legal Research. The workshops were staged in plenary sessions, with professors of public and private international law and students from Mexican universities participating. The event was broadcast over the Web and via teleconferencing to various Mexican institutions and interested foreign institutions.

From December 3 through 6, 2002, International Law Workshops were conducted at the *Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina* in Florianópolis, Brazil. This time the Department of International Law teamed up with the Institute of International Relations of the Center for Legal Sciences of the *Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina*. As in years past, plenary sessions were held with professors of private and public international law from various universities in the member states and from Brazilian universities. The professors spoke on the following topics: various issues on today’s agenda of public and private international law, integration processes in the Americas, the inter-American system, and modernization of academic programs in public and private international law.

- Legal Publications

In the period this report covers, the Department of International Law has edited, published and circulated the following publications: i) XXVIII Course on International Law, organized around the central theme of “The Human Person In Contemporary International Law” and held in August 2001; ii) *International Law Workshops*, held in December 2001, a compilation of the papers presented and the discussions among the professors of public and private international law, and the final conclusions

and recommendations; iii) the *Series on International Law Courses: Private International Law in the Americas (1974-2000)*, which contains the lectures given from 1974 to 2000 on private international law. The volume is in two parts and has 84 articles, grouped into the major milestones in the development of private international law in the Americas in those years.

At the present time, the Department is preparing publication of the following books: the volume for the *XXIX International Law Course*, held in 2002; ii) the book containing the minutes, presentations, discussions and conclusions of the International Law Workshops, held Florianópolis in December 2002; and iii) *Series: The Inter-American System (Vol. II)*, containing the classes given at the Course on International Law in Rio from 1994 to 2001, on various aspects of the inter-American system.

- Information on Internet and CD-ROM

The staff of the Department of International Law is working on the Web page, introducing pertinent information about the work areas of the Department and the Inter-American Juridical Committee.

- Model Assemblies

The attorneys from the Department of International Law acted as consultants at the XXI Model Assembly for High Schools (Washington, D.C., December 1 through 5, 2002).

- Participation in international forums

The attorneys from the Department of International Law gave presentations at a number of forums, to report on the juridical activities carried out within the Organization, including: periodic meetings organized by the *Private International Law Group* of the United States Department of State; meetings of the Working Groups of the Hague Conference on Private International Law; the annual meeting of the *American Society of International Law*; meetings organized by the Inter-American Defense College; an informative session for the delegates attached to the permanent missions to the OAS; and the Technical Working Meeting: Central American Regional Legislative Action against Terrorism.

Inter-American Treaties and Bilateral Cooperation Agreements

Under Article 112.f of the Charter of the Organization, the General Secretariat is depository of the inter-American treaties and agreements and of their instruments of ratification. Also, under Article 112.h, the General Secretariat is to establish relations of cooperation, whenever the General Assembly or councils so decide, with international and national specialized agencies and entities.

Under Executive Order No. 96-04 of May 1996, concerning the reorganization of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, one of the functions of the Department of International Law is to be the depository of the inter-American multilateral treaties, which is one of the General Secretariat's responsibilities under the Charter of the Organization. The Department of International Law is also depository of the bilateral agreements that the organs of the OAS conclude with the member states or with other inter-American agencies or national entities in the member countries or observers, as well as agreements signed between member states where the General Secretariat has been designated as depository.

In the case of inter-American multilateral treaties, in the year 2002 the Department made certain that the formalities and procedures required for signature, deposit of instruments and/or accession, formulation of reservations and other statements, denunciation and other legal actions such as designation of the central authority vis-à-vis inter-American multilateral treaties, were observed. The procedures carried out involved taking requests from the member states, reviewing the documents presented (full powers, instruments of ratification and/or accession), coordinating with the Protocol Office, the Secretary General's Office, the Office of the Assistant Secretary General, and the Public Information Office for purposes of the respective ceremony, preparation of minutes and speeches, making a record of the act, and notifying the member states and interested organs and agencies.

In this connection, it provided legal advisory services to representatives of the member states and to the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization with respect to those formalities and procedures. In 2002, the Department took part in 37 signings and 30 deposits of instruments of ratification and accession, as well one procedure wherein interpretative statements and a reservation were partially withdrawn, one in which a treaty was denounced, and three in which a central authority was designated. One new legal instrument was registered, namely the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism.

The Department also prepared certifications and supplied up-to-date and complete information on those treaties (their texts, current status of signature and ratification, and so on) at the request of the governments of the member states, the permanent missions and observers to the OAS, organs, agencies, and entities of the Organizations, Offices of the OAS General Secretariat in the member states, other governmental and nongovernmental international organizations and private individuals.

In the year 2002, the Department of International Law listed 47 cooperation agreements concluded during that period in various areas. In most cases, it did a final review of the bilateral cooperation agreement prior to signature. The full list of the inter-American treaties and cooperation agreements appears as Appendix C of this report.

Technical Secretariat for Legal Cooperation Mechanisms

In the period covered in this report, the Technical Secretariat for Legal Cooperation Mechanisms continued to perform advisory and technical secretariat functions for the organs, agencies and entities of the OAS, as well as its committees or working groups, in the areas of legal cooperation that are within its area of responsibility. Summarized below are activities representative of those carried out in 2002.

Advisory and technical secretariat services were provided on all matters relating to the preparations for, the holding and the follow-up of the most recent meeting of Ministers of Justice. Working papers were prepared on such topics as cyber-crime, mutual juridical assistance, extradition and alternative dispute resolution methods. The Technical Secretariat took active part in drawing up the proposed agendas and actions that might arise within the framework of this meeting.

Cooperation activities were also conducted in furtherance of these meetings' recommendations or decisions. Efforts are well underway to organize the first meeting of prison and penitentiary authorities and to create and launch an electronic network to enable them to share information and cooperate with one another.

The Technical Secretariat for Legal Cooperation Mechanisms continued to perform the functions of Technical Secretariat of the Follow-up Mechanism of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption. This mechanism was adopted by the States on June 4, 2002, on the occasion of the OAS General Assembly. The Committee of Experts created as one of this Mechanism's organs successfully held its first meetings.

At the first of these meetings, held in Washington, D.C., January 15 through 18, 2002, the Secretariat organized a seminar on how other similar mechanisms in this hemisphere and elsewhere operate, and actively participated in the preparation of the documents that the Committee took up, discussed and adopted on that occasion.

This Committee's second meeting, held at OAS headquarters May 20 through 24, 2002, selected the provisions that will be examined during the first round of analysis and the work plan for this year. It also approved the method to be used to analyze the provisions selected for analysis in the first round, and the questionnaire for compiling information on implementation of those provisions, and the format of the country reports that have to be prepared as part of the first round. The working papers that the Committee used for its deliberations were prepared by the Secretariat. The meeting also adopted the decisions necessary for the first round of analysis to begin. In principle, that round runs from June 2002 to 2004.

At that meeting, the Secretariat presented a working paper that enabled the Committee to begin considering issues of collective interest related to the systems "of government hiring and procurement of goods and services that assure the openness, equity and efficiency of such systems" of which Article III, number 5 of the Convention speaks.

In addition, the Secretariat is actively involved in developing cooperation activities that will underpin the work done within the framework of this Mechanism. Special mention should be made of the cooperation activities related to institutional support to enable the member states to implement, within their respective laws, the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, especially as regards criminal law and the provisions of Article III of the Convention. During the period under review in this report, this program focused on the Caribbean countries, whereas in previous years the Central American and South American countries participated.

Similar support continued to be provided to the Consultative Committee of the Inter-American Convention on Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA). To assist this Committee's work, the Secretariat is working with the States party to define the contact points for coordinating the responses to the questionnaires prepared by the Committee and on all materials related to cooperation to promote the signing and ratification of the CIFTA and its implementation in the corresponding domestic laws, and on matters related to the legal cooperation that come under CIFTA's area of competence.

In compliance with the mandates pertaining to the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law, contained in General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 1845 (XXXII-0/02), the third regional course on international law was organized. The event was in Nassau, Bahamas, September 17 and 18, 2002, and was attended by the countries of the Caribbean region. It was organized in conjunction with the Caribbean Law Institute Center of the University of the West Indians.

The first of these courses was targeted at the Central American countries and was held in Panama in 1999. The second was for the Andean countries and held in Medellín, Colombia, in March 2001. A book titled "The Inter-American System Facing the New Century" was published, containing the proceedings of this event.

On the subject of international humanitarian law, a book was published on the Conference of Government Experts that analyzed the domestic application of international humanitarian law and the related inter-American conventions, held in San Jose, Costa Rica, March 6 and 9, 2001. The conference is part of a regional initiative sponsored by the Government of Canada, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship and the National Commission to Improve the Administration of Justice in Costa Rica and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Its main purpose was to promote the observance of treaties on international humanitarian law and related inter-American conventions, particularly those that concern the protection and security of the person. This publication summarizes the issues discussed at that conference.

These technical cooperation activities are widely publicized at the Web page, which is receiving an increasing number of online visitors. With regard to legal information, the networks for sharing information on legal cooperation, cyber-crime and inter-American treaties are still being expanded.

In this area of public information, the most recent conventions adopted within the framework of the Organization have also been published: the Inter-American Convention against Corruption; the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions; the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials; the Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities, and the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism.

SECRETARIAT FOR MANAGEMENT

The Secretariat for Management is in charge of the planning, organization, coordination and general oversight of the administrative activities associated with the program-budget, financial management, personnel management, procurement of goods and services, data processing, buildings and properties, communications, security, assets and management of the General Secretariat's systems and procedures. Under Executive Order 02-7, of July 24, 2002, the Secretariat's services are currently provided by way of the departments of: Financial Services; Management Analysis, Planning and Support Services; Human Resource Services; Technology and Facility Services, and Procurement Management Services.

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Management

The activities of the Secretariat for Management are explained in detail in the report from each of its five departments. Summarizing, however, the principal activities of the Secretariat involved coordinating the complete renovation of the General Services Building; collaborating with the member states to lower the amounts owed to the Regular Fund to their lowest levels in over ten years, and phasing out the Career Service and introducing the Continuing Contracts System.

Department of Financial Services

The financial situation of the OAS is shown in the financial statements attached at the end of this report, in Appendix E, which includes: a) the Operating and Reserve Subfunds of the Regular Fund, whose budget is approved by the General Assembly, and b) the Specific Funds financed by unilateral or multinational contributions for extra-budgetary activities.

Year ending December 31, 2002

The member states' determination to reduce arrears in the Regular Fund resulted in a level of financial liquidity that enabled the Organization to meet its budgetary obligations, fully fund the Reserve Subfund and approve supplementary appropriations.

The Regular Fund's financial situation improved considerably, from a surplus of \$23.1 million in the Reserve and Operating Subfunds at the end of 2001, to a surplus of \$45.4 million at the end of 2002. This amount represents a total balance in the Reserve Subfund of \$22.1 million (30% of the pledges), \$20.6 million in supplementary appropriations, and another \$2.7 million in uncommitted funds in the Operating Subfund.

The following analysis compares budgetary authorization (appropriations) by the General Assembly and Permanent Council, the financing provided by the member states, and the levels of execution during the year.

Appropriations: At its thirty-second regular session, the General Assembly authorized the General Secretariat to execute \$76 million from the regular budget, with member states' quota assessments

totaling \$73.7 million and another \$2.3 million in other income. Additionally, at year's end, the member states approved supplementary appropriations totaling \$20.6 million.

Financing and Execution: As of December 31, 2002, the Regular Fund had collected a total of \$98.5million: \$94.4 from member states' quotas and \$4.1 million in other income. By the close of the period, the General Secretariat had executed activities for a total of \$75.9 million, which was \$0.1 million below the approved budget. The net result was a surplus of \$22.6 million.

Financial impact. At the start of the period, the Regular Fund had \$31.5 million in quotas receivable and \$73.7 million in quotas from 2002, for a total of \$105.2 million. After \$94.4 million in quotas -\$69.3 million in 2002 quotas and \$25.1 in quotas from previous years- were received, the member states' debt dropped from \$31.5 to \$10.5 million. Contributions of some \$47 million were made to the Specific Funds during the year.

Conclusion: The General Secretariat is pleased to report that the financial soundness of the Regular Fund was underscored by the establishment of a Reserve Subfund of \$22.1 million –the equivalent of 30.0% of the quotas-, another \$20.6 million in supplementary appropriations and another \$2.6 million to comply with its mandates.

Department of Management Analysis, Planning and Support Services (MAPSS)

Budgetary activities

As in previous years, MAPPS continued to assist heads of program with analysis, coordination and formulation of the proposed program-budget, and served as technical secretariat to the Permanent Council's Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP) and the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly. During the analysis and discussion of the program-budget, it produced follow-up reports on the process, which ultimately led to the draft resolution on the budget for 2003. With regard to execution of the Regular Fund's budget for 2002, the Department prepared quarterly and six-month reports on execution of the budget, in compliance with the General Standards. The year 2002 was a very good year, as quota collections –present quotas and quotas in arrears- came to a total of \$94.6 million, significantly higher than in previous years. With this the Secretariat was able to execute US\$75.9 of its approved program-budget, in other words 99.8%. MAPSS continues to provide technical support on budget-related matters to the national offices and to other specialized agencies and entities. Appendix H illustrates the status of budgetary execution of the funds in 2002.

Mandates from the General Assembly

In keeping with General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 1909 (XXXII-0/02), the Department kept a database of mandates and other information for the Secretariat to use as the basis for determining which activities are to be undertaken in the budget year. In compliance with Article 87.a of the General Standards, the areas obtained online information about mandates, covering the 1997-2001 period. The areas articulated the results of those activities, and the connections between the mandates, the activities undertaken and the results obtained. In document CP/doc.3679/02, the Secretariat presented the fiscal period's results to the Permanent Council.

OAS management system (OASES)

The migration to the version 11i Web of the OAS Applications was completed in February 2002. The Department also recently coordinated efforts to update the system with the most recent version. The purpose of the most recent updates was to make all the modules more functional and to keep the OASES system up-to-date with the latest versions. The Department also updated the platform of the OASES operating system from Windows NT to Windows 2000 in order to improve its operation. OASES applications were designed and installed for user access and connectivity with the Offices of the OAS General Secretariat in the member states. A wide array of specialized financial reports were provided for the OASES user community, so that the areas are better able to monitor project execution. Various solutions were devised for specific cases. Requests and concerns of the OASES Users Group were addressed and permanent technical support provided to improve and maintain the system.

Administrative analysis and training

The Department continued reviewing and updating the manuals that program directors and users of the data system employed for instructions and reference. In 2002, a total of 62 training sessions were conducted for headquarters staff about all the financial and nonfinancial applications of the OASES, and training in how to use the Discoverer tool to prepare financial reports. A training program was put together for the offices away from headquarters and a total of 31 staff members at 16 offices were trained in OASES financial applications in 2002. For the first quarter of 2003 the plan is to train staff from 7 offices in how to use the OASES. The service for OASES users circulated information on a number of important, system-related matters, such as the system's availability and the schedule of training at and away from headquarters.

Department of Human Resources Services

During the year under review, the Department of Human Resources Services experienced a sizeable increase in the requests for support from throughout the General Secretariat, which it managed to address without having to increase the resources with which it has to work. Specifically, because resources in the specific funds increased, so did the size of the General Secretariat's staff, from 637 to 674 in 2002; the size of this Department, however, remained at 18. The increase in staff has generated a noticeable increase in the volume of operations that this Department has to handle, such as recruitments, vacancy competitions, classification of posts, benefits and insurance renewals. In all, there were over 3,000 operations in the year.

In addition to the Department's increased efficiency in dealing with recurring tasks, other recent initiatives of special interest are mentioned below.

- The GS/OAS Program of Student Interns continued to grow; this year, the Department received approximately 405 applications, and selected 173 to serve internships in various offices of the GS/OAS.
- The process of evaluating the performance of all GS/OAS staff members has been expanded and strengthened this year. The Department continued providing support to supervisors and staff with many aspects of the evaluation system, through advisory services and training for supervisors in areas such as personnel management, communication skills, planning and the like.

- In the case of training programs, the GS/OAS continued to reimburse up to \$400 a year to staff members to help them cover the cost of courses taken after working hours. In 2001, 79 tuition reimbursement applications were filed and \$26,353.00 disbursed. As part of that program, assistance was provided to train various staff in the offices in the member states for computer, language, management, project management and adult education courses.
- The Health Care Unit handled more than 4,000 consultations in 2002 and the physician on duty, contracted through Johns Hopkins University, did 131 medical examinations.
- The Oracle Human Resources module continues to be updated. During the period under review, improvements were introduced in the personnel system and the migration from 10.7 to 11i was completed. Work has also moved forward on automating all staff records, which will be a pilot exercise for eventual creation of a “data warehouse” for the entire GS/OAS.
- During this year, the Department has taken active part in the project on gender mainstreaming in the GS/OAS, which the Government of Canada is sponsoring. All the targeted objectives were achieved.

In June, the General Assembly approved the Continuing Contracts system to replace the career service, which is being phased out. The Department participated in the political bodies’ discussion of the draft resolution and provided assistance. It also began the first competition for contracts of this type. The Department worked with the Staff Association to design and introduce the forms and mechanisms for responding to requests from the 106 eligible staff members. Appendix D of this report contains information on the staff of the General Secretariat in the period from January 1 to December 31, 2002.

Department of Technology and Facility Services

GSB Modernization Project

In the most ambitious building project undertaken in the last 25 years, the Department of Technology and Facility Services undertook responsibility for modernization of the General Services Building of the General Secretariat. It put together a multidisciplinary, intra-organizational team that combined different skills, technical know-how and responsibilities. The Group Goetz firm and Davis Construction Corporation were selected as the architects and general contractors, respectively, for this project.

The new facilities offer the staff a much improved work environment, with ergonomic furnishings, as well as ample natural lighting and better heating and air conditioning. The new facilities emphasize the space with conference and meeting rooms, lounges and storage areas.

A project of this nature required large-scale procurement. The Department worked with the other departments in the General Secretariat, especially the Department of Procurement Management Services, to pre-select the contractors that could participate in the contracting process, bearing in mind the time needed for construction to get underway.

By late 2002, the major infrastructure works (central plumbing, electrical and mechanical systems, and heating and air conditioning) were modernized. More than 600 staff members were moved to the new offices on floors 4 to 8, while the remodeling work continues elsewhere in the building. The transition was done with the minimum disruption to the work routine.

Technology Activities

With the remodeling of the General Services Building, the General Secretariat now has the technology it needs for the decade ahead. The wiring, the network's central infrastructure, the computer center and other equipment were updated. The information technology was implemented as an integral part of the modernization of the offices, and not as an addition. It was always a priority, and the migration was efficient with the minimum disruption to the staff's work.

The topology of the network was changed from Token Ring to Ethernet. A new storage system (Storage Area Network or SAN) replaced the obsolete Novell technologies and centralized supports were introduced to guarantee the security and integrity of the General Secretariat's long-term information technology resources. The Department also updated the servers' operating systems to Windows 2000 and the e-mail system to MS Exchange 2000.

With the new IT infrastructure, the General Secretariat is also increasing its broadband access to the Internet in order to facilitate use of the new technology. With installation of a 200 Mb/s laser optical connection, the connectivity capability among all the General Secretariat buildings was improved, taking advantage of the new infrastructure installed in the GSB. The Information Technology Division also extended the Virtual Private Network (VPN) connection to the national offices in order to keep the sensitive data operations secure. It also assisted the Special Mission in Haiti with installation of a wireless system in the new office in Port au Prince, and a Hughes Network Systems satellite connection for access to the Internet.

Finally, the Department obtained a license from Microsoft that will allow it to update its operating systems, applications, servers and other systems rapidly and at little cost.

Simón Bolívar Conference Room

The Department of Technology and Facility Services also modernized the simultaneous interpretation system in the Simón Bolívar conference room in the Main Building. This project served as a pilot for the use of technology in important General Secretariat activities. The current system is made up of digital equipment with a modern sound system. It also has a multimedia system used to transmit DVD, VCR, and TV signals and documents that are projected on the monitors located on the delegates' table and on the plasma screens located on the conference room's walls for the audience.

Department of Procurement Management Services ("DPMS")

Under Executive Order 02-7, the Office of Procurement Management Services became the Department of Procurement Management Services. As part of the realignment of responsibilities, the fixed assets (bar codes) unit became part of the DPMS, responsible for all fixed assets -from purchase, registration, and use in the General Secretariat, to their disposal/decommissioning, using the COVENT system.

In 2002, the DPMS generated the requisitions database, plus 25,500 lines of purchase orders. This is an increase of about 10% over the previous year.

DPMS has also been heavily involved in the GSB remodeling. It has played an important role in the process, such as preparation of the terms of reference for various tenders, negotiation of contracts,

and so on. It was also involved in selecting and hiring contractors for the remodeling of the space where the shelves of the library were once housed and the Simón Bolívar room in the Main Building.

DPMS negotiated and concluded contracts with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) for lease of office space on the third floor of the GSB building. DPMS is currently working out the contract with the OAS Credit Union to lease additional space on the first floor (Lobby Level) of that building. It is also in talks with the Department of the Interior about the possibility of the latter leasing the second floor of the GSB.

III. SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS

SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS

Chapter XVIII of the Charter defines the specialized organizations as intergovernmental organizations established by multilateral agreements and having specific functions with respect to matters of common interest to the American States. They enjoy the fullest technical autonomy, but are to take into account the recommendations of the General Assembly and the Councils. This chapter summarizes the reports that the following Specialized Organizations presented pursuant to articles 127 and 91.f of the Charter:

- the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO);
- the Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI);
- the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM);
- the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH);
- the Inter-American Indian Institute (III); and
- the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).

PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Established in 1902 by the Second International Conference of American States (Mexico, 1901-1902), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is the inter-American system's specialized organization in health matters and is the World Health Organization's Regional Office for the Americas (AMRO/WHO). Its mission is to "lead strategic collaborative efforts among Member States and other partners to promote equity in health, to combat disease, and to improve the quality of, and lengthen, the lives of the peoples of the Americas." In its efforts to improve health, PAHO targets society's most vulnerable sectors: mothers and children, workers, the poor, the elderly, refugees and displaced persons. Its priorities are equity for those who do not have access to health and, in keeping with the principles of Pan Americanism, urges the countries to work together on matters of common concern.

In the 2002-2003 period, PAHO worked constantly with the member countries to promote Pan Americanism and equitable access to health care. It did this through its principal program areas, which include: a) prevention and control of disease (AIDS and sexually transmitted illnesses; non-communicable diseases; communicable diseases; animal health); b) health and human development (public policies and health; coordination of research; women, health and development); c) health and environment (the health of the family and of the public; mental health; diet and nutrition); e) development of health systems and services (essential drugs and technology; organization and management of health systems and services; development of human resources); f) vaccines and immunization (access to vaccine technology; expanded immunization program); and g) Health Situation Analysis and Trends.

The following are highlights of the activities conducted during the period covered in this report:

26th Pan American Sanitary Conference

The ministers of health of the Americas convened at the headquarters of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in Washington, D.C. for the 26th Pan American Sanitary Conference, held from September 23 through 27. During that Conference, the member countries elected Dr. Mirta Roses Periago, of Argentina, as Director of the Pan American Health Organization. Her term will begin in February 2003. They also discussed and agreed on budgets and programs that map out the strategic orientations and establish the health program for the Americas. At that same conference, a publication titled *Health in the Americas* was presented, as were a four-year report and a new strategic plan to steer PAHO's work in the 2003-2007 period.

Maternal mortality

A special fund was set up to reduce maternal mortality in the Americas. The ministers concurred that mortality among women in Latin America and the Caribbean as a result of complications during pregnancy and childbirth was unnecessarily high and that the issue had to be addressed immediately. Although some progress had been made, the disparities in mortality rates among the countries was still great. As one of the Millennium's Development Goals (see below), maternal mortality continues to be a

public health priority. Therefore, funding is needed to address this problem, particularly to get out information.

HIV/AIDS infection

Some 2.8 million people in the Americas are infected with HIV/AIDS. At 16% of the adult population, the Caribbean is the second most seriously affected subregion in the world after Sub-Saharan Africa. Given this situation, the health ministers have requested that the countries strive to achieve the goals spelled out in the United Nations Declaration on HIV/AIDS, especially those aimed at preventing the infection, providing care, support and treatment to those infected with HIV/AIDS, and at reducing the stigma and social exclusion associated with the epidemic. The ministers were also urged to study new ways of lowering the price of antiretroviral drugs and other supplies for the treatment of those sick with AIDS.

Vaccines and immunization

The health ministers set a goal of 95% vaccination coverage for all children in the countries of the Hemisphere, a necessary step to achieve success in PAHO's program to eradicate measles. To achieve immunization equity across the Hemisphere, the vaccine quality has to be uniform at all levels. A climate of political and technical support has to be established within each country to enable the Hemisphere to get other new or underused vaccines that are of the utmost importance to public health.

Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI)

The strategy known as Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) was expanded to 17 countries whose infant mortality rates were high. Implementation of this program has already saved many thousands of lives. The IMCI strategy is now being integrated into undergraduate and graduate university curricula to train health-care workers at all levels in the treatment of children.

Millennium Development Goals

PAHO has committed itself to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Three of these goals directly concern health: reducing mortality among children under the age of 5 by 2/3 by the year 2015; reducing maternal mortality by 2/3; and interrupting and reversing the spread of fatal diseases like HIV/AIDS and malaria. The goal number 10 refers to reducing by half the population that does not have sustained access to good drinking water.

Inter-institutional cooperation

PAHO continued to collaborate with other United Nations agencies and participated in the reform initiative. PAHO also worked with international finance institutions like the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank, under an initiative called the "Shared Agenda for Health in the Americas." It worked in a variety of areas simultaneously, such as the National Health Accounts (NHAs), medications, epidemiology and environmental health. PAHO continued to work with the Organization of American States on topics like gender, workers' health, drugs and other unlawful substances, childhood, and disaster preparedness.

Summit of the Americas

After the Quebec Summit and in keeping with the Plan of Action, PAHO continued to serve as the coordinator for health issues. PAHO was charged with undertaking activities and obtaining funding for areas in health sector reform; communicable disease; non-communicable disease, and connectivity. PAHO is working with the Office of Summit Follow-up in the OAS, and with the Inter-institutional Working Group, to coordinate the projects and activities calculated to put into practice the mandates that the Summits of the Americas had delivered. This has given rise to a number of joint initiatives, such as mainstreaming civil society into the Summit process and ensuring that the reports on health-related mandates are disseminated and that health continues to hold a prominent position in the Summit follow up process. PAHO also supported and took part in the Health and Environment Ministers of the Americas Meeting (HEMA) in Ottawa in March 2002, and held its own Meeting of Ministers of Health in September of that year.

Centennial

The year covered in this report was PAHO's centennial, an important milestone for the Organization. PAHO, created in 1902. It celebrated 100 years devoted to improving health and raising living standards of the entire population of all the countries of the Americas. The activities and events, held across the Hemisphere, included the Centennial Symposium titled "Celebrating Partnerships: 100 Years of Health in the Americas." This meeting underscored the international support so vital to PAHO's work with the countries of the Hemisphere over the years. The symposium featured panels consisting of prominent figures from the area of public health and partnership for development. These discussions looked at the accomplishments and the challenges that public health in our region and the Millennium Development Goals pose. Other themes discussed included the principles for international cooperation in the area of health; execution of the hemisphere's health mandates; best practices for inter-institutional cooperation, and the new types of associations for tackling new challenges in health.

INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE

The Inter-American Children's Institute is a specialized organization that helps create public policy on children's behalf in the Americas, promote the relationship between the State and civil society, and cultivate a critical awareness of the problems affecting children in the Hemisphere. All members are represented on its Directing Council and its Director General is Mr. Alejandro Bonasso.

During the period under consideration, progress was made with execution of the Strategic Plan that, at both the technical and policy level, is the axis around which this organization's work turns, serving as a framework for comprehensive protection of children and adolescents, mandates from the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

At the policy level, reports were prepared on the Struggle against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents and the Situation of Children in the Americas, in compliance with express mandates. A follow-up was done on the mandates emanating from the Summits of the Americas and regional political forums. The IIN hosted the Meeting of Government Experts on the "International Abduction of Minors by One of their Parents," coordinated with the Permanent Council and the Argentine Government, in furtherance of General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 1835.

At the technical level, four legal prototypes were prepared on Child Labor, Sexual Exploitation of Children, Disability and Drug Abuse Prevention. These papers are strategic products of the aforementioned Plan, as they are matched by targeted policies in those same areas and are already beginning to be applied in various countries of the region. With advisory assistance from a team of consultants from the region, a basic prototype was also developed of a National Child System, which was introduced at a Meeting of Consultation with representatives and high-ranking officials in children's affairs.

In terms of communications and dissemination, substantive changes were made in the design of the Institute's Web site (<http://www.iin.oea.org>). A new institutional logo was adopted and a program of videos was developed promoting children's rights, giving greater visibility and weight to public opinion.

Other Institute activities during the period included the following:

- First Inter-American Competition on the Rights of Children, Adolescents and Family; 90 monographs by authors in the member states were submitted.
- Organization of a seven-module seminar on the "Relationships between the context of family and children in contemporary society."
- Eloísa de Lorenzo Prize, awarded in conjunction with the University of Kansas' Beach Center. This year it went to Mary Perez Marranzini, of the Dominican Republic, for her distinguished work on behalf of children with different disabilities.
- Participation in the special session on children, convened by the United Nations in New York.
- Organization of the Third Regional Roundtable in the English-speaking Caribbean on Drug Abuse Prevention.

- In partnership with the Government of Guatemala, organization of the Third Meeting of First Ladies of Central America, to consider the importance of the data systems that the IIN promotes.
- Introduction of the Actions Coordination Site on the Internet, installed in the General Secretariat's server, the goal being to solve missing children's cases and to prevent their disappearance and other serious violations of children's rights.
- Distance course on children's rights, given by Honduran jurist Leo Valladares, with forty specialists from 12 countries participating.
- In conjunction with Save the Children, a technical workshop in Lima, Peru, to develop a method for systematizing the national reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child.
- Cooperation with the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in drafting an Advisory Opinion on children's rights, which the Court and the IACI will publish.
- XIII Workshop of Information Centers, Inter-American Network of Information on Children (RIIN), which the IIN operates through its PIINFA information program, to share experiences, modernize methods and plan future activities. More than thirty specialists from the user institutions participated.
- Participation in the Fourth Ibero-American Conference of Ministers and High-ranking Officials in charge of Children's Affairs.
- Organization of a Regional Workshop on Public Policies focused on Children with Different Capabilities, in MERCOSUR, Bolivia and Chile. This Workshop approved a final declaration advocating development of a regional strategy for educational and social inclusion.

INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

Created by the Sixth International Conference of American States (Havana, 1928), the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) is the OAS' advisory body on gender-related issues in the Hemisphere. Its purpose is to promote and protect the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights of women and, in this context, reports to the governments on the progress accomplished and the problems that need to be addressed, and suggests ways those problems can be resolved. The Commission is headquartered in Washington, D.C. Its Executive Secretary, who heads up the Commission's Secretariat, is Carmen Lomellin.

For 2002, CIM's activities were driven by the 2002-2004 Biennial Work Program, approved by the Thirty-first Assembly of Delegates of the CIM, by the mandates from the thirty-second regular session of the OAS General Assembly, and by the Summit of the Americas process. Because the CIM Assembly and the OAS General Assembly met in late October and June, respectively, CIM's Thirtieth Assembly and the OAS General Assembly's thirty-first regular session should also be mentioned here. During this period CIM devoted greater attention to implementation of the Inter-American Program on Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP).

Compliance with the mandates from the Summits of the Americas

CIM continues implementing the mandates from the Summit of the Americas. The following are some of the activities and projects conducted in furtherance of those mandates: 1) Joint undertakings with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to promote implementation of recommendations presented to the Ministers of Justice and Attorneys General of the Americas for mainstreaming the gender perspective, and in the area of preventing violence against women; 2) Mainstreaming the gender perspective into the ministerial meetings (SEPIA II, Gender and Justice); 3) Implementation of the "Inter-American Program on Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality"; 4) Gender-related training within the OAS for officials who make policy or conduct projects; 5) Continuation of the research projects on violence against women and the trafficking in women and children for sexual exploitation in the Americas, and measures to implement the recommendations that come out of both projects.

Strategy for mainstreaming the gender perspective into ministerial level meetings

CIM developed recommendations for mainstreaming the gender perspective into the programs and policies of the ministries of justice. Those recommendations were presented at the Fourth Meeting of Ministers of Justice and Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas, REMJA IV. In July 2002, CIM convoked a follow-up meeting (SEPIA II) to analyze and promote strategies for including the gender perspective in the results of REMJA IV. Participating were CIM's Principal Delegates, experts from the Ministries of Justice and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) with experience in the area of justice, such as the Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL), the International Association of Women Judges, the Rapporteur for Women's Rights from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), and the Justice Studies Center of the Americas (CEJA). The meeting's recommendations were conveyed to the Ministers of Justice, to all CIM delegates and to the event participants. This same strategy could be replicated for the meeting of Ministers of Education.

Execution of the joint CIDA/CIM-OAS project on gender training

With the support of the Government of Canada and the General Secretariat, the joint CIDA/CIM-OAS project was launched in 2001 to train OAS employees, including directors and field personnel, about mainstreaming the gender perspective into all the Organization's programs and policies. The training for headquarters personnel began in November 2002 and expectations are that around 240 staff members involved in project design, execution and evaluation will receive the corresponding training. CIM was actively involved in preparing the program and is responsible for follow-up.

Participation of women in power and decision-making structures

CIM is a member of and continues to co-sponsor the Executive Council of the Program for the Support of Women's Leadership and Representation (PROLEAD) of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), which funds projects to promote women's leadership in the Hemisphere. During the last year, in partnership with the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD) and PROLEAD, CIM sponsored the "Central American Course on Women's Leadership for Good Governance in Central America," held in Managua, Nicaragua. CIM and the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD) also teamed up for the special meeting of the Permanent Council convoked to examine the topic "Women's Participation in Political Processes."

Women's human rights – Violence against women – Trafficking in women

The elimination of violence against women

CIM continues to lobby for all OAS member states to ratify the Convention of Belém do Pará. In March 2002, Suriname became the 31st member state to ratify the Convention. The Commission also continues to conduct activities associated with implementation of the Project on "Violence in the Americas – A regional analysis, including a review of implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará," which began in 1999. The fourth and final subregional meeting of experts from the governments and civil society was held in Guyana, where the research findings were presented and examined and recommendations made on subregional strategies that will expedite the process of putting the Convention into practice. The recommendations include: implementation of interinstitutional and intersectoral policies with specific funds to combat violence; creation of statistical records with indices broken down by sex and age to make it easier to track the problem; training at all levels; and comprehensive care for women who have been the victims of violence and initiatives to ensure their access to justice.

Joint Project of CIM, the IIN and De Paul University of Chicago on trafficking in women and children.

The work in connection with the first phase of the project on "International Trafficking in Women and Children for Sexual Exploitation in the Americas" was completed. The countries in this first phase were Belize, Brazil, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama. CIM is actively involved in implementing the recommendations made in the project's final report, including working with the member states to craft model legislation and train members of Parliament.

Thirty-first Assembly of CIM Delegates

The Thirty-first Assembly of the Delegates of the CIM was held in the Dominican Republic in October 2002. The Assembly elected a new Executive Committee for the 2002-2004 term. Yadira Henríquez, Minister of the Secretariat of State for Women of the Dominican Republic, was elected President. Florence Ievers, Deputy Head of *Status of Women Canada*, was elected Vice President. Also elected to the Executive Committee were Guatemala, Nicaragua, Paraguay, the United States and Venezuela. The resolutions approved by the Assembly concern the following topics, among others: 1) Continued implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality; 2) Measures to fight the crime of trafficking in persons, especially women, adolescents and children; 3) Stronger relations with civil society organizations; 4) Follow up of the Convention of Belém do Pará; 5) topics for the agenda of the Second Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM II); 6) Biennial Work Program of the Inter-American Commission of Women.

Promotion and dissemination

The video on the situation of women in the Hemisphere, titled "Women of the Americas," which CIM produced in cooperation with the Office of Public Information, was widely circulated, including to over 200 community television stations in the United States. CIM also celebrated Women's History Month with an exhibition of CIM's history. It also sponsored a panel on "Overcoming Obstáculos", with the women ambassadors to the OAS and the Assistant Secretary General's Chief of Staff participating. The event was broadcast live on MHZ and carried in the United States. CIM also continues to update its Web page, which includes articles, links with other Web sites, information about CIM's activities, meetings of interest and reports.

PAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

Created by the Sixth International Conference of American States (Havana, 1928), the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) offers technical cooperation, training at research centers, circulation of publications, and organization of technical meetings in cartography, geography, history, and geophysics. Headquartered in Mexico City, its Secretary General is Mr. Carlos A. Carvallo Yáñez.

During the period covered in this report, the Institute supported and funded 35 research and training projects conducted in 14 countries: 10 corresponding to the Cartography Committee, 7 to the Geography Committee, 8 to the History Committee and 10 to the Geophysics Committee, all totalling US\$ 181,010.00. It also offered indirect support for events, courses and meetings associated with the Institute's scientific and technical business. Of the projects supported and financed by the Institute, a significant number were in the area of training, modernization, transfer of advanced knowledge through fellowships to attend seminars, workshops, international courses and congresses. In all, 78 fellowships were granted during the period covered by this Report.

Under the PAIGH Modernization Plan, the Call for Proposals for Technical Assistance Projects for 2003 and the Call for Nominations for the Leopoldo Zea "Thought of the Americas" Award were widely publicized, with technical rigor and tailored to the times in which we live. The call for proposals for technical assistance projects elicited 61 project applications from 16 member countries. In the case of the Leopoldo Zea Award, 20 papers were submitted from a total of 10 countries. The "Thought of the Americas" Prize was awarded on February 7, 2003, during the PAIGH's 75th anniversary.

The Pan American Center for Map Design and Mapmaking for the Blind was created. Its purpose is to do research on and produce instructive, audio-tactile cartographic materials to teach geography and sense of space to the visually impaired in the Latin American countries. The idea is to maximize their ability to orient themselves and move, so that they can be independent and well integrated in society. The Center's creation, headquartered at the Universidad Tecnológica Metropolitana de Chile (UTEM), was made possible thanks to support provided by the OAS through the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD). The Center was inaugurated on June 24, 2002.

On February 7, the PAIGH celebrated its 75th anniversary with a ceremony at its facilities. Presiding was the President of the National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Information Sciences (INEGI) representing President Vicente Fox of Mexico. In attendance were distinguished officials from the PAIGH, from the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs and Education of Mexico, scientists and academics from prestigious Mexican institutions, ambassadors and representatives of the diplomatic corps in Mexico and representatives of international organizations.

During the PAIGH's long institutional history, it has put together an invaluable library with over 30,000 texts and 200,000 journals and publications. For budgetary reasons, the PAIGH turned over the administration of its "José Toribio Medina" Library to Mexico's National School of Anthropology and History [Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia] (ENAH), which has built a special building to house the collection. It has modern resources for the library's operation, such as furniture, shelving, a fire alert system, and complete computer equipment for its operation. The formal ceremony handing

over the collection's administration was on August 30, 2002. The collection has been open to the public ever since and work is now underway to make it Internet accessible.

In 2002, most of the Institute's seven journals were updated and a number of occasional publications issued. Through an extensive program of donations and exchanges, the journals are sent to the major libraries and training and research centers in all the member countries. In the publications area, the Institute earmarked the sum of US\$36,350.00 for its periodicals and occasional publications.

The following periodicals were edited and published: *Revista Cartográfica* Nos. 72 and 73, *Revista Geográfica* No. 131, *Revista de Historia de América* No. 129, *Folklore Americano* No.61, *Boletín de Antropología Americana* No. 36, *Revista de Arqueología Americana* No. 20, *Revista Geofísica* Nos. 56 and 57, and the *Air Bulletins* Nos. 271 (January-April) and 272 (May-August). Starting with issue No. 273 (September-December) the *Air Bulletin* is now being sent by e-mail to all interested persons and is also available at the PAIGH's Web page.

The occasional publications put out during the period were as follows: *Historia de las migraciones limítrofes en el Cono Sur de América del siglo XIX a 1960, Volume I: Argentina; Volume II: Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay; Frontera y globalización; and Arielismo y globalización.*

The 57th Meeting of Authorities was held in Caracas, Venezuela, June 4 and 5. The Financial Planning and Evaluation Committee (APEF) met in Mexico City on September 5 and 6. On November 3, Aguascalientes, Mexico was the venue of the 58th Meeting of Authorities, followed by the XXXVI Meeting of the Directing Council, November 4 through 8. The latter approved 36 resolutions.

INTER-AMERICAN INDIAN INSTITUTE

Created by the 1940 Pátzcuaro International Convention, the basic objectives of the Inter-American Indian Institute are to collaborate in the coordination of the member states' indigenous policies and to promote research and training for persons dedicated to indigenous communities' development. The Institute is headquartered in Mexico City.

Appointment of the Institute's Honorary Director

On March 1, 2002, Guillermo Espinosa Velasco was named the Institute's Honorary Director, for a period of nine months. He took office on April 10 of that year, which meant that the appointment would end on December 31. His principal task would be to redefine the Institute's activities, provided the Institute was on a sound financial footing.

However, what the Honorary Director found was a debt of almost US\$200,000 in unpaid water bills and property taxes. Since then, he has been trying to renegotiate the amount owed to the Mexico City Government, a process that has not yet finished. However, the water bill for the period covered in this report was paid.

At the December 12, 2002 meeting of the Institute's Directing Council, the Honorary Director was asked to continue as the Institute's Honorary Director. He said he would be willing to do so, provided his title was not that of "honorary" director. His contention was that otherwise, there could be no regular administration of the institution. The decision was that he would remain in the post, under the same conditions, until the Directing Council's meeting in late January 2003.

As of December 31, 2002, only Mexico, Costa Rica and Honduras had paid their 2002 assessments. Peru announced in December that it would pay a portion of the 2001 assessment it owed and part of its 2002 assessment. The United States promised to pay a portion of what it owed, which in 2003 totals US\$ 600,000. Mexico's support also included payment of a library, a secretariat, guard service at the building that houses the Institute and the loan of a vehicle.

Measures taken

Headquarters Agreement

No headquarters agreement has ever been signed with the Government of Mexico since the time the Institute was created in 1940. At the present time, the text of an agreement has already been prepared, and was approved by the executive offices of the Mexican government that are in charge of the matter. The agreement will be signed on February 6, and then sent to the Senate for possible ratification.

Library

The Library remained in storage for almost twelve years. Now the Institute's staff has unpacked and shelved some 70% of the approximately 33,000 publications in the collection. Almost 9,000 have been

catalogued. Plans are to organize the Library so that it can provide service to the region via a page on the Internet.

Historical Archives

The Institute's staff has organized some 10% of the archive of documents predating 1980. Digitalization of these documents, which have historic value, got underway in order to protect them physically, promote their study by interested parties in the region, and to provide the indigenous peoples with copies of the documents. See the section on Publications below.

Internet page

The Institute's Web page was launched in late June 2002, and is still in its initial condition. At the present time, it contains the following information: a history of the Institute; a directory of the region's indigenous organizations; a directory of ombudsmen in the region; indigenous legislation as of 1999; videos of the visit that Maestra Henrietta Yurchenco made to Institute headquarters, who did research on indigenous music in the 1940s; and an exhibit of engravings that Alfredo Zalce made for the first issues of the magazine *América Indígena*. The Internet will be a good medium to provide information and document services to the region. As of January 7, 2003, the Web site had registered 61,000 visits.

Publications

As of December 31, 2002, the Honorary Editor of the magazine *América Indígena* completed the review of the texts of the first issue of the new volume, which will be published in early February 2003 on the Institute's Web page.

By December 31, 2002, the Institute had participated in the publication of 13 CD-ROMs. The themes include: 'La Música y el Instituto Indigenista Interamericano, 1940-1947', "Viñetas de la Revista *América Indígena*, 1941-1978", and "Gladys Villavicencio en Otavalo, 1970-1971".

INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION ON AGRICULTURE

Founded in 1942, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture is the inter-American system's specialized organization for the agricultural sector. It stimulates, promotes, and supports the member states' efforts to further agricultural development and enhance rural life. Its headquarters are in San José, Costa Rica, and its Director General is Mr. Chelston W. D. Brathwaite.

During 2002, IICA engaged in cooperative activities with the member countries, took important measures to comply with the mandates on agriculture and rural life from the Third Summit of the Americas and with the terms of the Declaration that the Ministers of Agriculture concluded in Bávaro, Dominican Republic, in 2001. Specifically, IICA conducted the following activities:

- It brought its mission, vision and the objectives and strategic areas of the Medium-Term Plan 2002-2006 in line with the mandates from the Summits.
- In cooperation with key players in agriculture –public and private sectors, academia, and civil society- it prepared national and regional technical cooperation agendas. The national agendas were prepared to be consistent with national priorities, while the regional agendas targeted supranational problems.
- It established a mechanism for reporting to national authorities, in the form of a detailed annual report on the work accomplished on the cooperation agenda, which improves the transparency of its management and national participation therein.
- It adjusted its structure by creating: (a) the Secretariat for Technical Cooperation, which articulates and targets the Institute's technical resources to execute the cooperation agendas; (b) the Office of the Director of Summit Follow-up in the Office of the Director General; and (c) the Office of the Director of Strategic Partners in Washington, which facilitates and promotes activities with third parties.

In the spirit of the Summit process, IICA devoted special attention to strengthening its relations with other organizations.

- It signed an agreement with the Pan American Health Organization to improve public health by working to make foods safe and to improve plant and animal health programs. In 2003, both institutions will host a meeting of ministers of agriculture and health.
- The Institute continued to support the Regional Council for Agricultural Cooperation [Consejo Regional de Cooperación Agrícola] (CORECA), the Central American Agricultural Council [Consejo Agropecuario Centroamericano] (CAC) and the Caribbean Alliance for Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development.
- With the United States Agency for International Development, the Institute conducted activities to work in concert in Central American countries and the Andean subregion.

- The Institute collaborated with ECLAC to analyze trends in agricultural development; it renewed work it was doing with the FAO, especially in the field of information management and communications.
- Working with the World Bank, the Institute promoted the use of digital training, under the Global Distance Education Network.
- With the Inter-Agency Group for Rural Development (IDB, IFAD, the World Bank, FAO, IICA, ECLAC, USAID and GTZ) the Institute worked to design policies, strategies and programs for rural development investment.

The following are examples of the direct cooperation the Institute administered in the countries:

- The Inter-American Program to Promote Agricultural Trade and Businesses and Food Safety.
- The Foodstuffs Labeling Services Center.
- Construction of a model to modernize the Agricultural Health and Food Safety Systems.
- Consolidation of the Agricultural Information and Documentation System for America (SIDALC).
- Support given to national processes to devise strategies, policies and investments in sustainable rural development, which prioritize co-management, self-management, and the autonomy of territorial units, including redesign of the relevant institutional framework.
- Development of an on-line information management and supply system on strategic topics for agricultural and rural development, which uses advanced digital technology (Infoagro.NET).
- Support for dialogue and horizontal cooperation to raise the quality of agricultural and rural education and increase support to regional graduate programs in international trade, food sanitation and certification, agribusinesses and sustainable rural development.
- The agreements for joint undertakings, concluded at the Third International Meeting of FORAGRO, in partnership with EMBRAPA and with IDB support through the Regional Agricultural Technology Fund (FONTAGRO), the CGIAR and the GFAR.

As Technical Secretariat of the process of Ministerial Meetings on Agriculture and Rural Life, IICA is providing support to the II Ministerial Meeting, slated for Panama in November 2003. The process promotes joint action by agricultural actors in preparing and implementing the Plan of Action for Agriculture with a 2015 horizon.

IV. OTHER INTER-AMERICAN BODIES

INTER-AMERICAN JURIDICAL COMMITTEE

The Inter-American Juridical Committee is one of the organs through which the Organization of American States accomplishes its purposes (Article 53 of the Charter). Chapter XIV of the Charter determines its composition, duties and responsibilities, and functions. Its purpose is to serve the Organization as an advisory body on juridical matters, to promote the progressive development and codification of international law, and to study juridical problems related to the integration of the countries for the Hemisphere's development. The Committee has its headquarters in Rio de Janeiro and is composed of eleven jurists, nationals of the member states, who are elected by the General Assembly.

In the year 2002, the Inter-American Juridical Committee held two regular sessions, the first from February 25 to March 8, and the second from August 5 through 30. Both were held at the Committee's headquarters in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The following topics figured on the agendas of both sessions: the Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law (CIDIP); preparation of a draft inter-American convention against racism and all forms of discrimination and intolerance; cartels under the law on competition in the Americas; enhancement of the administration of justice in the Americas; access to justice; preparation of the Inter-American Juridical Committee's centennial commemoration; the International Criminal Court and the Fifth Joint Meeting with the Legal Advisors of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs in the OAS member states; possible measures over and above the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (Caracas); the illegal trafficking in arms and the decisions that the Inter-American Juridical Committee has taken on the subject; the legal aspects of hemispheric security; freedom of information: access to and protection of personal information and data; democracy in the inter-American system; inter-American cooperation against terrorism; study of the system for promoting and protecting human rights in the inter-American sphere; the abduction of minors by one of their parents.

The Inter-American Juridical Committee approved reports and adopted resolutions on those topics.

During the period covered in the present report, the members of the Inter-American Juridical Committee were: João Grandino Rodas; Brynmor Pollard; Jonathan T. Fried; Luis Herrera Marcano; Kenneth O. Rattray; Eduardo Vío Grossi; Sergio González Gálvez; Orlando Rebagliati; Felipe Paolillo; Carlos Manuel Vazquez, and Ana Elizabeth Villalta. At the second session, Dr. Brynmor Pollard was elected Chairman, replacing Dr. João Grandino Rodas. Dr. Carlos Manuel Vázquez was elected Vice Chairman, replacing Dr. Brynmor Pollard.

At the thirty-second regular session of the OAS General Assembly (Bridgetown, Barbados, June 2002), Dr. Luis Marchand Stens of Peru and Dr. Alonso Gómez Robledo Verduzco of Mexico were elected to Committee membership. Dr. João Grandino Rodas, of Brazil, was re-elected. Those members will begin their four-year terms on January 1, 2003. The Committee members whose terms ended on December 31, 2002, were Dr. Orlando Rebagliati and Dr. Sergio González Gálvez. Dr. Brynmor Pollard presented the Annual Report on the work accomplished by the Committee in 2001 to the General Assembly.

Representing the General Secretariat, the following provided technical and administrative support to the Inter-American Juridical Committee: Dr. Enrique Lagos, Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs; Jean-Michel Arrighi, Director of the Department of International Law; Manoel Tolomei Moletta and Dante M. Negro, both officials with the Department of International Law.

In coordination with the Department of International Law, the Inter-American Juridical Committee organized the XXIX Course on International Law, attended by 21 professors from various countries in the Americas and Europe, 28 OAS fellows selected from more than 50 applicants, and 7 students who paid their own fees. The Course's main theme was "Natural resources, energy, environment and international law." On August 5 and 30, the venue of the course was the Rio Business Center, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) was created by a resolution of the Fifth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, held in Santiago, Chile, in 1959. It was formally established in 1960 when the then Council of the Organization approved its Statutes. Its Rules of Procedure, approved in 1980, have been amended several times, most recently in 2000. The Commission represents all the member states of the Organization and is made up of seven members, elected in their personal capacity by the General Assembly. The Commission's main function, under Article 115 of the Charter, is to promote the observance and protection of human rights and to serve as consultative organ of the Organization in these matters.

Commission sessions in 2002

During the period to which this report refers, the Commission convened on three occasions: the 114th regular session, February 25 through March 15, 2002; the 115th special session, September 2 through 6, 2002, and the 116th regular session, October 7 through 25, 2002. More details on the Commission's 2002 sessions appear at the Commission's site on the Internet at: <http://www.cidh.org>.

During its regular sessions in 2002, the IACHR held working meetings and hearings where it received representatives of the OAS member states and representatives of the petitioners, spokespersons for nongovernmental organizations and other civilians to discuss individual cases and the general human rights situation in their countries.

In February 2002, the Commission elected its new officers: Juan Méndez, Chairman; Marta Altolaguirre, First Vice Chairman; and José Zalaquett, Second Vice Chairman. The other members of the IACHR in 2002 were: Robert K. Goldman, Julio Prado Vallejo and Susana Villarán.

114th regular session

The Commission elected its new officers at its 114th regular session. They were: Juan E. Méndez, Chairman; Lic. Marta Altolaguirre, First Vice Chairman, and José Zalaquett, Second Vice Chairman.

The Commission also examined numerous individual petitions on human rights violations wherein it was alleged that OAS member states had incurred international responsibility. It approved 49 reports on individual petitions and cases and held 24 hearings on individual cases, the general human rights situation in specific countries of the hemisphere, precautionary measures, follow-up on recommendations and other matters within its purview. It also held a number of hearings and working meetings with petitioners and representatives of OAS member states with a view to reaching a friendly settlement of certain complaints. In that week of hearings, the Commission also held plenary hearings on the human rights situation in Colombia, Haiti and Venezuela.

One of the public plenary hearings the Commission held was on the question of terrorism and human rights. There, the Commission received written and oral opinions from Drs. Joan Fitzpatrick, David Martin, Aryeh Neier, Jorge Santistevan and Ruth Wedgwood, all experts on the subject. This hearing was held in furtherance of the Commission's December 12, 2001 resolution wherein it decided to

conduct a study on terrorism and human rights, in order to assist the OAS member states in adopting laws and regulations that were in conformity with international law.

At this session the Commission also met with representatives of other human rights bodies, among them Maria Francisca Ize-Charrin and Dr. Roberto Garretón, Chief of the Support Services Branch and Advisor on Latin American, respectively, of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and Dr. Rodolfo Stavenhagen, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples. The Commission also had an opportunity to meet with a number of other authorities and with representatives from other institutions devoted to the protection of human rights, namely: Dr. Paulo Sergio Pinheiro, Brazil's Secretary of State for Human Rights, and Dr. Sofía Macher and Dr. Carlos Iván De Gregori, members of Peru's Truth Commission.

The Commission's Special Rapporteurs continued to keep the IACHR informed. At this session it received a report from its Rapporteur on the Rights of Women, Commission member Marta Altolaguirre, concerning her on-site visit on February 12 and 13, 2002, to evaluate the human rights situation of women in Juárez, Mexico. It also received a report from the IACHR Rapporteur on Migrant Workers and Their Families, Commission member Juan Méndez, and its Rapporteur on the Rights of Children, Commission member Susana Villarán, concerning their activities and work programs. The Commission continued the process of selecting a new Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression and received updated information from Dean Claudio Grossman, an observer in the proceedings that Argentina is conducting into the bombing of the headquarters of the Asociación Mutual Israelita Argentina (AMIA).

115th special session

At the invitation of the Government of Costa Rica, the Commission held its 115th special session in San José. There, the Commission examined various matters related to the human rights situation in the Americas, including and in particular the ongoing study and analysis of the Commission's draft report on terrorism and human rights.

At that session, the Commission also had a joint meeting with the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, to examine and discuss procedural matters and other issues of mutual interest to both bodies. The Commission also met with representatives of the Government of Costa Rica, the Standing Canadian Senate Human Rights Committee, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and Prison Reform International.

116th regular session

At its 116th regular session, the Commission continued to examine numerous individual communications alleging violations of human rights protected by the American Convention and the American Declaration. It approved 38 reports. The Commission also examined the preparation of its 2002 Annual Report, which has to be presented to the OAS General Assembly at its thirty-third regular session, which will be in Chile in 2003.

During its 116th regular session, the Commission held 61 hearings in the week of October 14 through 18, 2002. These were hearings on individual petitions and cases that the Commission is processing, as

well as general hearings on the human rights situation in specific member states and on special topics, such as pending death penalty bills in Barbados and Belize and the administration of justice in Argentina and Colombia. The Commission also received general information about the situation of certain persons and groups in the Hemisphere, including women, children, indigenous peoples, and refugees, from institutions like the United Nations Children's Fund, the Inter-American Children's Institute and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. In addition to those hearings, the Commission held more than 50 working meetings with the parties to petitions and cases involving a number of countries and issues. It also examined the progress made in efforts to arrive at friendly settlements.

The Commission also completed its examination of its Report on Terrorism and Human Rights and approved it. Once the final translation was completed and the report corrected, it was released to the member states and to the public in December 2002. As stated in the Report's Preface, the Report was prepared "in the hope that it will assist member states of the Organization of American States and other interested actors in the inter-American system in ensuring that anti-terrorism initiatives comply fully with fundamental human rights and freedoms and thereby achieve one of the crucial components for a successful campaign against terrorist violence."

At the end of the 116th regular session, the Commission expressed its gratitude for the significant financial contributions made by various governments to help the Commission discharge its functions. Those contributions included funding from the following governments: the United States, to promote and study freedom of expression and women's rights in the Hemisphere; Spain, to help the Commission perform its activities in the area of documents, publication and the IACHR Web page on the Internet; Mexico, to enable the Commission to carry out the promotion and follow-up work associated with the situation of migrant workers and their families, human rights defenders, and the rights of women in the Hemisphere.

On-site visits

Venezuela

At the invitation of President Hugo Chávez Frias, the Commission conducted an on-site visit to Venezuela from May 6 through 10, 2002, to observe the human rights situation in that country.

During its visit, the Commission met with authorities from the various branches of government, including the President of the Republic, and with nongovernmental human rights organizations, representatives of the Venezuelan Episcopal Conference, political leaders, journalists and representatives of the media, representatives of labor unions, victims and victims' next of kin, and other representatives of civil society at the national and local levels.

To compile information during its visit, the Commission concerned itself with specific aspects of Venezuelan society, such as the new Venezuelan Constitution, the administration of justice, freedom of expression, the armed forces and security forces, the right to create labor unions and to join them, the activities of death squads or *extermination groups* composed of members of State security forces and active in a number of Venezuelan states. The Commission expressed special concern over the attempted coup d'état in Venezuela in April 2002, which left at least 16 people dead. In the

Commission's view, that event was the most tragic and serious manifestation of the polarization of Venezuelan society.

In its final observations about the visit, the Commission called for immediate action to strengthen the rule of law in Venezuela, and stressed how important it was that the Venezuelan Government fully comply with the inter-American system's decisions and recommendations. It said that it would continue to follow closely the development of the human rights situation in Venezuela.

Haiti

At the request of the Government of Haiti and under the terms of OAS Permanent Council resolution CP/RES. 806, adopted 15 January 2002,¹ the Commission conducted two on-site visits to the Republic of Haiti, the first from May 28 through 31, and the second from August 26 through 29, 2002.

In the course of its visits to Haiti, the Commission met with numerous government officials, including the President of the Republic, Jean Bertrand Aristide, Prime Minister Yvon Neptune, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Justice and Public Security, the Director General of the Haitian National Police, the Inspector General of the National Police, and the Secretary of State for National Security. The Commission also held meetings with representatives of different sectors of civil society, specifically representatives of nongovernmental organizations, representatives of political parties, of Protestant and other denominations and representatives of the press.

In the course of its inquiries, the Commission expressed particular concern over the dire problems caused by poverty, illiteracy, maternal-infant mortality and malnutrition in Haiti. It noted that observance of human rights is not limited to civil and political rights, but includes economic, social and cultural rights as well. The Commission underscored the fact that this was an important challenge that could not be tackled without broad-based participation, a concrete development plan of the Haitian government, and collaboration with diverse sectors of civil society and the international community. The Commission also expressed concern over the democratic process in Haiti and the problems affecting the judicial system, including the independency of the Judiciary, impunity, citizen safety and security and freedom of expression.

At the end of the second visit to Haiti, in August 2002, the Commission observed that it had not seen any improvements in the problems outlined on the occasion of the May 2002 visit. It noted, in particular, that the lack of dialogue among leading sectors of society was seriously hindering solutions to Haiti's problems and reflected deficiencies in the elements needed to establish the rule of law according to the American Convention and the Inter-American Democratic Charter. During both visits, the Commission expressed its determination to work with the Government and with all Haitian society to strengthen the defense and protection of human rights in a democracy with legal institutions.

Argentina

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1. In resolution CP/RES.806 (1303/02), the OAS Permanent Council resolved "To ask the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights within its area of competence to undertake an on site visit to Haiti to consult with civil society, political parties, and the Government of Haiti in order to analyze and report on current conditions, and the events related to December 17, 2001."

At the invitation of the President of Argentina, Eduardo Duhalde, the Commission conducted an on-site visit to that country from July 29 through August 6, 2002. During its visit, the Commission met with representatives of diverse sectors of government and civil society organizations. Meetings were held with Dr. Eduardo A. Duhalde, President of Argentina, Dr. Juan José Álvarez, Minister of Security and Justice, Dr. Oscar Luján Fappiano, Secretary of Human Rights, representatives of the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Health, members of the Human Rights Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, and various authorities from the governments of the Provinces of Buenos Aires, Salta, Neuquén and Río Negro. Among the nongovernmental organizations with which the Commission met were the Center for Legal and Social Studies, *Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo*, *Madres de Plaza de Mayo*, Relatives of Political Detainees-Disappeared and the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights. As is customary during these visits, the Commission also received complaints from numerous people, either directly or through their representatives, who claim to have been victims of human rights violations.

The Commission's program of activities included investigation of a number of petitions and cases that the Commission was currently processing. It focused on the human rights situation in general and on specific issues such as the administration of justice, the role of public security forces, and the situation of the economic, social and cultural rights. The information compiled by the Commission in part concerned the profound impact that the unprecedented economic and social crisis has had on the human rights situation in Argentina. Both the State authorities and representatives of civil society told the Commission about the chronic public finance problems, the crisis with juridical security and four years of recession, which has brought unemployment, a dramatic surge in poverty and social disenfranchisement. The Commission also noted that large sectors of the Argentine population have been hurt by the freezing of bank accounts, known as the "corralito", and by decrees that suspended certain judicial proceedings or prevented execution of decisions and judgments ordering precautionary measures, and by the "antigoteo law" or stopper law to prevent execution of precautionary measures and thus ensure the effectiveness of the freezing of bank accounts. In the months leading up to its visit, the Commission had received almost 2,000 petitions about this situation. During its visit it met with the lawyers representing the petitioners and with the affected parties, to compile additional information.

In its preliminary observations once its visit was completed, the Commission noted that in the prevailing circumstances in Argentina, all sectors of society, especially national and local authorities and political leaders, must act with the utmost prudence and with absolute respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Special visits and other activities

In addition to its on-site visits, the Commission made a number of special visits to certain member states and conducted a number of special activities in 2002.

On February 12 and 13, the Commission's Special Rapporteur on Women's Rights, Lic. Marta Altolaguirre, visited Juárez, Mexico, at the invitation of the Government of President Vicente Fox. The visit was made because of concerns previously expressed by various representatives of civil society regarding the human rights situation of the women of Juárez. Specifically, the Commission had received communications indicating that since 1993, more than 200 women had been brutally murdered and that the vast majority of those cases were still unsolved. During her visit, the Special

Rapporteur met with numerous government officials and representatives of nongovernmental human rights organizations and representatives of civil society at the local, state and federal level. In her preliminary observations about the visit, the Special Rapporteur expressed over the lack of progress made toward solving the terrible violence being committed against women in Juárez City and reiterated her willingness to continue to work with the authorities and with civil society within the framework of the pertinent instruments, to help reinforce internal and international mechanisms for the protection of women's rights.

On the occasion of International Women's Day on March 8, 2002, the Commission's Special Rapporteur on Women's Rights, Commission member Marta Altolaquirre, attended the first joint meeting with Radhika Coomaraswamy, United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and with Ángela Melo, Special Rapporteur on Women's Rights with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, organized by Rights and Democracy in Montreal, Canada. The meeting resulted in a joint Declaration which asserted a woman's right to be free of violence and discrimination and condemned the fact that "violence against women and girls is perpetrated in every country in the world." After the meeting, the three rapporteurs expressed their complete satisfaction with the outcome of the meeting and said that would like to continue to meet periodically, so as to call the international community's attention to the principal threats to the free exercise of women's rights. The text of the joint declaration can be found at the Commission's Web site, <http://www.cidh.org>.

A delegation from the Commission visited Guatemala from July 23 through 26, 2002, to evaluate the situation of the human rights defenders in that country. During its visit, the delegation met with government officials and with representatives of various sectors of civil society. It also took part in the Second Regional Consultation on Human Rights Defenders and in the National Seminar on Human Rights Defenders, both of which took place in Guatemala City during that period.

At the invitation of the United States of Mexico, the Rapporteur on the Rights of Migrant Workers and Their Families made a working visit to Mexico from July 24 through August 1, 2002. The purpose of the visit was to hold a number of working meetings for follow-up and friendly settlement of individual cases; to conduct promotional work and to examine the rights of migrant workers and their families in Mexico. The Rapporteur's delegation visited numerous places pivotal to the situation of migrant workers, including the Ixtapalapa migrant center in the Federal District, and Juárez and Chihuahua, along Mexico's border.

From August 18 through 22, 2002, the Commission conducted a working visit to Peru to hold meetings in connection with the Peruvian State's application of the Commission's recommendations, contained in 105 final reports adopted and published by the Commission, and to promote human rights. During its visit, the Commission's delegation met with government authorities, with various sectors of civil society, and with the Inter-institutional Working Group for Follow-up of IACHR Recommendations, which the Peruvian State established in an attempt to find thorough solutions and comply with the Commission's recommendations. During its visit, the Commission's delegation also visited Challapalca prison in the Department of Tacna, because of the many complaints the Commission has received concerning inhuman and degrading conditions there. In its Second Report on the Situation of Human Rights in Peru, the Commission had recommended that Challapalca prison be closed. It repeated that request during its visit in August 2002.

Fellowships

In 2002, the Commission continued its “Rómulo Gallegos Fellowships” training program. The program provides training on the inter-American system for the protection and promotion of human rights for young attorneys from countries in the Hemisphere, selected by competition each year. Attorneys applying for the fellowships must explain their identification with the human rights cause and present solid academic credentials. Over the course of 2002, the Commission received ten Rómulo Gallegos fellows: five in the first half of the year, corresponding to the 2001-2002 period, and five in the second half of the year, corresponding to the 2002-2003 period.

Activities to promote human rights

During 2002, members of the Commission and the Secretariat participated in numerous international conferences, workshops and training courses on the international protection of human rights and related topics. These included activities where the topics of discussion were the functioning of the inter-American system, penal reform in the Americas, the use of capital punishment, the consequences and impact of the Inter-American Demographic Charter, protection of the right to freedom of association under the inter-American system and the rights of refugees.

The members of the IACHR, the Executive Secretary and the attorneys on the Commission’s staff participated in the Seventh Annual Moot Court Competition on the inter-American system of human rights, organized by the American University Law School and held in Washington in May. The competition has been held every year since 1996. More than 500 students and professors from 55 universities in over 20 countries of the Hemisphere participated.

From June 17 through 19, the Commission’s Special Rapporteur for the Rights of Children, Commission member Susana Villarán, and the staff attorney serving in the Office of the Special Rapporteur, Mary Ana Beloff, conducted a training seminar in Asuncion, Paraguay on the promotion and defense of the rights of children and adolescents under the inter-American system. The seminar was conducted in conjunction with Paraguay’s Secretariat for Children and Youth and was attended by officials from the executive branch of government, public defenders, judges, attorneys, representatives of nongovernmental organizations and members of civil society. During the seminar, Commission member Villarán had a number of meetings with representatives of the Government of Paraguay and of nongovernmental organizations engaged in promoting and defending the rights of children and adolescents.

Activities related to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights

The Commission continues to litigate several cases filed with the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Between January 1 and December 31, 2002, the Commission filed applications with the Inter-American Court in connection with the following litigious cases: the Plan de Sánchez Case (Guatemala); the “Panchito López Juvenile Correctional Facility” Case (Paraguay); the Ricardo Canese Case (Paraguay); the Gómez Paquiyauri Case (Peru); the Lori Berenson Case (Peru); and the Moiwana Case (Suriname). With the filing of these cases, the Commission now has 38 litigious cases pending with the Inter-American Court.

Also in 2002, the Commission participated in a number of public hearings held by the Court. During the Court's 54th regular session, February 18 to March 1, 2002, the Commission participated in a hearing on the merits and eventual reparations in the Hilaire, Constantine, Benjamine *et al.* Case (Trinidad and Tobago). During the Court's 55th regular session, June 6 through 21, 2002, the Commission participated in hearings on provisional measures in the Paz de San José de Apartadó Community Case (Colombia); preliminary objections in the case of the 19 Comerciantes (Colombia); on the merits and eventual reparations in the Cantos Case (Argentina); reparations in the Las Palmeras Case (Colombia); and the public hearing on the request for Advisory Opinion OC-17. During the Court's 56th session, August 26 to September 6, 2002, the Commission took part in the hearing on the merits and eventual reparations in the Five Pensioners Case (Peru).

During the period covered in this Report, the Commission also took note of a number of judgments delivered by the Court on cases before it in 2002, including the judgment on reparations in the Bámaca Velásquez Case, delivered on February 22, 2002; the judgment on reparations in the Trujillo Oroza Case, delivered on February 27, 2002; the judgment on the preliminary objections entered in the Case of the 19 Comerciantes, delivered on June 12, 2002; the judgment on the merits in the Caracazo Case, delivered on August 29, 2002; the judgment on reparations in the Las Palmeras Case, delivered on November 26, 2002; and the judgment on the merits and reparations in the Cantos Case, delivered on November 28, 2002. On August 28, 2002, the Court delivered its Advisory Opinion OC-17/2002 concerning children's juridical status and human rights.

V. OTHER AGENCIES AND ENTITIES

INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

Established by the General Assembly in 1986, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) is guided by the principles and objectives spelled out in the Inter-American Program of Action of Rio de Janeiro against the Illicit Use and Production of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Traffic Therein, as well as the provisions of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere, approved by the Commission in 1996 and by the General Assembly in 1997. It is a hemispheric forum that enables the member states to evaluate policies and strategies and to exchange ideas on and experiences with the problem of drugs. Its main objectives are to expand and strengthen the member states' capacity to lower the demand for illegal drugs and prevent their use, to combat their illicit production and trafficking, and to promote a suitable inter-American response through more regional activities involving research, training of specialized personnel and reciprocal assistance.

CICAD's mission is to promote and facilitate multilateral cooperation across the Hemisphere to control the use and production of illegal drugs, traffic therein and related crimes. In the last year, the Commission has also tackled the growing concern over the links between terrorism, drug trafficking, money laundering and arms smuggling. The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) considers a decline in drug-related corruption as one of the gauges of the progress a country has made toward reducing the drug problem.

Research and key sources of information indicate that illegal drug use is on the rise in many OAS countries. Drugs like ecstasy, heroine and metamphetamines are turning up in areas where they were not previously reported and prescription drug abuse is an ever-increasing problem. To take on these new challenges, CICAD's program on Demand Reduction now working on all abused substances - legal and illegal - from a public health approach. Particular attention is given to the relationship between HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, domestic violence and substance abuse.

CICAD's action areas are as follows: the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), Demand Reduction, Supply Reduction, Control Measures, Alternative Development, Legal Development and Cooperation, Money Laundering, Institutional Building, and the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs.

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)

The MEM completed its first evaluation with the January 31, 2002 publication of the *'Progress Report in Drug Control - 2001, Implementation of Recommendations from the First Evaluation Round, 1999-2000.'* The Commission approved a series of revised indicators for the 2001-2002 evaluation period and the Secretariat prepared an electronic version of the questionnaire, making it easier for the national coordination agencies to send in the completed questionnaires to the Governmental Experts Group (GEG). The latter met three times in 2002 (April, June and October) and drafted 34 national reports and the hemispheric report, all of which the Commission approved at its thirty-second regular session in December 2002. The evaluations for the second round (2001-2002) were made public at an event on January 29, 2003, with the Commission's Chairman, Lic. Rafael Macedo de la Concha, presiding.

The first MEM reports showed clearly that a lack of funds and qualified personnel had made it impossible for some member states to put certain recommendations into practice. Therefore, one of the Commission's top priorities has been to provide the technical and financial assistance that the countries need and request in two key areas: improving the quality and currency of drug-related statistics, and establishing drug abuse prevention programs targeted at children and adolescents, women and workers in the major industries. In 2003, that assistance will go to some 14 countries, all thanks to grants from Canada and the United States totaling more than a million United States dollars.

Demand Reduction

The centerpiece of CICAD's Demand Reduction program is a project to get drug-abuse prevention issues introduced in undergraduate and graduate nursing school curricula. Some 6,000 future nursing professionals are being trained to perform an active role in drug abuse prevention, promoting health, and the recovery of former drug addicts. More than 500 members of nursing school teaching staffs have been instructed in the new curriculum.

In an innovative partnership between CICAD and Spain's National Drug Program, the Ibero-American Online Master's Degree in Drug Addiction Studies was created in October 2002. The program is the first online graduate program in the Americas dealing with substance abuse problems. More than 300 applicants met the enrollment requirements, and a total of 127 students from 19 countries enrolled for the course's first year (2002-2003). The program is being given by a consortium of 5 Latin American and 2 Spanish universities using the online capabilities of Spain's Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia [National Distance Education University] (UNED).

In the Caribbean, CICAD sponsored a course in Belize titled *From Prison to Community: Sharing Treatment Models*, which exposed parole officers, drug treatment counselors, magistrates and social workers to alternatives to sentencing for minor drug-related infractions and ways to get the offenders into community-based drug-treatment programs and services. A regional workshop held in Jamaica in June 2002, brought together government representatives and representatives of nongovernmental organizations active in the prevention and treatment of drug abuse, affording them an opportunity to share resources and improve drug abuse prevention and treatment networks.

Supply Reduction

A new program on community policing, launched in 2002, is a collaborative effort between police and community to tackle the problem of gang crime. In March, CICAD and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) co-sponsored a seminar in Vancouver, Canada, to introduce the RCMP's community policing model to participants from 13 countries. This effort will continue in 2003, when the pilot project begins in the Dominican Republic.

In 2001, CICAD approved the creation of a Group of Experts on Pharmaceuticals. The Group met for the first time in August 2002 to examine control of pharmaceuticals, including the need to update national laws and to train inspectors and health professionals. The Group will also be preparing manuals and reference guides.

With CICAD's support, the Regional School of the Andean Community for Anti-Drug Intelligence, now in its third year of operation in Lima Peru, held two six-week training seminars on police

intelligence work, including undercover operations, handling of informants, controlled deliveries and research into the laundering of assets.

Maritime cooperation and port safety and security are essential to controlling drug trafficking. In 2002, CICAD organized an international conference on port security, held in Panama, to introduce other countries of the region to the standardized security system being used in Colombian ports.

Alternative Development

CICAD's Alternative Development program has projects underway in six countries in South America and the Caribbean. Under an agreement signed by CICAD and the Government of Bolivia in 2002, two priority projects got started. The first is the deeding of lands in the Norte de Yungas, being conducted in conjunction with the National Agrarian Reform Institute (INRA) in an effort to craft new policies in investment planning, management and distribution. Approximately 60,000 hectares of land will be inspected and some 1,000 property titles issued. The new landowners will have greater access to credit.

The second project came out of a request that the Bolivian Government made of CICAD in April 2002, to conduct an in-depth evaluation of the impact that the "With Dignity Plan" has had on the production and use of illegal drugs in that country and traffic therein. The evaluation of the With Dignity Plan's four pillars—alternative development, prevention and rehabilitation, eradication and interdiction— was finished in July and found that the illegal coca crop was down by over 90%, the supply of cocaine was down by 80% and another 60,000 hectares had been planted with legal crops, for a total of 120,000 hectares being cultivated with a variety of legal crops. However, the evaluation warned that the cultivation of coca could spring back. It also underscored the crucial but complex link between development and eradication, which impacts many economic and social factors like infrastructure, market access for the legal crops, and the social upheaval that the eradication of coca causes within the country.

Legal Development

Through its Legal Development program, CICAD is actively promoting the control of firearms and related materials by promoting observance of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA) and CICAD's Model Regulations for the Control of the International Movement of Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition. In February 2002, a regional seminar was held in Brazil in cooperation with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-LiREC), the objective being to get the Model Regulations into force in all countries of the Hemisphere. CICAD and UN-LiREC have also prepared an instructors' training program about matters related to the control of firearms, slated to begin in April 2003. Also in early April, CICAD's Group of Experts on Firearms will reconvene in Managua, Nicaragua, to consider amendments intended to update the Model Regulations, particularly with respect to the role of intermediaries and the measures to control exportation of firearms and munitions.

In cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the program is organizing and coordinating a series of moot court proceedings in various countries, intended to change criminal procedure.

Money Laundering

The CICAD program to instruct judges and public prosecutors about money laundering trained 125 representatives from the judicial systems of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. In August 2002, CICAD began a project in partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank, intended to strengthen financial intelligence units that deal with money laundering.

A number of member states received technical assistance with preparation of juridical frameworks, institutional building, training and technological assistance in intelligence methods.

At its thirty-second regular session, held in December 2002, the Commission approved amendments to CICAD's Model Regulations Concerning Laundering Offenses connected to illicit drug trafficking and other serious offenses, which it recommended to the member states. The amendments incorporate the definition of terrorism financing already established by other international organizations and also adopt the eight special recommendations of the Action Group on Financial Matters.

Inter-American Observatory on Drugs

The Inter-American Observatory on Drugs, the CICAD mechanism handling statistics, information and research, has helped 13 member states to conduct surveys on drug use among high-school students, thus carrying out one of the MEM's important recommendations. The study on the economic, social and human cost of drugs, ordered by the Third Summit of the Americas, is moving forward with the cooperation of the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, with a pilot project in three member states.

The Observatory helped 10 member states to establish National Observatories on Drugs with funding from the Government of Spain and the European Commission.

Institutional building and establishment of National Drug Control Commissions

In partnership with the governments of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, CICAD's Institutional Building program executed an innovative project to prevent drug abuse across their common borders and to conduct research on drug use in twin cities in two different countries. CICAD is also providing technical and financial assistance to Haiti, where the first national drug control commission has been set up and a national plan is being crafted. In 2002, it conducted a workshop in Grenada on preparation of its national drug control plan.

A Central American Summit was held in August under CICAD auspices. Attending were the heads and executive secretaries of the national drug control commissions, as well as representatives of the national legislatures and judiciaries. It culminated with a firm commitment to subregional cooperation on the drug problem.

INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

The Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL), established by the General Assembly in 1994, has technical autonomy in the performance of its functions, within the limits set by the OAS Charter, the CITEL statutes and the mandates of the General Assembly. Its main objective is to facilitate and promote continuous development of telecommunications in the Hemisphere. It serves as the OAS' principal advisory body in telecommunications-related matters. At CITEL's Third Assembly, held in 2002, the Commission was restructured to enable it to respond more vigorously to the needs of the member states and associate members.

Recognizing the importance of the new information and communications technologies (ICTs), all the countries are trying to make those technologies more accessible and make more use of them. However, the gulf between those that have and those that do not have access to the information and communications technologies is widening.

Although many reports have been written about the ICTs' growth and development, especially about their impact on the economic and social life of countries and their citizens, these evaluations are frequently duplications of effort. Relatively few of the proposals put forward ever actually materialize.

These last few years have seen stark contrasts in the telecommunications sector. Although its installed infrastructure continues to grow, its private sector is experiencing hard times, including job losses, cancellation of various projects and, in general, growing skepticism among financial circles about the viability of the new services.

To respond to the challenges that the telecommunications situation poses, CITEL took a number of measures in 2002 to build up its capacity to respond to the needs of its member states and associate members. The following were some of the principal measures taken by CITEL in 2002:

Promoting connectivity in the Americas through preparation and approval of the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas and the Quito Plan of Action

The Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas and the Quito Plan of Action are tools that will increase awareness of telecommunications' impact on the countries' economic and social development. This conceptual frame of reference serves as a catalyst to spur development, expansion and operation of telecommunications services and networks. Although these documents were tailored to the specific characteristics of the countries of the Americas, the general guidelines they offer can be of help elsewhere in the world.

In 2002, these documents were completed and sent to the OAS Executive Secretariat for the Summit Process. That Secretariat was asked to decide the appropriate measures to promote subsequent development and implementation, consistent with each member state's needs. The documents were also presented at the World Telecommunications Development Conference and the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), both meetings held the same

year. There CITELE received substantial support, which enables a number of member states, based on these general guidelines, to develop their national agendas or strategic plans.

CITELE has contributed actively to the efforts being made internationally to close the digital divide, which it regards as one of its main activities.

Support to the member states and associate members in sharing information and best practices to be able to cope with the changes in telecommunications

This objective is related to the role that CITELE traditionally plays as a forum wherein its member states and associate members mutually support each other. CITELE provides a setting in which the member states can exchange experiences and best practices, which helps them keep their legal and regulatory frameworks up to date, predictable and consistent and to develop their telecommunications and universal access.

During 2002, CITELE presented a report on Tele-education in the Americas. A book on tele-medicine is also in the works. Both publications describe the status of these services in each country of the region and were done in cooperation with the International Telecommunications Union.

In the case of the Permanent Consultative Committees, seminars, discussions in electronic forums and roundtables enhanced the transfer of specialized knowledge and experiences. These Committees now have more than 200 associate members whose participation has been decisive in enabling the Committees to fulfill their mandates.

Strengthening of the coordination among subregional, regional and international organizations

Many organizations have established programs to develop information and communications technologies (ICTs). In order to be able to maintain its pre-eminent role in the Americas, CITELE established closer associations by concluding cooperation agreements. As of the present time, it has signed agreements with the following: AHCIET, ALACEL, CEPT, ETSI, ASET, Committee T1 (US), TIA (US), C/LAA (US), RCC (Russian Federation and other member states of the CEI) and the UPAEP. These agreements will improve coordination with other telecommunications organizations for purposes of developing and setting in motion effective and sustainable programs. They also do much to reduce duplication of efforts.

Increase in the use of new modes of training in telecommunications

A number of important decisions have been taken to improve and increase training. The increase in the number of regulatory agencies in the member states has made training assistance to these agencies a priority activity for CITELE. Distance learning was introduced as one of CITELE's training vehicles in 2002. CITELE sponsored courses on regulation of new IP services and applications, security on public networks, network interconnections and a seminar on security on public networks, its technical and management issues. A total of 213 fellowships were offered using the fellowships budget for 2001 and 2002.

Improving CITEL procedures

A number of measures have been taken to improve CITEL procedures. One of the most visible is that practically all CITEL documents are now available online at its online electronic forum. This cuts down on the use of paper, as meetings are held with wireless access to documents. The investments made in improving the operating methods and mechanisms significantly enhanced the quality of CITEL's services, thereby serving to increase participation in its activities.

Third Assembly of CITEL

The Third Assembly of CITEL was held in Washington, D.C., August 12 through 16, 2002. Its results featured the restructuring to more clearly define the functions and priorities of the respective committees, updating the strategic plan and work program, and election of CITEL's new officers.

CITEL will thus continue to serve as a permanent forum and mechanism for coordinating the activities of all those interested and involved in shaping telecommunications policies and ICT, including international, regional and subregional organizations, the private sector and other sector-related organizations.

In addition to those already mentioned elsewhere in this report, the following are some of the topics discussed during the Assembly:

- Approval of a Protocol to the Inter-American Convention on the International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP), whereby bearers of amateur radio permits in the member countries of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) that become States parties to the Protocol are granted the same rights and privileges that IARP permit holders in the CITEL member states enjoy. This will simplify procedures for using these services, which are of such critical importance, particularly in emergency situations.
- Special mention was made of the progress made on implementation of the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) on Conformity Assessment of Telecommunications Equipment, to have truly integrated telecommunications in the Americas. A special effort was requested to ensure that the Caribbean and Central American States are apprised of the requirements and advantages of participating in the MRA.
- Updating the Blue Book on Telecommunications Policies for the Americas, with particular attention to the specific needs and requirements of the Central American and Caribbean countries. The Blue Book has been an invaluable tool to regulators in the region, since it covers the sector's priorities, which include the following: spectrum administration; interconnection; economic models for universal service; administrative procedures; and convergence of services and Internet.

The Declaration of Washington recognized the central role that CITEL has played and agreed to continue consolidating and expanding CITEL's capabilities so that it can fully respond to the commitments undertaken by the Heads of State at the Summit of the Americas, since communications and telecommunications technologies and connectivity are priority elements in the region's sustainable development.

Permanent Executive Committee of CITEL (COM/CITEL)

The Permanent Executive Committee is CITEL's executive body and meets once each year. At the 2002 meeting, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, December 9 through 12, COM/CITEL put the finishing touches on the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas and the Plan of Action of Quito. These documents were then sent to the OAS Executive Secretariat for the Summit Process for implementation. When putting together their work programs, CITEL and its Permanent Consultative Committees will examine ways of helping to implement the Agenda for Connectivity.

Preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) are now at a critical phase, as the meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean will be held in the Dominican Republic, January 29 through 31, 2003. COM/CITEL invited the OAS Secretary General to convey to the meeting a series of telecommunications-related objectives, including the following: the need to modernize the telecommunications infrastructure and greater access to telecommunications services through policies that promote universal access, creating capabilities to cultivate the human resources needed to support connectivity, and creation of a cyber security culture to protect the telecommunications infrastructure.

The Common Inter-American Proposals were developed within COM/CITEL and then presented to the World Telecommunications Development Conference in 2002 and the ITU's 2002 Conference of Plenipotentiaries. The majority were adopted. CITEL thus made certain that the voice of the Americas was heard loud and clear in the International Telecommunications Union's world forum.

A Connectivity Initiatives Management Group was also established to interact with the ITU/BDT by way of the ITU's Regional Office, and with other organizations interested in implementing projects based on these initiatives. This group will identify projects and foster mechanisms for cooperating with international and regional financial organizations, partnering with the private sector and other interested entities. The idea is to enable the identified projects to materialize by coordinating measures for their implementation.

Permanent Consultative Committee I (CCP.I)

Permanent Consultative Committee I was reorganized on the occasion of CITEL's Third Assembly. CCP.I (Telecommunications Standardization) to act as a technical advisory body within the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission with respect to telecommunications equipment certification processes, tariff principles and standards coordination for telecommunications networks and services to ensure the interoperability of such networks and services within the region.

The strategy of the CCP.I will be to ensure that CITEL is a pre-eminent body in coordinating telecommunications standards in the region, responding to market demand and keeping pace with technological evolution. Based on the mandate received from CITEL's Third Assembly, the Committee organized its work to be able to focus its attention on the following areas: standards coordination; advanced network technology and services; certification processes and implementation of the MRA; economic issues and tariff principles; preparations for the World Conference on International Telecommunications, and preparations for the ITU World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly.

During this period, important progress was made toward implementation of the Mutual Recognition Agreement for Telecommunication Equipment (MRA), publication of the book on Tele-education in the Americas, and development of the handbook on “Information Infrastructure in the Americas,” which will contain the inter-American strategies and policies for development in the region.

Permanent Consultative Committee II (CCP.II)

Prior to the Third Assembly of CITELE, Permanent Consultative Committee II was the technical advisory body on standards, planning, operation and technical assistance related to Broadcasting, in its various modalities. At CITELE’s Third Assembly, the former Permanent Consultative Committee II was merged with Permanent Consultative Committee III. The new committee –Radiocommunication including Broadcasting- will serve as technical advisory body within CITELE with respect to the coordination and harmonization of standards related to spectrum use and the planning and efficient use of the radio frequency spectrum and satellite orbits for radiocommunication services, including broadcasting.

The Committee’s representation at other forums and related organizations has been instrumental in publicizing its work more widely. Interregional cooperation, principally in the Asian Pacific and European regions (APT and CEPT), is an important component that will enrich the Committee’s activities. One of the key topics is the preparations for the ITU’s 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference. The inter-American viewpoints and proposals are currently being consolidated so that they can be submitted to the ITU on time. Preparation of the proposals will be completed in February 2003.

In 2002, CITELE was able to finalize the analysis of the various scenarios and frequency allocations, approving a recommendation on frequency allocations for IMT-2000 for the 806 to 960 MHz, 1710 to 2025 MHz, and 2110 to 220 MHz bands.

The Third Summit of the Americas asked CITELE to examine the possibility of simplifying procedures to apply for licensing to provide satellite-based telecommunications services. A report is in the works on the procedures for obtaining VSAT licenses in the Americas, in order to pinpoint the common procedures used within the region that could help the administrations simplify their procedures for obtaining licenses for ground stations.

At CITELE’s web page (<http://www.citel.oas.org>), the program giving the member states’ present frequency allocation in the 137 MHz to 400 MHz is fully operational and freely accessible. As of the date of preparation of this report, the database included information on frequency allocations for 32 of the 34 OAS member states. For reference purposes, it also features the Table of Frequency Allocations (International Table) and the European Table of Frequency Allocations.

Of particular note is the highly technical nature of the papers presented at the forum of Standards in Digital Radiobroadcasting, held in Fortaleza, Brazil in July 2002. The forum featured sessions on Digital Sound Broadcasting (DSB) and Digital Television. Detailed presentations were given on the three global-scale digital systems.

INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM

Created by the General Assembly [AG/RES. 1650 (XXIX-O/99)], the purpose of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism is to cultivate cooperation to prevent, combat, and eliminate terrorist acts and activities. It is made up of the competent national authorities of all the member states. The Committee conducts its work on the basis of international conventions on this subject, the principles and objectives of the Lima Declaration to Prevent, Combat and Eliminate Terrorism, the Lima Plan of Action on Hemispheric Cooperation to Prevent, Combat, and Eliminate Terrorism and the Mar del Plata Commitment. It is headquartered at the OAS General Secretariat.

In 2002, the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) started to implement the decisions adopted at its first and second regular sessions, held in Miami and Washington, respectively.

Subsequent to the second regular session held in January 2002, CICTE established an Executive Secretariat, thanks to an offer from El Salvador, the United States, and Uruguay to send professional personnel to work permanently on the planned activities. Seven member states (Antigua and Barbuda, Brazil, Canada, Chile, El Salvador, Peru and the United States) and three permanent observer States (Italy, Turkey and the United Kingdom) made generous contributions of funds and materials totaling US\$387,399.30, to help start up the Secretariat's initial program and activities.

CICTE's recommendations on financial and border controls were incorporated into the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, signed thus far by 33 of the Organization's 34 member countries. The member states acted swiftly and in concert in arriving at agreement on that highly complex instrument. That fact, combined with its very comprehensive and practical nature, make the Convention a milestone for the Hemisphere and for the worldwide campaign against terrorism.

The Convention provides a legal framework that the signatory States can use to update their domestic legal systems to reflect the changing face of terrorism. In particular, the establishment of national financial intelligence units will give the member states new tools with which to fight money laundering and terrorism financing. The training, sharing of information and technical cooperation provided for in the Convention will improve the region's capacity to take on the wide range of new and old challenges that terrorism poses. Improving border controls will be helpful in the campaigns against drug and weapons traffickers, and terrorists as well. Sharing information can help prevent terrorist acts and be useful to authorities in investigating and prosecuting terrorists and those who aid and abet them. Finally, the Convention offers the member states new means to improve reciprocal legal assistance, especially by denying those accused of terrorism the exemption for a political crime.

CICTE's third regular meeting was held in San Salvador in January. There, the member states confirmed their political commitment to the fight against terrorism, under the principles and purposes of the United Nations and OAS Charters, with respect for human rights and for the commitments undertaken with the international conventions to fight terrorism. The meeting also underscored the need to further build up mutual confidence among the States and to promote contacts between national offices specializing in anti-terrorism. More coordination or a strategic alliance was recommended among CICAD, CICTE, and the CIFTA Convention Advisory Group. The Declaration of San Salvador is particularly important, which states the following:

- Terrorism constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security, and the freedom, democracy and economic and social development of the States.
- Terrorism is often linked to illicit drug trafficking, illicit arms trafficking, and other forms of transnational organized crime.
- The member states are committed to continuing to strengthen their cooperation in the framework of CICTE and to strengthen and support CICTE and its Secretariat.
- The member states emphatically condemn terrorism inasmuch as it attacks democracy, hinders the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, destabilizes and undermines the foundations of society, and seriously affects economic and social development in the states of the region.

The CICTE Work Plan, approved in El Salvador, makes provision for programs in two general areas: information sharing and training. It also pinpoints two crucial issues: strengthening safeguards against fundraising intended to benefit terrorist activities and against money transfers to and from terrorists, and better control over the persons and materials crossing national borders. The Secretariat has launched programs in all these areas.

CICTE will help member states use this instrument to maximum advantage through effective laws and regulations and technical training. Prominent among the initiatives that the Secretariat of CICTE is currently putting together are the following: terrorist typologies and methods, a basic course conducted in partnership with the Gendarmería Nacional Argentina and the Inter-American Defense Board and offered and given online; a policy in practice exercise involving a terrorist incident with radiological material in the Caribbean, formulated jointly with the Pan American Health Organization; a workshop on key issues in the implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism; researching the financing of terrorism, for the financial intelligence units, conducted in cooperation with CICAD; “best practices” in combating terrorism financing, with the emphasis on practices developed in countries with a civil law system; and, finally, an introduction to cyber-security, conducted in cooperation with the United States Department of State.

CICTE’s Web page is today a dynamic hub for sharing information on antiterrorism in the hemisphere. The page receives an average of 16,000 visits per month and more than 500 downloads of information. The antiterrorism database is an ever-expanding source of expert information, current legislation and information on contacts, with 90 registered users. The goal is to have 400 by year’s end. *Informe* is a monthly online newsletter containing information on the fight against terrorism in the Hemisphere. Started in November 2002, it now has over 300 subscribers.

INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION

The Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR) was created by the General Assembly through resolution AG/RES. 1682 (XXIX-O/99), to deal with natural disaster-related issues and to serve as the OAS' main forum for analyzing this topic, in coordination with the competent national organizations. It is chaired by the OAS Secretary General and composed of the Chairman of the Permanent Council, the Assistant Secretary General, the President of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Director General of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Secretary General of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), the Director General of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), and the Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI)/Director General of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development.

The IACNDR has been working on a strategic plan to reduce vulnerability, manage hazardous situations and respond to disasters. A technical group of experts composed of Committee members has been meeting since August 2002 to put together a plan. The plan is expected to be ready in time to present it to the Permanent Council for consideration prior to the next regular session of the General Assembly. The Committee also prepared recommendations to be presented to the Special Conference on Hemispheric Security, which will be held in Mexico in May 2003.

Inter-American Emergency Aid Fund (FONDEM)

During the period covered in this report, the OAS General Secretariat has made symbolic financial contributions to help respond to disasters in the following member states:

Bolivia (March)	\$20,000
Uruguay (March)	\$10,000
Ecuador (May)	\$10,000
Costa Rica (May)	\$20,000
Haiti (May)	\$20,000
Jamaica (June)	\$15,000
Peru (July)	\$20,000
Venezuela (August)	\$20,000

JUSTICE STUDIES CENTER OF THE AMERICAS

In fulfillment of the mandates set forth in the Plan of Action of the Second Summit of the Americas and the recommendations adopted at the Meetings of the Ministers of Justice or Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas, the Justice Studies Center of the Americas was established by the General Assembly [AG/RES. 1 (XXVI-E/99)] as an intergovernmental entity with technical and operational autonomy. Its objectives are to help strengthen human resources, facilitate the exchange of information and other forms of technical cooperation, and support reform and modernization of justice systems in the region.

Institutional development

In 2002, the Justice Studies Center of the Americas (JSCA) finalized its formal establishment in Chile, when the Chilean Parliament ratified the Headquarters Agreement. The latter took effect on September 8.

JSCA headquarters in Santiago, Chile, was the venue for the seventh meeting of the Board of Directors, October 17 and 18. Attending were Board members Douglass Cassel (Chairman), Federico Callizo (Vice Chairman), Soledad Alvear, Karl Hudson Phillips, Mónica Nagel and Board member-elect George Thompson. The Activities Report presented by the Executive Director and the programming for the coming year were approved.

On the occasion of the IV Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA IV), held in Trinidad and Tobago, March 10 to 13, both the Chairman of the Board of Directors and the Executive Director spoke at the plenary session to present the Annual Activities Report 2002 and the Work Plan 2002. The attending delegations complimented both documents, which were formally approved. Under Chapter III, in the section titled "Improving the Administration of Justice," REMJA IV approved a resolution asking the Justice Studies Center of the Americas to put together a register of centers dedicated to alternative dispute-resolution methods. That register can be viewed at the CEJA Web site, www.cejamericas.org

Finally, at its thirty-second regular session, held in Bridgetown, Barbados, June 2 through 4, the General Assembly approved the JSCA Activities Report. A new member of the Center's Board of Directors, Mr. George Thompson of Canada, was elected by the Assembly, replacing Board member José Ovalle of Mexico. Mr. Karl Hudson Phillips of Trinidad and Tobago was re-elected to the Board.

Dissemination and contacts

The JSCA pursued its policy of entering into separate agreements with each institution representative of justice in the region. The number of agreements that JSCA signed in 2002 doubled, as it signed 18 new agreements. The list of agreements signed by the JSCA can be viewed at the Web page.

In 2002, the JSCA also received a formal request for associate membership from the Instituto Mexicano para la Justicia (IMEJ), a nongovernmental organization in Mexico. The Board of Directors approved this request at its VII Meeting.

Activities and results

The following is a list of the projects and their respective results and impacts. They are grouped on the basis of three objectives: i) generating and distributing instruments that improve the information available on justice in the Americas; ii) strengthening the cooperation and exchange of experiences among the key actors in the justice sector at the regional level, and iii) conducting in-depth studies of the justice systems and strengthening innovative ideas in the discussion of judicial reforms.

Generating and disseminating instruments that improve the information available on justice in the Americas

A fundamental part of the JSCA's mission is to improve the information available on justice systems, both in terms of quality and accessibility. To accomplish this objective, a Virtual Information Center was created and can be accessed via the Web site. The Virtual Information Center has a number of specific instruments that gather and variously process information already produced by the public, private, national and regional member institutions in the justice area, as well as the findings of the JSCA-conducted studies. Because internet access in the region is still limited, the Virtual Center has print materials to complement its Web products.

In January, the JSCA's new site was placed on the Web and features general information about the JSCA, an agenda of activities; training and studies conducted by the JSCA; the judicial systems journal *Sistemas Judiciales*; a virtual library, and links.

In November, the first thematic module was added to the Web site, which is the Alternative Dispute-Resolution Center. At this Web page about MARC, a database for the documents and legislation that make up the MARC page is in operation. The Web page is in Spanish and English.

By late 2002, the JSCA's Virtual Information Center had 3,000 documents, reports, basic legislation and links on the justice systems of the 34 member countries. The Web site received over 110,000 visits, averaging 238 a day.

- Annual Report on Justice in the Americas

In 2002, the JSCA began producing the Annual Report on Justice in the Americas. A multidisciplinary team of professionals from various countries of the hemisphere have started to compile information on the justice sector in JSCA's 34 active member countries. A format was prepared with basic indicators on the following topics: a description of the judicial system and its structure; general statistics on the work and productivity of the institutions in the justice sector; innovations in the sector; public perception; findings of studies done on the sector during the period; and references and summaries of Web links to key institutions in the region and in each country.

This report will be introduced on the JSCA's Web site in early 2003; a bilingual edition will be released in print format.

- *Nexus* Newsletter

In 2002, 12 issues of the monthly newsletter *Nexus* were published, in Spanish and English. The newsletter already has 2650 subscribers and another 10,000 readers receive it by indirect distribution. The first Portuguese and French versions of *Nexus* were published in December. Special news bulletins have been added to provide more in-depth coverage of certain topics of particular interest in the region.

- *Sistemas Judiciales* journal

Since 2001, the JSCA has published the journal *Sistemas Judiciales* every six months. It contains articles and information on studies and the status of judicial reform in the Americas today. The journal's Board of Editors met for the first time in Washington on June 6, at OAS headquarters. The Board is composed of distinguished experts from the region who are specialists in the theme of justice and judicial systems. The Board members' names appear at <http://www.cejamericas.org/>. Four issues of the journal have been published to date.

- Comparing judicial statistics and indicators

The JSCA has undertaken a research project on judicial statistics whose purpose is to produce a comprehensive system for data collection and processing, all in order to generate a special report of judicial statistics and indicators for the Americas. In 2002, a number of activities were carried out to accomplish this objective. They included a data validation meeting held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on March 22. The meeting was attended by 25 experts representing 7 countries and by various institutions like the IDB, the World Bank, the OAS, public ministries, judiciaries and civil society organizations with which the JSCA has concluded cooperation agreements. Data were compiled using the matrix developed by experts Santos Pastor and Liliana Maspons, coordinators of the project in Argentina and the Dominican Republic.

A preliminary version of the manual "*Cifrar y Descifrar*" was published on the Web site. This version was introduced at a number of events: the Annual Meeting of the Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries (AIMP), held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in November; the annual meeting of the Ibero-American Summit of Supreme Courts and Superior Courts, held in Cancun, Mexico, in November, and the seminar on Judicial Statistics, held in December in Mexico.

The JSCA has also been approached to cooperate in various projects on judicial information and indicators in Venezuela, with the AIMP Institute and with the Ibero-American Summit and Central American Isthmus Summit. In the latter case, it was to collaborate in a project for a judicial observatory. The Eastern Caribbean Jurisdiction has requested the JSCA's support in starting up a system to compile judicial statistics for that region.

Strengthening the cooperation and exchange of experiences among the key actors in the justice sector at the regional level

The JSCA's goal is to become a vehicle enabling the creation of a regional community interested or involved in judicial public policies, with solid inner nexuses and with a real capacity to influence the sector's development. To that end, it performed the following activities during the year:

- It became a formal founding partner, with full powers, of the Ibero-American Network of Judicial Schools. It also collaborated with the VII Ibero-American Summit of Presidents of Supreme Courts on preparation of the basic paper on the topic of legal assistance, which was presented at that meeting in November 2002.
- The JSCA is one of the institutions collaborating in the organization of the constitutive congress of the Inter-American Association of Public Defenders. At the regional meeting of public defender's offices, held this year in Costa Rica, the JSCA facilitated the participation of officials from the legal defense systems of the Eastern Caribbean and Dominica. The JSCA also organized working meetings with the top representatives of the public defender's offices present, unifying positions, sharing experiences and, above all, strengthening the ties between those institutions and the Center.
- It also participated in the Annual Meeting of the Ibero-American Association of Public Prosecutors, held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in November. The presidency of the Association (Colombia) and of the Association's Institute (Argentina) expressed their interest in working with the JSCA on statistics and training, a topic being evaluated in 2003.
- The JSCA launched the Network of the Justice Civil Society Organizations of the Americas, based on a project previously conducted by the World Bank. Our network is sponsored by the World Bank, the IDB and USAID, and it networks organizations in 22 countries of the region (and can be viewed at the JSCA Web page).
- To formalize the Network's creation, provide an opportunity for its members to meet one another and launch concrete activities, the JSCA convened the First Annual Meeting of the Network of Justice Civil Society Organizations of the Americas, in partnership with Ecuador's Esquel Foundation. The meeting was held in Quito, Ecuador, March 25 and 26. Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, was the venue of a partial meeting of the Network from May 14 through 17, during the First Latin American Forum on Political Crime: The Many Faces of Crime, organized by the Brazilian Institute of Criminal Sciences (IBCCRIM) and sponsored by the JSCA.
- It is important to note that the JSCA organized 18 events or courses, sponsored 6, was instrumental with another 12 and participated in the most important events conducted in the region.

Conducting in-depth studies of the justice systems and strengthening innovative ideas in the discussion of judicial reforms

- Follow-up study of reforms in criminal procedure

In 2001, the JSCA undertook a group of studies and activities designed to strengthen understanding about the way the criminal justice systems in the region function, in order to point up their strengths and weaknesses and publicize the results. These empirical studies were intended to complement the theoretical and conceptual approach to justice issues, in order to encourage pro-reform groups to critically assess the implementation processes and to revive the reforms' original objectives. The approach the studies have devised for dealing with justice issues is based on concrete problems and empirical data. The design of the method is a participatory effort. This method includes quantitative

and qualitative components alike, such as observation of trials and interviews on the system's general operation.

In 2002, the first phase of studies was completed. These were studies on Chile, Costa Rica, Córdoba, Argentina, and Paraguay. National reports were prepared on each of these countries and then used as the source material for a report comparing the principal findings. That report appeared in issue No. 3 of the journal *Sistemas Judiciales*.

The second phase of the project was launched and involved similar studies on other countries (Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala and Venezuela) and a second study on Chile. In certain cases, the costs of these studies are borne by the local institutions responsible for them, under JSCA supervision.

In Ecuador, the JSCA worked with the Esquel Foundation; in Venezuela with the consulting firm INVERTEC. Elsewhere, the JSCA finances the studies. The study in Guatemala is being conducted by the ICCPG, and in El Salvador by FESPAD.

In December, local reports corresponding to this second phase were received from all countries except Venezuela, whose report was delayed due to the internal problems that country is experiencing. The corresponding data validation seminars were held in Ecuador and El Salvador. Preparation of the report comparing the findings got underway, as did preparations for the international seminar where the findings will be presented.

Finally, inasmuch as the JSCA is heavily involved in the process of reforming the criminal justice system in Mexico, that country has decided to begin changes along lines similar to the changes already introduced in the vast majority of Latin American countries.

- Study on civil society's role in judicial reform

The JSCA participated in the regional project to survey the role of civil society organizations in judicial reforms in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, and Peru. Its job was to prepare the report on Chile. Accordingly, it interviewed some 50 civil society organizations committed to the juridical system. Its report was extensive and was discussed and validated at a seminar. The JSCA published a book with the findings of the research and the comparative report. This book and a separata in English and Spanish will be circulated in the countries of the region.

ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

The Administrative Tribunal of the Organization of American States was created on April 22, 1971, by resolution AG/RES. 35 (I-O/71), which the General Assembly adopted at the ninth plenary session of its first regular session. Its function is to settle any disputes that may arise with staff members by reason of administrative decisions, including those relating to the Retirement and Pension Plan of the General Secretariat. It has six members, each of a different nationality and elected by the General Assembly in a personal capacity to a six-year term. Three judges sit at any given session. The Secretary of the Administrative Tribunal heads the Secretariat of the Tribunal, which is under the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs of the General Secretariat. The Secretary provides legal advisory services to the members of the Tribunal, oversees the statutory procedure that cases filed with the Tribunal must follow, and is in charge of the administrative business of the Tribunal and its Secretariat. The Secretary of the Tribunal also serves as a legal officer, under the general supervision of the Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs.

Mandates and recommendations from the General Assembly

At its thirty-second regular session, held in Bridgetown, Barbados, the General Assembly re-elected Dr. Nicholas J.O. Liverpool, of Dominica, as a Judge on the Administrative Tribunal. His term begins on January 1, 2003, and will end on December 31, 2008.

The term of Peru's Dr. Rosa Montalvo Cabrera as a Judge on the Administrative Tribunal will end on December 31, 2003. It will be up to the General Assembly at its thirty-third regular session, to elect the new Judge for the January 1, 2004-December 31, 2009 term from among the candidates nominated.

Activities conducted

The Secretariat of the Tribunal prepared all the documents the Tribunal produced, and continued preparing and publishing Tribunal-related information at the OAS' page on the Internet. At that site, basic information is available to anyone interested in learning about the Tribunal's administrative and jurisdictional functions. At the OAS page, the public can access the Statute and Rules of Procedure of the Tribunal, all judgments and decisions issued as of the date of this Report, in Spanish and English, the OAS Charter, the General Standards to govern the operations of the General Secretariat, the Staff Rules, other basic regulations of the Organization and general information about the Tribunal and its members. Persons wishing to contact the Tribunal by e-mail can do so directly from this page.

The Tribunal's Secretariat maintained contact and shared information and assistance with the Secretariats of the Administrative Tribunals of other international organizations, and with other organizations, entities and persons associated with the activities of the Tribunal and its Secretariat.

In performing his functions as a legal officer under the general supervision of the Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs, the Secretary of the Tribunal served as liaison between the General Secretariat and the Justice Studies Center of the Americas, offering legal and technical advisory assistance and responding to all the Center's inquiries.

The Secretary also served as a legal advisor at the most recent session of the General Assembly and for the Permanent Council's General Committee and Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs.

L Regular Session

The Secretariat of the Tribunal provided the technical and secretariat services needed to enable the Tribunal to hold its L Regular Session in October 2002. These services included all procedural matters involved when complaints were filed with the Tribunal; research, classifying, preparing and transmitting information on the cases the Tribunal had under consideration; communications between the President, the other members of the Tribunal and other interested parties; travel and accommodations arrangements for the members of the Tribunal; and assistance with the President's official activities.

The panel of judges for the L Regular Session was as follows: the President of the Tribunal, Dr. Nicholas J.O. Liverpool (Dominica), and judges Morton Sklar (United States) and Agustín Gordillo (Argentina). In Judgments Nos. 142 to 146 the Tribunal decided complaints No.276, Jaume Sosa vs. Secretary General; No. 277, Wyllie vs. Secretary General; No. 278, Meyer vs. Secretary General; and No. 279, Berly vs. Secretary General. In keeping with its Rules of Procedure, the Tribunal held three public hearings during which statements were taken from the parties, witnesses and experts and oral arguments were heard. The Secretariat sent each party and Tribunal member a copy of the decisions taken at this session.

At the L session, the Secretariat presented reports to the Tribunal concerning regulatory, budgetary and administrative matters pertinent to the operation of the Tribunal and its Secretariat.

PAN AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

Established in 1962, the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) is a private, nonprofit, nongovernmental institution that works exclusively in Latin America and the Caribbean. It coordinates some of its activities with the OAS, under a Cooperation Agreement, concluded in 1982, to cooperate in cultural, scientific, educational, economic, and social development and in disaster relief. The Secretary General chairs the Foundation's Board of Trustees. Its Executive Director is John Sanbrailo.

2002 is the fortieth anniversary of the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF). The Foundation assists the General Secretariat in responding to countries that experience natural disasters. It ships medical equipment to health institutions and tools to vocational education centers, creates jobs and income through pioneering programs with small and microenterprise in urban and rural areas, channels remittances from immigrants in the United States into community development in the native countries, and encourages corporate social investment and democracy in the Hemisphere.

During the period covered in this report, the health services and tools for education programs sent donations valued at \$1,700,000 to Peru, Haiti, Jamaica, Uruguay, Argentina, Paraguay, Colombia, Venezuela and the Dominican Republic. The donated medical equipment made it possible to establish or reinforce health services in marginal communities and clinics serving low-income populations. Reacting to the financial crisis that hit Uruguay, the PADF and Chevron-Texaco teamed up to make a sizeable donation to hospitals run by that country's Ministry of Health. The tools program, for its part, is working with representatives of firms interested in expanding their donations to reach new vocational education institutions and promoting job training to enable young people to find jobs.

With funding from USAID, the PADF is conducting a program in Colombia to create jobs and income for families displaced by the violence. As of the date of this report, 30,825 sustainable jobs had been created, benefiting over 150,000 people in 16 departments and 110 municipalities in the country. Of particular significance is the degree of cooperation that the Colombian Government secured through the Social Solidarity Network and the involvement of the international private sector (Chevron-Texaco, Occidental Petroleum, Citibank, Bank Boston, British Petroleum) and domestic private sector (Indufrial, Grupo Bavaria, Carulla-Vivero, Olímpica, and the Mario Santo Domingo and Colombia Presente foundations) in the program's activities. Similarly, the PADF is contributing to the effort to eliminate illegal crops through a new alternative development project in northwestern Antioquia and south of Bolívar.

The PADF has launched an innovative project for "Empowering Latin American and Caribbean Immigrants in the United States to Make Them Protagonists of Their Native Countries' Development," through a Community Remittances Program. The Foundation is working with Haitian, Salvadoran and Mexican immigrant groups interested in earmarking a portion of their remittances to help execute economic-social development projects in their home communities. Haiti's Unibank, the Haitian Diaspora on the pilot market in New York and the PADF have concluded an agreement whereby the bank will earmark one dollar for every remittance sent to finance a community development project in Haiti.

With funding from USAID, the PADF continues carrying out its Hillside Farming Program in Haiti, which promotes sustainable production and increases rural incomes by sharing technology and developing marketing channels. The program enables farmers from the community to create their own businesses, improve output and gain access to local and export markets. In late 2002, the PADF launched its new program, CREER, designed to recondition rural infrastructure and irrigation systems and funded by the United States Department of Agriculture by monetizing grain staples. Furthermore, they continue the Post-Hurricane Georges Rebuilding program to train rural communities with a view to making them less vulnerable to natural disasters and to reducing the toll that such disasters take.

The success achieved in Honduras with the Aguán River Early Flood Warning project, implemented with the General Secretariat's Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment during the previous period, made it possible to secure funding to extend the results to another forty municipalities in the northern part of the country that are frequently hit by the rains. This program started up its activities in the communities of La Lima and El Progreso.

The PADF program in Cuba is for institution-building, targeting the country's nongovernmental organizations, libraries and civil society and providing them with technical information, materials, publications, and specialized visits.

In the area of corporate social investment, Caterpillar and the PADF teamed up to send Peru a sizeable donation of equipment with which to train mining engineers. Funding from the Altria Group made it possible to continue programs in literacy, Third Age and AIDS in Brazil. It also helped keep 150 soup kitchens in operation, which feed 35,000 children and female heads of household in Argentina, and to complete the work in participatory strategic planning and job creation in four Argentine provinces.

For 2003, the Foundation is exploring the possibility of starting up new projects in Bolivia and Peru and will extend its activities in Honduras, El Salvador and in Central America in general. The PADF will also continue the program channeling remittances into economic development, being conducted with Haitian, Salvadoran, Mexican immigrant associations and counterpart institutions in the respective countries.

BOARD OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 123, adopted on April 14, 1973, and Permanent Council resolution CP/RES. 124 of June 10, 1975, the Board of External Auditors is responsible for the external auditing of the General Secretariat's accounts. The Board launched its activities in March 1976, and adopted detailed rules and procedures for discharging its duties and responsibilities in accordance with the relevant decisions of the General Assembly and Permanent Council. The Board is made up of three members elected by the General Assembly.

The Board of External Auditors held its annual meeting April 1 through 5, 2002, to prepare its report on the external audit of the accounts and financial statements of the OAS, pursuant to Article 129 of the General Standards.

On April 5, 2002, the Board presented its observations in the document Report to the OAS Permanent Council: Audit of Accounts and Financial Statements, December 31, 2001 and 2000 (OEA/Ser.S JAE/doc.32/02). The report is divided into four sections: a) comments and recommendations for improving accounting-related procedures and internal controls; b) financial statements of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States; c) Financial Statements of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development and the Foundation for the Americas; d) Financial statements of other agencies and entities related to the Organization of American States.

Based on reports issued by Arthur Anderson, LLP, a firm of independent auditors, the financial statements for the audited entities tally with the General Secretariat's books, records, documents and vouchers.

Specifically, the Board certified that the independent auditors had issued unqualified ("clean") reports, which is the best possible audit result, with regard to the following 2001 financial statements: OAS Regular Fund and Specific Funds; Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development; Foundation for the Americas; Leo S. Rowe Pan American Fund; the Rowe Commemorative Fund; the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy; the Retirement and Pension Fund; the Inter-American Defense Board Fund; the Medical Benefits Trust Fund, and the project on Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change.

The Board's report also contains a number of recommendations on how to improve procedures and internal controls in the OAS, both at headquarters and in the Secretariat's offices in the member states.

INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD

Established in 1942 to study and recommend measures for the Hemisphere's defense, the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB) is the world's oldest multilateral military organization. It promotes peace and security in the Hemisphere, while also building confidence among the parties through military cooperative relations and partnership. The Board promotes cooperative security interests in the Western Hemisphere. It is active in such areas as mine clearing for humanitarian purposes and confidence-building measures that are directly supportive of the goals of the OAS and the Ministers of Defense. It oversees an advanced academic program of studies in security and defense, given at the Inter-American Defense College.

For the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB) and the Inter-American Defense College (IADC), 2002 was a year of new challenges and changes. The IADB has stepped up its efforts to maximize member states' participation in its activities. For that reason, it has encouraged civilian participation in the active delegations to the IADB that do not have military attaches in Washington. With that, Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Costa Rica and more recently (last January) Canada became active members participating in our periodic assemblies and working committees.

The IADB has also increased its involvement in programs like Humanitarian Demining, Natural Disaster Preparedness and Confidence- and Security-Building Measures. It has also furthered work on issues of interest in the area of partnership for hemispheric security. International Staff personnel providing technical assistance with the mine-clearing in Central America attended the ceremony marking the conclusion and certification of the demining work in Costa Rica. With that, the Humanitarian Demining operations in Costa Rica formally ended in December 2002, making it the first of the four nations of the region being assisted by the OAS/IADB Humanitarian Demining Mission to be officially declared a landmine-free area. Operations continue in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In support of the OAS' Humanitarian Demining Operations in Honduras, the IADB has introduced and coordinated the use of mechanized mine-clearing equipment from the United States government, to assist that country with execution of the project. The IADB coordinated and supervised training for mine-clearers and supervisors in Ecuador and Peru. It has also provided international monitoring services to Peru for start-up of its national mine-clearing program. The IADB is steering, supporting and coordinating 30 international supervisors and monitors in Central and South America, to assist with the OAS Humanitarian Demining Operations on behalf of the region's population.

The Staff of the Board presented the Assembly of the Committee on Hemispheric Security with a Security Study on Prior Planning for National Defense of the Transport of Nuclear Waste through the Caribbean Sea and a paper on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in Other Regions of the World. It also presented the following reports to the Assembly of Delegates: studies on Human Security, the consequences of a possible United States attack on Iraq for the countries of the Hemisphere; and an exposition on strategic assessment. The Staff also presented the study done on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in Other Regions of the World at the Meeting of Experts on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures, held in Miami, Florida. The IADB continues to support the efforts of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CITCE) by detailing 3

military officers to organize and collaborate on an Online Distance Learning course on Global Terrorism. Early this year, the Chairman of the IADB presented the ten recommendations of the IADB Working Group on Modernization and Transformation to the Chairman of the Working Group of the Committee on Hemispheric Security (OAS).

In September, the Inter-American Defense College convoked its first Education Board. The Board, composed of an international group of seven academic experts from the hemisphere, did a thorough evaluation of the College, including the curriculum, its directorial and support staff, and the enrollment requirements. The Board made recommendations in each of these areas, laying the foundation to build the College's first Strategic Plan. As part of the College's modernization program, it conducted seminars on disaster relief and conflict resolution. Participation increased to include the 34 member states of the OAS; the participation of civilians and police officers also rose. As a result, a total of 92 participants representing 31 member countries of the OAS were part of the College's regular course in the four seminars during the period. The Distance Learning program was made available, cost free, to security and defense specialists the world over. Thus far, 800 have completed courses and 15 academic cooperation agreements have been signed with top-tier civilian, military and police institutes and universities. These programs buttress the OAS' effort in Education for Peace.

Both the IADB and the IADC received visits from distinguished groups, institutions and individuals. Prominent here were the visits from the Command Course and Staff of Colombia's War College and from El Salvador's School of Advanced Strategic Studies. There were visits from notables like Mrs. Jeannette Madriz Sotillo, President of the Andean Parliament, and her entourage; legal advisors from Uruguay's Defense Ministry; Mr. José Adán Guerra Pastora, Nicaragua's Minister of Defense; General Álvaro Méndez Estrada, Guatemala's Defense Minister; Mr. Roy Chaderton Matos, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela; Dr. Michelle Bachelet, Chile's Minister of Defense, who is a graduate of the College; and the recent visit by the Honorable Lucio Gutiérrez, President of Ecuador, who is also a graduate of that institute of advanced military studies.

INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Inter-American Court of Human Rights is an autonomous judicial institution of the OAS whose purpose is to apply and interpret the American Convention on Human Rights. The Court has both contentious and advisory jurisdiction. It is made up of seven jurists, elected in a personal capacity by the States Parties to the American Convention, during the General Assembly of the Organization of American States.

In the period under review in this report, the judges on the Court were the following, in order of precedence: Antônio A. Cançado Trindade (Brazil), President; Alirio Abreu Burelli (Venezuela), Vice President; Máximo Pacheco Gómez (Chile); Hernán Salgado Pesantes (Ecuador); Oliver Jackman (Barbados); Sergio García Ramírez (Mexico); and Carlos Vicente de Roux Rengifo (Colombia). The Secretary of the Court is Manuel E. Ventura Robles (Costa Rica); the Deputy Secretary is Pablo Saavedra Alessandri (Chile).

Contentious cases filed with the Court and provisional measures/advisory opinions requested of it

In 2002, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights filed the following cases with the Court: *Maritza Urrutia* against Guatemala, *Gómez Paquiyauri* against Peru, the *Juvenile Detention Center* and *Ricardo Canese* against Paraguay, *Lori Berenson* against Peru, the “*Plan de Sánchez Massacre*” case against Guatemala, and the *Moiwana Community* case against Suriname. It also sought provisional measures in the cases of the *Urso Branco Prison* concerning Brazil, the *Mayagna (Sumo) Awas Tingni Community* involving Nicaragua, *Helen Mack et al.* and *Bámaca Velásquez* involving Guatemala, and *Liliana Ortega et al.*, *Luis Uzcátegui* and *Luisiana Ríos et al.* involving Venezuela. The United States of Mexico also submitted a new advisory opinion request (OC-18) seeking the Court’s interpretation of various treaties on the protection of human rights in the American States in relation to the denial of the enjoyment and exercise of certain labor rights and their compatibility with the American States’ obligation to ensure the principles of juridical equality, nondiscrimination, and equal and effective protection under the law, recognized in international instruments on the protection of the human rights of migrant workers.

Sessions

In the period covered by this report, the Court held four sessions where it discussed the following matters:

At its fifty-fourth regular session, held February 18 through March 1, 2002, the Court delivered two judgments on reparations in the *Bámaca Velásquez v. Guatemala* case and *Trujillo Oroza v. Bolivia*, as well as a decision on the provisional measures requested in the *Gallardo Rodríguez* case against the United States of Mexico. The Court also held a public hearing in the *Hilaire, Constantine and Benjamín et al. v. Trinidad and Tobago* (Merits and Eventual Reparations) case.

At its fifty-fifth regular session, June 6 to 21, 2002, the Court delivered judgments in the following cases: *Hilaire, Constantine and Benjamín et al. v. Trinidad and Tobago* (Merits and Reparations),

the “19 Comerciantes” Case v. Colombia (Preliminary Objections), *Durand and Ugarte v. Peru* (Compliance with Judgment) and *Baena Ricardo et al. v. Panama* (Compliance with Judgment), as well as decisions on the provisional measures requested in the following cases: *Paz de San José de Apartadó Community v. Colombia* and *Urso Branco Prison v. Brazil*. The Court also held public hearings in the following cases: “19 Comerciantes” (Preliminary Objections) and *Las Palmeras* (Reparations) against Colombia, *Cantos* (Merits and Eventual Reparations) against Argentina, and on Advisory Opinion *OC-17/02* requested by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

At its fifty-sixth regular session, held August 26 to September 7, 2002, the Court delivered its judgment on reparations in the *El Caracazo* case against Venezuela, and Advisory Opinion *OC-17/02*. It also adopted decisions on the provisional measures requested in the following cases: *Urso Branco Prison v. Brazil*, *Helen Mack et al. v. Guatemala*, “*La Nación*” *Newspaper v. Costa Rica*, *James et al. v. Trinidad and Tobago*, and *Mayagna (Sumo) Awas Tingni Community v. Nicaragua*. The Court also held a public hearing on the *Five Pensioners Case v. Peru* (Merits and Eventual Reparations). Finally, the Court held a meeting with senators from Canada’s Standing Senate Committee on Human Rights and with members of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

At its fifty-seventh regular session, held November 18 through 30, 2002, the Court delivered judgments in the following cases: *Las Palmeras v. Colombia* (Reparations) and *Cantos v. Argentina* (Merits and Reparations). It also adopted decisions on provisional measures in the following cases: *Liliana Ortega et al.*, *Luis Uzcátegui* and *Luisiana Ríos et al.*, all cases against Venezuela. Decisions were also adopted on compliance with judgments in the following cases: *El Amparo*, *Garrido and Baigorria*, *Loayza Tamayo*, *Neira Alegría et al.*, “*The Last Temptation of Christ*” (*Olmedo Bustos et al.*), *Benavides Cevallos*, *Caballero Delgado and Santana*, *Castillo Páez*, *Blake*, *Baena Ricardo et al.*, *Barrios Altos* and *Durand and Ugarte*. The Court also issued a decision on fulfillment of the provisional measures in the case of “*La Nación*” *Newspaper v. Costa Rica*.

At the four sessions described above, the Court considered various procedures in the matters pending before it and examined a number of reports submitted by the Commission and by States in which provisional measures have been adopted. The Tribunal also examined various reports presented by the Commission, the States, and the victims or their representatives in cases in the compliance with judgment phase. It also discussed a number of administrative matters.

Other activities

In the period this report covers, the Court was honored to receive visits from the following distinguished figures: the President of Uruguay, the Honorable Jorge Luis Batlle Ibáñez; the President of Peru, the Honorable Alejandro Toledo Manrique; the President of Chile, the Honorable Ricardo Lagos Escobar; the President of the United States of Mexico, the Honorable Vicente Fox Quesada; the President of Costa Rica, the Honorable Abel Pacheco de la Espriella; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela, His Excellency Luis Alfonso Dávila García; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay, His Excellency Didier Operti Badán; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile, Her Excellency María Soledad Alvear Valenzuela; the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the United States of Mexico, His Excellency Jorge G. Castañeda; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica, His Excellency Roberto Tovar Faja; the Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil, Dr. Osmar Chofi; the Deputy Minister of Justice of Peru, Dr. Pedro Cateriano Bellido; the President of Ecuador’s Constitutional Court, the Honorable Marco Morales Tobar; and the Minister of the

Superior Court of Brazil, Dr. Salvio de Figueredo Teixeira. The Court also welcomed to its headquarters delegations from the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsmen, from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and from the United Nations Development Programme. A meeting was also held with senators from Canada's Standing Senate Human Rights Committee and with members of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

VI. PERMANENT OBSERVERS

PERMANENT OBSERVERS

Permanent observer status in the Organization of American States was established by the General Assembly at its first regular session, held in San José, Costa Rica, in 1971 (AG/RES. 50 (I-O/71)). The permanent observers participate in the Organization's activities and contribute to its programs. As of the date of preparation of this report, there were 56 permanent observers in the Organization.

The Office of External Relations was in charge of activities associated with the permanent observers. It continued to broaden, strengthen and deepen the relations with permanent observers. The permanent observers took an interest in the Organization's work and participated through informational meetings, exchange of documents and special events.

Now that the Republic of Slovakia, Estonia, Georgia, Qatar and Yugoslavia have been granted permanent-observer status, there are a total of 56 permanent observers to the OAS. They are: Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, the European Union, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, the Holy See, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Latvia, Lebanon, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen and Yugoslavia.

During this period, the Organization received contributions in cash totaling US\$8.5 million. They came from Cyprus, Denmark, the European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom. The OAS also received contributions in kind of close to US\$920,000 from France, Italy, Korea and Spain. The main areas strengthened by that support were: democracy, human rights, settlement of disputes, the fight against drug trafficking, terrorism, sustainable development and environment, the fellowships program, and the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN). Annex G of this report contains a breakdown of the respective contributions.

Some permanent observers opted to stage events and special exhibits at OAS headquarters. Finally, special mention should be made of the particularly strong representation of the permanent observers at the regular session of the General Assembly held in Bridgetown, Barbados.

**VII. TRAVEL BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND
THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL**

Travel by the Secretary General

Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, March 9 through 12, 2002

Meeting organized by the Interparliamentary Forum of the Americas titled "Security in the New Millennium: The role of legislators in guaranteeing greater hemispheric security"
Mexico City, Mexico, March 13 through 16, 2002

Symposium on "Challenges to fragile democracies in the Americas"
Austin, Texas, April 12, 2002

Conference titled "Mexico against Corruption" organized by the Trust for the Americas
Mexico City, Mexico, April 14 through 16, 2002

Mission to Venezuela, pursuant to Permanent Council resolution CP/RES. 811 (1315/02)
Caracas, Venezuela, April 15 through 17, 2002

Third Summit of the Americas
Quebec, Canada, April 18 through 22, 2002

Official visit to Mexico
Mexico City, Mexico, April 24 through 27, 2002

Inauguration of the President of Costa Rica
San José, Costa Rica, May 7 through 9, 2002

XXXII Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States
Bridgetown, Barbados, May 31 through June 5, 2002

Official visit to Grenada
June 30, 2002

XXIII Meeting of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
Georgetown, Guyana, July 2 through 5, 2002

Meeting of the Ministers of Culture of the Americas
Cartagena, Colombia, July 11 through 13, 2002

Ceremony for the signing of the National Agreement between the President of the Republic of Peru, the Honorable Alejandro Toledo, and leaders of the political parties
Lima, Peru, July 22 to 23, 2002

II Meeting of Presidents of South America
Guayaquil, Ecuador, July 25 through 27, 2002

Inauguration of the President of Colombia, the Honorable Alvaro Uribe Vélez

Bogotá, Colombia, August 3 through 10, 2002

Meeting with the President of Colombia, the Honorable Álvaro Uribe Vélez

New York, United States, September 11, 2002

The Americas Conference on Corporate Social Responsibility: “Alliances for Development”

Miami, Florida, September 23, 2002

Official visit to Bolivia

La Paz and Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, September 24-25, 2002

Joint mission to Venezuela by the Organization of American States (OAS), the United Nations

Development Programme (UNDP) and the Carter Center

Caracas, Venezuela, October 2 through 4, 2002

I General Assembly of the Madrid Club

Madrid, Spain, October 23 through 26, 2002

Facilitation Mission by the Secretary General to Venezuela

Caracas, Venezuela, October 27, 2002 to February 28, 2003

Note: The Secretary General spent a considerable amount of time in Venezuela during this period, with trips to the following meetings interspersed:

VII Business Forum of the Americas

Quito, Ecuador, October 31 – November 1, 2002

XII Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government

Bávaro, Dominican Republic, November 15 and 16, 2002

Inauguration of the President of Ecuador, the Honorable Lucio Gutiérrez Borbúa

Quito, Ecuador, January 13 through 16, 2003

Meeting of the Club de Montevideo

Barcelona, Spain, February 19 through 23, 2003

Signing of the Framework Cooperation and Technical Assistance Agreement between the Government of Colombia and the General Secretariat of the OAS for Assistance to the National Plan for Comprehensive Action against Antipersonnel Landmines in Colombia

Bogotá, Colombia, February 25, 2003

Meeting of the Group of Friends of the Secretary General on his facilitation mission in Venezuela

Brasilia, Brazil, March 5 through 10, 2003

Travel of the Assistant Secretary General

Lecture at the Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra and Call on President Hipólito Mejía
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, February 23-26, 2002

Finalize and sign the Agreement between the Government of Haiti and the General Secretariat of the
OAS on the Special Mission of the OAS for Strengthening Democracy in Haiti
Port-au-Prince, Haiti, February 27- March 1, 2002

Meeting with President Jean Bertrand Aristide of Haiti regarding OAS efforts to facilitate a resolution
of the political crisis in that country
New York, New York, May 10, 2002

OAS efforts to facilitate the resolution of the political difficulties in Haiti
Port-au-Prince, Haiti, May 12-15, 2002

Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association
Nassau, Bahamas, May 29-31, 2002

Thirty-Second Regular Session of the General Assembly
Bridgetown, Barbados, June 1-5, 2002

OAS efforts to facilitate the resolution of the political difficulties in Haiti
Port-au-Prince, Haiti, June 10-18, 2002

OAS efforts to facilitate the resolution of the political difficulties in Haiti
Port-au-Prince, Haiti, July 5-10, 2002

Inauguration of President Gonzalo Sánchez de Lozada
La Paz, Bolivia, August 2-8, 2002

To present to the Government the recommendations of the Facilitators in respect of the Belize-
Guatemala Territorial Referendum
Belmopan, Belize, September 17-18, 2002

Thirty-First Assembly of Delegates of the Inter-American Commission of Women
Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, October 28-30, 2002

Second Meeting of the Inter-American Forum on Political Parties
Vancouver, Canada, December 4-5, 2002

Inauguration of President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva
Brasilia, Brazil, December 29, 2002 – January 3, 2003

Second High-Level Meeting on the Special Security Concerns of Small Island States
Kingstown, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, January 7-11, 2003
Third Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism (CICTE)

San Salvador, El Salvador, January 21-25, 2003

To participate in a meeting of reflection on the Situation in Haiti at the invitation of the Canadian Secretary of State for Latin America and Africa and for the Francophonie, The Honourable Denis Paradis

Ottawa, Canada, January 30-February 1, 2003

Meeting of Experts on Confidence and Security Building Measures
Miami, Florida, February

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

INTER-AMERICAN COUNCILS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT (CIDI)

Chair: Ramón Quiñónez (Dominican Republic)

Vice Chair: Federico Villegas (Argentina)

PERMANENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT (CEPCIDI)

Chair: Ramón Quiñónez (Dominican Republic)

Vice Chair: Margarita Riva-Geoghegan (United States)

INTER-AMERICAN JURIDICAL COMMITTEE

João Grandino Rodas (Brazil) - Chair

Brynmor Thornton Innis Pollard (Guyana) – Vice Chair

Gerardo Trejos (Costa Rica)

Luis Herrera Marcano (Venezuela)

Kenneth Rattray (Jamaica)

Carlos Manuel Vázquez (United States)

Sergio González Gálvez (Mexico)

Orlando Rubén Rebagliatti (Argentina)

Jonathan T. Fried (Canada)

Eduardo Vío Grossi (Chile)

Felipe Paolillo (Uruguay)

INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade (Brazil) - President

Alirio Abreu Burelli (Venezuela) – Vice President

Máximo Pacheco Gómez (Chile)

Hernán Salgado Pesantes (Ecuador)

Oliver Jackman (Barbados)

Sergio García Ramírez (Mexico)

Carlos Vicente de Roux Rengifo (Colombia)

INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Juan Méndez (Argentina) - Chair

Marta Altolaguirre (Guatemala) – First Vice Chair

José Zalaquett (Chile) – Second Vice Chair

Roberto K. Goldman (United States)

July Prado Vallejo (Ecuador)

Clare Kamau Roberts (Antigua and Barbuda)
Susana Villarán (Peru)

ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

Nicholas J.O. Liverpool (Dominica)
Rosa Montalvo Cabrera (Peru)
Lionel Alain Dupuis (Canada)
Morton H. Sklar (United States)
Franz Alvaro Vega Noya (Bolivia)
Agustín Alberto Gordillo (Argentina)

INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

Yadira Henríquez de Sánchez (Dominican Republic) – President
Florence Ievers (Canada) – Vice President
Vilma Lily Caravantes Tobías (Guatemala)
Ivana Toruño Padilla (Nicaragua)
Cristina Muñoz (Paraguay)
Rita Di Martino (United States)
Nora Uribe Trujillo (Venezuela)

INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Chair of COM/CITEL - Marcelo Eduardo Kohan (Argentina)
Vice Chair of COM/CITEL - Alvaro Retana Castro (Costa Rica)
Chair of CCP.I – Martha Elena Pinto de De Hart (Colombia)
Chair of CCP.II - Jesse Chacón Escamillo (Venezuela)

INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

Mildred Camero (Venezuela) – Chair	October 2001-October 2002
Eduardo Ibarrola Nicolín (Mexico) – Vice Chair	October 2001-October 2002
Rafael Macedo de la Concha (Mexico) – Chair	December 2002-
Paul Kennedy (Canada) – Vice Chair	December 2002-

APPENDIX B

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

(from March 1, 2002, to February 26, 2003)

8-11 January	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Negotiating Group on Services (Trade Unit)
14 January	Washington, D.C.	I Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the Mechanism for Follow-up of Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC)
14-16 January	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Negotiating Group on Investments (Trade Unit)
14-15 January	Washington, D.C.	III Meeting of the Group of Government Experts (GEG) on Implementation of the Recommendations of the MEM (CICAD)
14-16 January	Miami, Florida	Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN) (USDE)
16-18 January	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Negotiating Group on Competition Policies (Trade Unit)
18-20 January	Washington, D.C.	II Special Meeting of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)
20-22 January	Bridgetown, Barbados	Constitutional Reform in the Caribbean (UPD)
21-23 January	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Negotiating Group on Subsidies, Antidumping and Countervailing Duties (Trade Unit)
23-24 January	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Committee of Government Representatives on the Participation of Civil Society (Trade Unit)
24-25 January	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Consultative Group on Smaller Economies (Trade Unit)
28-29 January	Washington, D.C.	II Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE)
28-31 January	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Negotiating Group on Market Access (Trade Unit)

28 January – 1 February	Geneva, Switzerland	First Inter-sessional Meeting of the Standing Committees of the Ottawa Convention (UPD)
29-31 January	Trinidad and Tobago	Workshop on the Formation of a National Information Network (CICAD)
29 January – 1 February	Cartagena de Indias, Colombia	Special Meeting of the Social Network of Latin America and the Caribbean (IACD)
4-7 February	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Negotiating Group on Intellectual Property Rights (Trade Unit)
4-8 February	Washington, D.C.	VI Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law (CIDIP-VI)
6-8 February	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Negotiating Group on Government Procurement (Trade Unit)
11-12 February	Washington, D.C.	III Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development (CIDS)/Ministerial Meeting Santa Cruz
11-12 February	Costa Rica	Training Course for National Coordinators (Central America, Dominican Republic and Mexico) – (CICAD)
13-15 February	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Joint Government–Private Sector Committee of Experts on E-Commerce (Trade Unit)
14-15 February	Trinidad and Tobago	Training course for national coordinators (the Caribbean, United States and Canada) – (CICAD)
18-19 February	Peru	Training course for national coordinators (South America) – (CICAD)
18-21 February	Mexico D.F., Mexico	XX Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee III: Radiocommunications (CITEL)
18-22 February	Cartagena de Indias, Colombia	CICAD/RCMP Seminar on Anti-drug Port Security
20-22 February	Antigua Guatemala, Guatemala	Central American Democratic Forum “The Process and Mechanisms of National Dialogue in Central America” (UPD)
20-22 February	Santafe de Bogota, Colombia	Forum on the Culture of Democracy and Electoral Tolerance (UPD)
20-22 February	Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago	Workshop on National Development of an Information System (CICAD)

21-22 February	Washington, D.C.	IV Regular Session of the Executive Committee of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM)
25-27 February	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Negotiating Group on Agriculture (Trade Unit)
25 February – 15 March	Washington, D.C.	114th Regular Session of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)
25 February – 1 March	Grenada	Workshop to Design and Prepare Grenada's National Anti-drug Plan (CICAD)
26 February – 1 March	Brasilia, Brazil	Seminar on the Application of CICAD's Model Regulations for the Control of the International Movement of Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, for the South American countries. (CICAD)
27-28 February	San José, Costa Rica	Central American Seminar Workshop on Water Resource Management and Mitigation of Natural Disasters, in the framework of the Central American Integration Corridors Strategy (USDE)
28 February	New York	United Nations Meeting for Directors of Comprehensive Action against Mines Programs (UPD)
28 February	Washington, D.C.	"The Doha Development Agenda and the FTAA Process: Challenges for Trade Capacity Building" (Trade Unit)
1-3 March	Peru	Seminar on National Political Dialogue in the Andean Region (UPD)
11-13 March	Trinidad and Tobago	IV Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas
11-15 March	To be decided	Latin American Seminar of National Drug Control Commissions (CICAD)
11-15 March	Washington, D.C.	Working Group to Prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
13-15 March	Caracas, Venezuela	I Meeting of Electoral Organization Directors of Andean Electoral Bodies (UPD)
13-15 March	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	Workshop on Minimum Treatment Standards (CICAD)

17 March	Istanbul, Turkey	VII Meeting of the Working Group for CITELE's preparations for the ITU Conference of Plenipotentiaries and World Telecommunications Development Conference (CITELE)
18-22 March	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Negotiating Group on Market Access – Trade Unit
18-22 March	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Negotiating Group on Agriculture (Trade Unit)
18-22 March	Monterrey, Mexico	International Conference on Financing for Development (Trade Unit)
19-20 March	Geneva, Switzerland	Workshop on Capacity Building in Environment, Trade and Development (Trade Unit)
19-21 March	Costa Rica	Wider Caribbean Meeting on Global Climate Observation Systems (USDE)
25-26 March	Washington, D.C.	XXV Meeting of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG)
25-26 March	Barbados	Adaptation to Climate Change in the Caribbean (ACCC), Meeting of the Project Management Group (USDE)
25-27 March	Panama City, Panama	Meeting of the FTAA Negotiating Group on Competition Policies (Trade Unit)
25 February – 1 March	St. George's, Grenada	Workshop to Design and Prepare Grenada's National Anti-Drug Plan (CICAD)
26-28 February	Brasilia, Brazil	Seminar on the Application of CICAD's Model Regulations for the Control of the International Movement of Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition
1-5 April	To be decided	Anglo-American Seminar of the National Drug Control Commissions (CICAD)
5 April	Mar del Plata, Argentina	Forum of the Meeting of MERCOSUR Municipalities and Superintendencies (REMI)
9-11 April	Washington, D.C.	Meeting of the Group of Experts on Pharmaceutical Products (CICAD)
11-12 April	Austin, Texas	North America Workshop on Reducing the Transportation Infrastructure's Vulnerability to Socio-Natural Disasters (USDE)
15-19 April	Barbados	Appraisal Mission of the Mainstreaming Adaptation to Global Climate Change (MACC) – (USDE)

15-26 April	Washington, D.C.	First Drafting Session of the Governmental Experts Group (GEG) Second Evaluation Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) - (CICAD)
29 April – 2 May	Washington, D.C.	Thirty-third Regular Session of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)
2-3 May	Washington, D.C.	III Consultative Committee of the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunitions, Explosives, and other Related Materials
8-10 May	Washington, D.C.	Meeting of the Working Group to Prepare CITEL for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference and World Telecommunication Development Conference
13-15 May	Washington, D.C.	77th Meeting of the Directing Council of the Inter-American Children's Institute
20 May	New Orleans, Louisiana	Photovoltaic Energy in the Americas(USDE)
27-30 May	Montevideo, Uruguay	XVI Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee I: Public Telecommunications Services (CITEL)
27-31 May	Geneva, Switzerland	II Intersessional Meeting of the Standing Committees of the Ottawa Convention (UPD)
2-4 June	Bridgetown, Barbados	Thirty-second regular session of the General Assembly
10 June	Tampa, Florida	Coordinating Committee PROCORREDOR (USDE)
11 June	Washington, D.C.	Panel of Experts on Cleaner Production and Energy Efficiency Policies (USDE)
13-14 June	Washington, D.C.	Preparatory Meeting of the First Meeting of Ministers of Culture (CIDI)
18 June	Washington, D.C.	III Meeting of the Coordinating Committee of Net Americas (Trade Unit)
20 June	Washington, D.C.	II Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Project on Strategic Plan of Action for the Bermejo River Binational Basin (USDE)
8-12 July	Washington, D.C.	I Course on Developing and Building Peace (UPD)
12-13 July	Cartagena de Indias, Colombia	I CIDI Meeting of Ministers of Culture

15-19 July	Fortaleza, Brazil	IX Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee II: Broadcasting (CITEL)
15-19 July	Fortaleza, Brazil	XXI Meeting of the Permanent Consultative Committee III: Radiocommunications (CITEL)
15-26 July	Washington, D.C.	II Drafting Session of the Governmental Experts Group (GEG) - (CICAD)
15-26 July	Washington, D.C.	Second Evaluation Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) – (CICAD)
16-18 July	Mexico City, Mexico	Group of Experts on Money Laundering (CICAD)
22-26 July	Bridgetown, Barbados	Training Course on Port Security for the Caribbean (CIP)
29 July – 2 August	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	International Seminar on Strategic Control of Illicit Drug Trafficking in Ports (CIP)
30-31 July	Washington, D.C.	Sepia II – Follow-up of the Inter-American Program (CIM)
1-2 August	Washington, D.C.	V Regular Session of the Executive Committee of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM)
5-6 August	San José, Costa Rica	Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Travel Congress (CIDI)
5-9 August	San Salvador, El Salvador	Regional Workshop for the Strengthening of the National Drug Control Commissions of the Central American Countries (CICAD)
12-13 August	Montevideo, Uruguay	Governmental Expert Groups on International Child Kidnapping by a Parent (IIN)
12-16 August	Washington, D.C.	III Regular Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL)
12-16 August	Washington, D.C.	XI Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee COM/CITEL (CITEL)
12-17 August	San Salvador, El Salvador	Regional Seminar for Strengthening National Drug Control Commissions of the Central American Countries and Ministerial Summit (CICAD)
19-23 August	Lima, Peru	Regional Course on Port Security for Andean Countries (CIP)
26-28 August	St. George's, Grenada	School Survey Implementation Workshop (CICAD)
26-29 August	Caracas, Venezuela	Workshop of Minimum Treatment Standards – CONACUID (CICAD)

26-30 August	Guayaquil, Ecuador	Regional Workshop for the Strengthening of the National Drug Control Commissions of the Andean Countries (CICAD)
2-5 September	San José, Costa Rica	115th Special Session of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)
10-11 September	Cancun, Mexico	High-Level Inter-American Network on Decentralization, Local Government and Citizen Participation (RIAD) - (UPD)
12-13 September	Santafe de Bogota, Colombia	Regional Forum on the Role of Political Parties in Congress (UPD)
12-18 September	Miami	Training Workshop for Telematic Tutors and Third Meeting of the Academic Committee of the Spanish American On-Line Master's in Drug Dependencies (CICAD)
16-18 September	Virginia, United States	Western Hemisphere Drug Policy Leadership Conference (CICAD)
16-20 September	Geneva, Switzerland	IV Meeting of States Parties to the Ottawa Convention (UPD)
16 September – 12 October	Madrid, Spain	VII Ibero-American Course on Port Management (CIP)
16 September – 12 October	Santander, Spain	III Ibero-American Course on Port Engineering (CIP)
19-24 September	Brasilia, Brazil	High-level Seminar on Legislative Modernization for Southern Cone Countries (UPD)
23-26 September	Washington, D.C.	First Inter-American Encounter on Electoral Technology (UPD)
25-27 September	Lima, Peru	International Seminar on Strategic Port Tariffs (CIP)
26-27 September	Washington, D.C.	Trafficking of Woman and Children in the Americas (CIM)
29 September – 2 October	Guatemala City, Guatemala	VI Meeting of Latin American Societies on Environmental Units of the Transport Sector (SLUAT)– (USDE)
7-11 October	Washington, D.C.	Third Drafting Session of the Governmental Expert Group (GEG)- (CICAD)

7-11 October	Washington, D.C.	Third Evaluation Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)
7-25 October	Washington, D.C.	116th Regular Session of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)
9 October	Rodney Bay, Saint Lucia	Caribbean Dialogue on Water and Climate Change (USDE)
15-18 October	Lima, Peru	Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies of Latin America and the Caribbean (CICAD)
21-25 October	Guatemala City, Guatemala	Regional Course on Port Security for Central America (CIP)
22-23 October	Washington, D.C.	L Regular Session of the Administrative Tribunal
22-24 October	Washington, D.C.	Meeting of the Group of Experts on Pharmaceutical Products (CICAD)
22-25 October	Port-au-Prince, Haiti	Workshop for the Design of the National Anti-drug Policy of Haiti (CICAD)
29-31 October	Punta Cana, Dominican Republic	XXXI Assembly of Delegates of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM)
October	To be decided	Regional Mitigation Policy Adaptation Workshop for the Caribbean (USDE)
4-7 November	Brasilia, Brazil	XVII Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee I: Public Telecommunications Services (CITEL)
18-22 November	Quito, Ecuador	Technical Seminar and Ministerial Meeting for the Strengthening of the National Drug Control Commissions of the Andean Countries (CICAD)
25 November	Montevideo, Uruguay	IV Regional Course for Youth Leaders from MERCOSUR Countries on Democratic Institutions, Values and Practices. (UPD)
2 December	Montevideo, Uruguay	International Seminar on Efficiency and Security for Port Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (CIP)
2-5 December	Mexico D.F., Mexico	XXXII Regular Session of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)
3-7 December	Montevideo, Uruguay	IV Meeting of the Executive Committee and of the Technical Committees of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP)

4-7 December	Miami, Florida	Caribbean Latin American Action (USDE)
9-10 December	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	Subregional Meeting for Central America and the Dominican Republic (UPD)
9-12 December	Buenos Aires, Argentina	XII Meeting of the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL)
13 December	Washington, D.C.	Consultative Committee of the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunitions, Explosives, and other Related Materials (CIFTA)
12-14 January	Kingstown, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Second High-level Meeting on the Special Security Concerns of Small Island States
22-24 January	San Salvador, El Salvador	III Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE)
3-4 February	Miami, Florida	Meeting of Experts on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the Region, ordered by the Summit
3-7 February	Orlando, Florida	I Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee II: Radiocommunications and Radiobroadcasting (CITEL)
3-7 February	Geneva, Switzerland	First Meeting of the Standing Committees of the Ottawa Convention (UPD)
6-7 February	Washington, D.C.	Informal Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the Mechanism for Follow-up of Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC)
10-13 February	Washington, D.C.	Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the Mechanism for Follow-up of Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC)
11-15 February	Quito, Ecuador	Meeting of the Program on Fruit Trees and Environmental Conservation and Sustainable Development (CICAD/ USDE/ACRI)
18-28 February	Washington, D.C.	117th regular session of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)
19 February	Washington, D.C.	Forum on Gender Equality (CIM)

20-21 February	Washington, D.C.	I Regular Session of the Executive Committee of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM)
24-27 February	San Diego, California	ASCE Conference on Solutions to Coastal Disasters (USDE)
24-28 February	Washington, D.C.	Special Meeting of the Working Group to Prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

APPENDIX C

INTER-AMERICAN TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS

For the record, during the period covered in this report the following changes were made in connection with the inter-American treaties and Conventions for which the General Secretariat is depositary. The following cooperation agreements were also recorded:

TREATY TITLE	COUNTRY	DATE	SIGNATURE OR DEPOSIT
American Convention on Human Rights	Mexico	9 April 2002	Partial withdrawal of statements of interpretation and a reservation
Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, TIAR	Mexico	6 September 2002	Denunciation
Inter-American Convention against Terrorism	Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela.	3 June 2002	Signed during the General Assembly
	Dominican R.	16 July 2002	Signed
	Trinidad and Tobago	2 October 2002	Signed

Inter-American Convention against Corruption	Grenada	16 January 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
	Suriname	4 June 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
	Brazil	24 July 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession with a reservation
	Belize	6 September 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
Inter-American Convention on Force Disappearance of Persons	Peru	13 February 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
	Mexico	9 April 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession with a reservation and a statement of interpretation
Inter-American Convention for the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women "Convention of Belém do Pará"	Suriname	8 March 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities	Chile	26 February 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
	El Salvador	8 March 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
	Paraguay	22 October 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacture of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials	Grenada	16 January 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
	Venezuela	14 May 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
Inter-American Convention on Transparency in the Acquisition of Conventional Weapons	El Salvador	8 March 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
	Paraguay	22 October 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
Inter-American Convention to Prevent and Punish Acts of Terrorism Taking the Form of Crimes against Persons and Related Extortion That Are of International Significance	Paraguay	17 January 2002	Signed
	Grenada	16 January 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
	Bolivia	9 April 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters	Costa Rica	March 8, 2002	Signed
	El Salvador	July 2, 2002	Signed
	Grenada	January 16, 2002	Deposited instrument of

	Panama	January 29, 2002	ratification/accession Deposited instrument of ratification/accession with a reservation
	Ecuador	8 March 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession with a reservation
Optional Protocol to the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters	Ecuador	8 March 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
Additional Protocol to the Inter-American Convention on Letters Rogatory	El Salvador	24 January 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession with a statement
	El Salvador	24 January 2002	Designated a central authority
Inter-American Convention on Conflict of Laws Concerning the International Adoption of Minors	Chile	17 January 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession with a reservation
Inter-American Convention on International Traffic in Minors	Ecuador	28 May 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
	Colombia	4 February 2002	Designated a central authority
Inter-American Convention on the International Return of Children	Ecuador	8 March 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
Inter-American Convention on Support Obligations	Argentina	5 September 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession with a reservation
	Argentina	5 September 2002	Designated a central authority
Convention on the Protection of the Archeological, Historical, and Artistic Heritage of the American Nations (Convention of San Salvador)	Argentina	17 July 2002	Signed
	Argentina	17 July 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
Inter-American Convention on International Amateur Radio Permit	Panama	9 April 2002	Signed
	El Salvador	8 March 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
Agreement establishing the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research	Bolivia	2 July 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession

Amendment to the Agreement establishing the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research	Cuba	4 November 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession
Agreement for Cooperation and Mutual Assistance among the Inter-American Port Authorities	Peru	15 April 2002	Deposited instrument of ratification/accession

COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

Title of the Agreement	Country/Organization	Signed
Agreement between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the Government of Sweden on Support to the Electoral Observation Mission for General Elections in Honduras, November 25, 2001.	Sweden	November 20, 2001
Letter of Agreement to Support the Organization, Implementation and Follow-Up of the Second Plenary Meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas (FIPA).	Canadian International Development Agency.	11 March 2002
Letter of Agreement to Support the Andean Virtual Dialogue on Clean Production and Energy Efficiency.	University of Calgary Faculty of Law	30 January 2002
Agreement to Loan Local Premises to House its (OAS) Office in Uruguay	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay.	1 April 2002
Cooperation Agreement	Youth Orchestra of the Americas.	31 December 2001
Memorandum of Understanding	Universidad Nacional Educación a Distancia España.	12 December 2001
Memorandum of Understanding	Ministry of Labor and Social Security, Chile.	18 January 2002
Technical Cooperation Agreement for Establishment of a Sea-Level Monitoring Network for Central America.	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States Department of Commerce.	15 January 2002
Memorandum of Understanding.	The Faculty of Engineering of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine.	17 January 2002
Memorandum of Understanding for the Basic Study on "Determining the Plume Sedimentation in the Marine Coastal Zone of the San Juan River"	Fundación Pro Ciencia, Arte y Cultura la Universidad Nacional Costa Rica.	28 November 2001

Title of the Agreement	Country/Organization	Signed
Memorandum of Understanding for the project "Formulation of a Strategic Action Program for the Integrated Management of Water Resources and Sustainable Development of the San Juan River Basin and its Coastal Zone."	Fundación Parques Nacionales.	16 November 2001
Agreement for Achieving the Hemispheric Water Vision.	Japan Water Resources Association.	
Agreement for Establishment of a Virtual Office on the Economic Valuation of Coastal and Marine Resources for Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change Project.	Ministry of Planning, Development, Environment and Housing of the Government of Saint Lucia.	16 November 2001
Agreement regarding the International Law Workshops	Universidad Nacional Autónoma Mexico.	
Agreement for the Fourth Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas.	Trinidad and Tobago.	15 February 2002
Cooperation Agreement for Monuments and Sites.	Organization of the Wider Caribbean on Monuments and Sites.	22 February 2002
Agreement for Strengthening Democracy in Haiti.	Haiti.	1 March 2002
Agreement for Cooperation on Training for the Prevention and Control of Money Laundering	Inter-American Development Bank and Bando Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria S.A.	6 July 2001
Agreement for the Thirty-Second Regular Session of the General Assembly	Barbados.	26 March 2002
Agreement between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the Government of the Republic of Colombia on Privileges and Immunities of the Observers for the Presidential and Vice Presidential Elections to be held in Colombia on May 26, 2002.	Colombia.	May 2002

Title of the Agreement	Country/Organization	Signed
Memorandum of Understanding for the project "Formulation of a Strategic Action Program for the Integrated Management of Water Resources and Sustainable Development of the San Juan River Basin and its Coastal Zone."	Fundación Investigación y Desarrollo Rural.	9 July 2002
Memorandum of Understanding for the Basic Study on "Determining the Plume Sedimentation in the Marine Coastal Zone of the San Juan River"	Universidad Centroamericana (UCA), Nicaragua.	6 February 2002
Memorandum of Understanding for execution of the basic study on "Hydrographic Surveying on Lake Nicaragua and on the San Juan River"	Instituto Nicaraguense Estudios Territoriales.	25 January 2002
Memorandum of Understanding for the basic study on "Monitoring for Hydrometeorological Hazards and Water Quality in the San Juan River Basin"	Centro para la Investigación en Recursos Acuáticos la Universidad Nacional Autónoma Nicaragua.	28 November 2002
Memorandum of Understanding for the project "Formulation of a Strategic Action Program for the Integrated Management of Water Resources and Sustainable Development of the San Juan River Basin and its Coastal Zone."	Fundación para la Conservación y Desarrollo del Sureste Nicaragua (Fundación del Río).	27 August 2001
Memorandum of Understanding for execution of the basic study on "Monitoring for Hydrometeorological Hazards and Water Quality in the San Juan River Basin"	Instituto Nicaraguense Estudios Territoriales.	13 March 2002
Contribution Arrangement.	Government of Canada and Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency.	4 June 2002
Agreement on the holding of the First Meeting of Ministers of Culture in the CIDI Framework	Colombia	11 June 2002

Title of the Agreement	Country/Organization	Signed
Agreement on Support to the Electoral Observation Mission in Bolivia.	Sweden	2 July 2002
Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Observers for the Electoral Process for the National Elections on June 30, 2002.	Bolivia	4 June 2002
Memorandum of Understanding for the subproject "Adaptation of Fisheries and Fishing Communities to the Impacts of Climate Change in the CARICOM Region" within the Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change Project".	CARICOM	20 May 2002
Memorandum of Understanding for the subproject "Adaptation of Fisheries and Fishing Communities to the Impacts of Climate Change in the CARICOM Region" within the Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change Project".	CARICOM	20 May 2002
Memorandum of Understanding for the project "Formulation of a Strategic Action Program for the Integrated Management of Water Resources and Sustainable Development of the San Juan River Basin and its Coastal Zone."	Asociación para la Conservación y Manejo Areas Forestales San Carlos.	6 March 2002
Cooperation Agreement	Ibero-American Cooperation Secretariat.	
Memorandum of Agreement on The Dialogue on Water and Climate (Project proposal for Central America SVP Regional Platform Development).	The International Institute for Infrastructural, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering.	8 July 2002
Memorandum of Agreement on the Dialogue on Water and Climate (Project proposal for establishment of a Caribbean Dialogue Water and Climate).	The International Institute for Infrastructural, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering.	8 July 2002

Title of the Agreement	Country/Organization	Signed
Memorandum of Agreement on the Dialogue on Water and Climate (Project proposal for establishment of a Multi-stakeholder Consultation on Water and Climate in the San Juan River Basin).	The International Institute for Infrastructural, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering.	8 July 2002
Cooperation Agreement.	Andres Bello Agreement, in the area of Culture.	12 July 2002
Grant Agreement for Building the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN) Project - GEF PPG No TF051150.	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.	18 July 2002
GRANT - TF No 050950.	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.	23 July 2002
Memorandum of Understanding for the project "Formulation of a Strategic Action Program for the Integrated Management of Water Resources and Sustainable Development of the San Juan River Basin and its Coastal Zone."	La Fundación para la Conservación y Desarrollo del Sureste Nicaragua (Fundación del Río).	31 May 2002
Memorandum of Understanding for the basic study on "Monitoring for Hydrometeorological Hazards and Water Quality in the San Juan River Basin"	Facultad Latinoamericana Ciencias Sociales.	5 July 2002
Agreement relating to the holding of the Thirty-first Assembly of Delegates of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM).	Dominican Republic.	7 August 2002
Agreement relating to the holding of the Eighteenth Inter-American Travel Congress.	Dominican Republic.	7 August 2002
Agreement for Technical Cooperation to Conduct Pilot Projects in Election Automation.	Tribunal Superior Eleitoral do Brazil.	17 July 2002
Continued Support of the Letter Grant for Partial Funding of the Renewable Energy in the Americas (REIA).	U.S. Agency for International Development.	23 August 2002

Title of the Agreement	Country/Organization	Signed
Grant to support the Transformation and Maintenance of the Virtual Office of the Inter-Summit Property Systems Initiative. Grant No. LAC-G-00-02-00002-00.	U.S. Agency for International Development.	6 September 2002
Amendment to the GEF Grant Agreement. GEF PPG TF-051150 (Building Inter-American Biodiversity Network Project).	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.	

APPENDIX D

HUMAN RESOURCES

The following tables contain information on the staff of the General Secretariat from January 1 to December 31, 2002.

Staff members are classified by type of appointment and the fund that finances their posts; their category and nationality; years of service; grade; gender; duty station; and Career Service vs. non-Career Service.

TABLE 1
BREAKDOWN OF STAFF BY TYPE OF APPOINTMENT AND FUND,
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002
(Includes all sources of financing)

	Career Service	Long- Term	Short- Term	Total*
Regular Fund ^{a/}	233 ^{b/}	258 ^{c/}	53	544
Others	5 ^{d/}	68 ^{e/}	57	130
TOTAL	238	326	110	674

a/ Includes staff of the Secretariat of the IACHR, IIN, CIM and CICAD.

b/ Includes 11 individuals in positions of trust who are members of the career service.

c/ Includes 52 individuals in positions of trust.

d/ Includes 1 individual in a position of trust (Secretary-Treasurer of the Retirement and Pension Fund).

e/ Includes 5 individuals in positions of trust.

** Includes Associate Personnel and Temporary Support Personnel.*

TABLE 2
CHANGE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF STAFF, BY FUND,
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002
(Includes all sources of financing)

	December 2001	December 2002	Change	
			Number	%
Regular Fund	550	544	- 6	- 1
Other	87	130	+ 43	+ 49
TOTAL	637	674*	+ 37	+ 6

** Includes Associate Personnel and Temporary Support Personnel.*

TABLE 3

**CHANGE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF STAFF, BY TYPE OF APPOINTMENT
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002
(Includes all sources of financing)**

Type of Appointment	December 2001	December 2002	Change	
			Number	%
Career Service	244	227	- 17	- 7
Career Service in positions of trust	14	11	- 3	- 21
Staff in positions of trust who are not in the Career Service	59	57	- 2	- 3
Long-term	246	269	+ 23	+ 9
Short-term	74	110	+ 36	+ 49
TOTAL	637	674*	+ 37	+ 6

* Includes Associate Personnel and Temporary Support Personnel.

TABLE 4
DISTRIBUTION OF STAFF BY CATEGORY AND NATIONALITY
(Includes all sources of financing)

Country	December 31, 2001			December 31, 2002		
	Profess- ional	General Services	Total	Profess- ional	General Services	Total
Antigua and Barbuda	1	2	3	1	2	3
Argentina	26	8	34	30	9	39
Bahamas	-	2	2	-	2	2
Barbados	4	3	7	4	3	7
Belize	1	2	3	1	1	2
Bolivia	11	8	19	11	11	22
Brazil	12	8	20	14	8	22
Canada	15	-	15	17	-	17
Chile	14	7	21	15	8	23
Colombia	29	27	56	33	27	60
Costa Rica	4	2	6	7	6	13
Cuba	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dominica	1	3	4	1	3	4
Dominican Republic	1	6	7	1	6	7
Ecuador	6	14	20	6	13	19
El Salvador	5	15	20	7	14	21
Grenada	5	2	7	5	2	7
Guatemala	8	11	19	8	12	20
Guyana	1	2	3	1	1	2
Haiti	2	3	5	2	3	5
Honduras	3	2	5	2	3	5
Jamaica	3	3	6	3	3	6
Mexico	14	4	18	18	4	22
Nicaragua	2	10	12	2	9	11
Panama	5	3	8	6	3	9
Paraguay	5	3	8	5	2	7
Peru	28	32	60	27	33	60
St. Kitts and Nevis	2	2	4	2	2	4
Saint Lucia	2	2	4	2	2	4
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	3	3	6	3	3	6
Suriname	3	2	5	3	2	5
Trinidad and Tobago	9	4	13	11	4	15
United States	100	51	151	105	48	153
Uruguay	28	12	40	28	10	38
Venezuela	13	10	23	17	11	28
Countries not members of the OAS	2	1	3	6	-	6
TOTAL	368	269	637	404	270	674 *

* Includes Associate Personnel and Temporary Support Personnel.

TABLE 5

**BREAKDOWN OF THE STAFF OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT,
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002,
BY YEARS OF SERVICE
(Includes all sources of financing)**

Years of service	Members of the Career Service	Staff not members of the Career Service	Total staff	Percentage of staff in Career Service
Less than 3	0	167	167	0
3 but less than 5	0	61	61	0
5 but less than 10	0	159	159	0
10 but less than 15	24	46	70	34
15 but less than 25	100	3	103	97
25 or more	114	0	114	100
TOTAL	238	436	674*	35

* *Includes Associate Personnel and Temporary Support Personnel.*

TABLE 6
DISTRIBUTION OF THE STAFF OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT,
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002,
BY NATIONALITY
(Career Service vs. Non-Career Service)
(Includes all sources of financing)

Country	Members of the Career Service	Staff not members of the Career Service	Total Staff	Percentage of Staff in Career Service
Antigua and Barbuda	0	3	3	0
Argentina	15	24	39	38
Bahamas	0	2	2	0
Barbados	2	5	7	29
Belize	0	2	2	0
Bolivia	10	12	22	45
Brazil	7	15	22	32
Canada	0	17	17	0
Chile	11	12	23	48
Colombia	16	44	60	27
Costa Rica	2	11	13	15
Dominica	0	4	4	0
Dominican Republic	5	2	7	71
Ecuador	12	7	19	63
El Salvador	10	11	21	48
Grenada	0	7	7	0
Guatemala	12	8	20	60
Guyana	0	2	2	0
Haiti	2	3	5	40
Honduras	1	4	5	20
Jamaica	3	3	6	50
Mexico	7	15	22	32
Nicaragua	7	4	11	64
Panama	4	5	9	44
Paraguay	2	5	7	29
Peru	25	35	60	42
St. Kitts and Nevis	2	2	4	50
Saint Lucia	1	3	4	25
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1	5	6	17
Suriname	1	4	5	20
Trinidad and Tobago	1	14	15	7
United States	52	101	153	34
Uruguay	22	16	38	58
Venezuela	4	24	28	14
Countries not members of the OAS	1	5	6	17
TOTAL	238	436	674*	35

* Includes Associate Personnel and Temporary Support Personnel.

TABLE 7
DISTRIBUTION OF THE STAFF OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT,
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002,
BY GRADE
(Includes all sources of financing)

Staff member's grade	Members of the Career Service	Staff not members of the Career Service	Total staff	Percentage of staff in Career Service
Unclassified posts*	1	4	5	20
D-2	1	9	10	10
D-1	7	17	24	29
P-5	39	47	86	45
P-4	22	56	78	28
P-3	24	62	86	28
P-2	29	45	74	39
P-1	3	24	27	11
G-7	7	5	12	58
G-6	43	38	81	53
G-5	29	43	72	40
G-4	17	34	51	33
G-3	13	23	36	36
G-2	3	3	6	50
G-1	0	2	2	0
<i>Other posts**</i>	0	24	24	0
TOTAL	238	436	674	35

* *Secretary General, Assistant Secretary General, Executive Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries.*

** *Associate Personnel and Temporary Support Personnel.*

TABLE 8

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE STAFF OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT,
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002,
MEN-WOMEN
(Includes all sources of financing)**

Sex	Members of the Career Service	Staff not members of the Career Service	Total Staff	Percentage of Staff in Career Service
Women	124	225	349	36
Men	114	211	325	35
TOTAL	238	436	674*	35

* *Includes Associate Personnel and Temporary Support Personnel.*

TABLE 9

**COMPOSITION OF THE STAFF OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT,
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002,
BY DUTY STATION
(Includes all sources of financing)**

Duty Station	Members of the Career Service	Staff not members of the Career Service	Total Staff	Percentage of Staff in Career Service
Headquarters	206	344	550	37
Away from headquarters	32	92	124	26
Total	238	436	674*	35

* *Includes Associate Personnel and Temporary Support Personnel.*

TABLE 10**NUMBER OF PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS AWARDED AND TOTAL AMOUNT,
BY AREA, JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002
(Includes all sources of financing)**

	<u>Area</u>	<u># CPRs</u>	<u>Total (\$)</u>
10510	Office of the Secretary General	3	54,450
11020	Department of Public Information – Office of the Director	1	400
11060	Press	9	64,680
11061	Publication/ Editorial Support	3	41,400
11062	Multimedia	9	97,040
11080	Radio	1	300
11090	Americas Magazine	66	230,572
12010	Office of the Inspector General	10	176,006
13010	Office of External Relations	7	37,700
13510	Office of Summit Follow-up	15	92,463
14020	Rowe Fund	3	88,716
14510	Office of Cultural Affairs	1	2,000
15010	Office of Science and Technology	22	119,699
15510	CICAD-Executive Office	1	5,375
15520	Demand Reduction	31	238,170
15530	Supply Reduction	2	2,475
15540	Institutional Strengthening	7	129,600
15550	Legal Development	1	14,000
15561	Information Technology	2	42,700
15562	Research and Analysis	13	97,659
15570	Alternative Development	24	2,200,765
15580	Money Laundering	34	198,949
16010	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights	34	644,374
16510	Inter-American Telecommunications Commission	3	19,000
17020	Trade Unit	45	439,045
17040	SICE – Foreign Trade Information System	12	154,500
17510	Unit for Social Development and Education	42	363,600
18010	Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment	229	31,960,745
18510	Inter-sectoral Unit for Tourism	47	713,061
18511	Caribbean Tourism Organization	1	12,000
19010	UPD – Office of the Executive Coordinator	26	128,839
19020	Strengthening democratic institutions	27	185,487
19030	Electoral technical assistance	103	675,562
19040	Information and dialogue	30	151,925
19050	Special programs – electoral observation missions	277	1,790,108
19060	Center for the Study of Democracy	2	33,600
19800	Demining programs	27	199,112
21010	Office of the Assistant Secretary General	14	171,200
23010	CIM – Executive Secretariat	13	168,067
23013	CIM- Program Framework	4	19,929
23014	CIM- Horizontal Cooperation	4	49,304
24020	Secretariat of Conferences – Office of the Director	2	1,260

24040	Division of Conferences and Meetings	1	21,120
24046	OAS Conferences – SCM Administration	7	5,800
24060	Language Division	1	13,120
25010	Inter-American Children’s Institute	34	105,218
25011	Child and Family Inter-American Information Program	10	49,060
25012	Program for the Integral Promotion of Children’s Rights	8	200,400
25013	Legal Program	1	4,000
27020	Columbus Memorial Library – Office of the Director	4	98,280
28027	National Office in Peru	1	6,000
28034	National Office in Uruguay	6	17,500
37030	Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development	3	25,000
42010	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs	9	25,900
44040	Secretariat of the Inter-American Juridical Committee	3	26,040
46010	Administrative Tribunal	4	33,240
48010	Department of Legal Cooperation and Information	18	89,938
52010	Executive Office of the Assistant Secretary for Management	16	201,566
54020	Department Financial Services – Office of the Director	4	108,911
54021	Board of External Auditors	1	6,000
55030	MAPSS-Office of the Director	1	2,960
55040	Budget preparation	1	5,000
55050	Information, development, and management	5	148,778
55051	Software, licenses, leasing and services	2	55,144
55053	Operational support	7	115,221
57010	TFS-Office of the Director	21	233,187
57012	Buildings management and maintenance	38	362,275
57021	General services	6	69,425
57052	Application information technology	9	43,640
57053	Computer equipment	9	81,315
58020	Department of Human Resource Services – Office of the Director	2	24,775
58021	Desk audits	7	20,150
58041	Development of Human Resources	4	15,900
58060	Compensation and benefits	4	66,360
99010	IACD – Cooperation policies	4	36,300
99020	IACD- Information Technology for Human Development	26	182,529
99030	IACD- Inter-American Committee on Ports	9	61,427
99090	IACD-Specific Funds	99	1,620,483
99100	IACD- Specific Funds – Development Programs	9	55,159
99300	IACD-Operations and Finance – Finance	13	100,259
99400	IACD-Operations and Finance – Project Management	1	19,650
99500	Trust for the Americas	61	485,679
TOTAL		1,676	46,658,546

TABLE 11

**NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS
AWARDED FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002,
BY NATIONALITY
(Includes all financing sources)**

Country	# CPRs	Amount (US\$)
American Samoa	1	8,800
Antigua and Barbuda	1	3,200
Argentina	131	1,250,435
Barbados	6	53,800
Belize	5	37,600
Bolivia	50	2,066,120
Brazil	141	3,490,152
Canada	64	848,848
Chile	34	265,437
Colombia	134	1,231,363
Costa Rica	28	721,887
Cuba	1	1,500
Dominica	1	12,000
Dominican Republic	5	46,279
Ecuador	11	66,800
El Salvador	25	163,944
Grenada	3	9,290
Guatemala	35	326,855
Haiti	5	46,183
Honduras	8	45,967
Italia	1	3,900
Jamaica	3	65,100
Mexico	39	397,346
Nicaragua	18	158,831
Panama	15	132,824
Paraguay	7	39,670
Peru	68	470,530
Puerto Rico	4	9,660
Trinidad and Tobago	2	154,120
United States	338	3,833,064
Uruguay	71	440,648
Venezuela	20	254,500
Unspecified	349	28,260,458
TOTAL	1,624	44,917,811

NONMEMBER COUNTRIES

Country	# of CPRs	Amount (US\$)
France	6	1,252,190
India	6	30,909
Korea, Republic of	2	33,000
Spain	20	279,223
Switzerland	8	51,600
United Kingdom	10	93,813
TOTAL	52	1,740,735

TABLE 12

**NUMBER AND COST OF PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS AWARDED,
BY EXECUTION,
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002
(Includes all sources of financing)**

Country	# CPRs	Amount (\$)
Antigua and Barbuda	4	40,060
Argentina	33	460,230
Barbados	4	49,900
Belize	1	4,000
Bolivia	40	2,150,312
Brazil	85	2,319,714
Brazil – CJI	1	1,040
Colombia	43	178,480
Costa Rica	15	71,670
Dominica	1	12,000
Dominican Republic	8	17,507
Ecuador	41	148,171
El Salvador	18	100,484
Grenada	3	7,700
Guatemala	78	609,010
Guyana	1	1,710
Haiti	3	22,000
Headquarters GS/OAS	962	11,780,673
Honduras	20	102,889
IIN-IACI URUGUAY	32	206,648
Mexico	4	42,500
Nicaragua	157	1,499,570
Project OAS-USDE	25	846,876
Panama	9	74,524
Paraguay	9	25,337,615
Peru	16	120,087
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	6	41,500
Suriname	1	1,000
Trinidad and Tobago	3	161,546
Uruguay	46	212,130
Venezuela	7	37,000
TOTAL	1,676	46,658,546

TABLE 13

**NUMBER AND COST OF PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS
AWARDED, BY FUND,
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002
(Includes all sources of financing)**

	FUND	# CPRs	Amount (US\$)
111	Regular Fund	261	2,498,032
113	Americas Magazine	55	201,025
115		143	1,150,647
311	Specific Funds of the Regular Fund	726	8,120,085
321	Specific Funds of the Voluntary Funds	238	31,762,463
411	Medical Benefits Funds	3	44,775
413	Leo S. Rowe Pan American Fund	3	88,716
415		61	485,679
503		22	149,225
505		3	82,092
811		27	270,061
911		134	1,805,746
	TOTAL	1,676	46,658,546

TABLE 14
DISTRIBUTION OF STAFF BY CATEGORY AND NATIONALITY
(Includes all sources of financing)

Country	December 2001			December 2002		
	Career Service	Non-Career Service	Total	Career Service	Non-Career Service	Total
Antigua and Barbuda	0	3	3	0	3	3
Argentina	19	15	34	15	24	39
Bahamas	0	2	2	0	2	2
Barbados	2	5	7	2	5	7
Belize	0	3	3	0	2	2
Bolivia	10	9	19	10	12	22
Brazil	7	3	20	7	15	22
Canada	0	15	15	0	17	17
Chile	12	9	21	11	12	23
Colombia	17	39	56	16	44	60
Costa Rica	3	3	6	2	11	13
Dominica	0	4	4	0	4	4
Dominican Republic	6	1	7	5	2	7
Ecuador	12	8	20	12	7	19
El Salvador	10	10	20	10	11	21
Grenada	0	7	7	0	7	7
Guatemala	13	6	19	12	8	20
Guyana	0	3	3	0	2	2
Haiti	2	3	5	2	3	5
Honduras	1	4	5	1	4	5
Jamaica	3	3	6	3	3	6
Mexico	8	10	18	7	15	22
Nicaragua	8	4	12	7	4	11
Panama	4	4	8	4	5	9
Paraguay	2	6	8	2	5	7
Peru	25	35	60	25	35	60
St. Kitts and Nevis	2	2	4	2	2	4
Saint Lucia	1	3	4	1	3	4
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	1	5	6	1	5	6
Suriname	1	4	5	1	4	5
Trinidad and Tobago	1	12	13	1	14	15
United States	58	93	151	52	101	153
Uruguay	25	15	40	22	16	38
Venezuela	4	19	23	4	24	28
Countries not members of the OAS	1	2	3	1	5	6
TOTAL	258	379	637	238	436	674*

Category	December 2001	December 2002	Change	
			Absolute	%
Professional	368	404	+ 36	+ 10
General Services	269	270	+ 1	+ .4
TOTAL	637	674*	+37	+ 6

* Includes Associate Personnel and Temporary Support Personnel.

APPENDIX E
FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE OAS

TABLE 1
OPERATING AND RESERVE SUBFUNDS
COMBINED STATEMENT COMPARING ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND BALANCES
(in thousands)

	December 31	
	2002	2001
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Cash and deposits with GS/OAS Treasury Fund	\$ 51,453	\$ 28,467
Other assets	8,668	185
Current value of GS/OAS annual payments	5,026	5,026
Equity in fixed assets	44,185	32,605
Total assets	\$ 109,332	\$ 66,283
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
<u>Short-term</u>		
Obligations outstanding	\$ 3,057	\$ 4,641
Quotas/pledges collected in advance	2,260	14
Accounts payable and other liabilities	861	1,244
Total short-term liabilities	6,178	5,899
<u>Long-term</u>		
Mortgage		
Authorized mortgage	25,000	25,000
Pending withdrawals	(11,005)	(20,320)
Withdrawals made	13,995	4,680
Appropriations to be charged in future years	5,026	5,026
Total long-term liabilities	19,021	9,706
Total liabilities	25,199	15,605
<u>FUND BALANCE</u>		
Set-asides for supplemental appropriations	20,600	3,688
Reserve subfund	22,118	11,059
Non-appropriated Operations Subfund	2,675	8,008
Total Operating and Reserve Subfunds	45,393	22,755
Equity in fixed assets	38,740	27,923
Total Fund Balance	84,133	50,678
Total Liabilities and Fund	84,133	50,678
Balance	\$ 109,332	\$ 66,283

TABLE 2
OPERATING AND RESERVE SUBFUNDS
COMBINED STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN BALANCE OF FUNDS
(in thousands)

	Year ending	
	December 31	
	2002	2001
INCREASES		
Collection quotas/pledges	\$ 94,648	\$ 85,603
Less credits for prompt payment	226	212
	<u>94,422</u>	<u>85,391</u>
Contributions for administration and technical support	1,266	1,210
Earnings of GS/OAS Treasury Fund	701	1,231
Other income, reimbursements and deobligations	2,145	2,210
	<u>98,534</u>	<u>90,042</u>
DECREASES		
Expenses and obligations for appropriations:		
General Assembly and Permanent Council	12,140	11,835
Executive Office of the General Secretariat	11,119	10,846
Specialized units and offices	12,172	12,063
Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI)	11,260	11,819
Offices away from headquarters	5,334	5,666
Activities of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs	1,945	1,851
Activities of the Secretariat for Management	10,480	9,725
Common administrative and personnel-related costs	6,555	7,073
Contributions to other agencies	4,891	5,123
	<u>75,896</u>	<u>76,001</u>
Net increase during the period	22,638	14,041
Balance, Operating and Reserve Subfunds at the start of the period	22,755	8,714
Balance, Operating and Reserve Subfunds at the end of the period	<u>\$ 45,393</u>	<u>\$ 22,755</u>

TABLE 3**STATEMENT COMPARING THE FUNDS' ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND BALANCES
(in thousands)**

	December 31	
	2002	2001
ASSETS		
Cash and deposits with GS/OAS Treasury Fund	\$ 29,302	\$ 34,143
Advances to staff members and other receivables	50	-
	<u>\$ 29,352</u>	<u>\$ 34,143</u>
LIABILITIES AND THE FUNDS' BALANCES		
Obligations outstanding	\$ 11,501	\$ 7,096
Accounts payable and other liabilities	3,401	891
Balances of the Funds	14,450	26,156
	<u>\$ 29,352</u>	<u>\$ 34,143</u>

**STATEMENT COMPARING VARIATION IN THE FUNDS' BALANCE
(in thousands)**

	December 31	
	2002	2001
INCREASES		
Contributions	\$ 46,765	\$ 44,066
Contributions for tax reimbursement	8,777	7,609
Other revenue and interest income	991	8,130
	<u>56,533</u>	<u>59,805</u>
DECREASES		
Expenditures and obligations	56,543	42,580
Transfers	-	210
Reimbursements to donors	175	519
Tax reimbursements to employees	11,521	11,410
	<u>68,239</u>	<u>54,719</u>
Net increase (decrease) during the period	(11,706)	5,086
The funds' balance at the start of the period	26,156	21,070
The funds' balance at the end of the period	<u>\$ 14,450</u>	<u>\$ 26,156</u>

APPENDIX F

**OAS FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED FROM
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002**

COUNTRY	POSTGRADUATE ACADEMIC STUDIES				Undergraduate Academic Studies	
	University selected by student		University determined by the OAS	Fulbright		
	Regular	Extension			Regular	Extension
Antigua and Barbuda	4	3	0	0	3	3
Argentina	8	0	2	2	0	0
Bahamas	4	3	0	0	2	2
Barbados	5	2	0	0	2	1
Belize	5	0	1	2	4	2
Bolivia	6	6	0	2	0	0
Brazil	8	3	2	0	0	0
Canada	8	0	0	0	0	0
Chile	7	4	2	1	0	0
Colombia	7	10	0	2	0	0
Costa Rica	5	6	0	0	0	0
Dominica	4	2	0	0	3	1
Dominican Republic	6	1	3	0	0	0
Ecuador	6	2	2	2	0	0
El Salvador	6	4	1	0	0	0
Grenada	6	1	0	0	3	4
Guatemala	6	4	0	1	0	0
Guyana	4	1	1	0	2	1
Haiti	6	4	0	2	0	0
Honduras	6	5	0	0	0	0
Jamaica	5	4	2	1	2	2
Mexico	7	5	0	1	0	0
Nicaragua	6	6	2	0	0	0
Panama	6	4	3	1	0	0
Paraguay	5	5	2	1	0	0
Peru	6	4	3	1	0	0
St. Kitts & Nevis	3	2	0	0	2	1
Saint Lucia	4	2	1	0	2	2
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2	1	1	0	2	3
Suriname	5	1	0	0	2	1

Trinidad and Tobago	5	3	0	0	3	1
United States	8	2	1	0	0	0
Uruguay	5	3	2	0	0	0
Venezuela	6	4	0	1	0	0
TOTALS	190	107	31	20	32	24

<i>Table 1 cont.</i>								
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIPS (*)								
	PEC		CHBA		CEAT		E-Fellow-ships Portal	TOTAL Fellow-ships
	On-site	E-Fellow-ships	On-site	E-Fellow-ships	On-site	E-Fellow-ships		
Antigua and Barbuda	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	18
Argentina	7	5	29	63	8	11	8	143
Bahamas	1	0	6	5	1	0	0	24
Barbados	2	0	5	4	2	2	0	25
Belize	1	0	12	0	1	0	0	28
Bolivia	0	5	20	59	1	10	0	109
Brazil	1	3	2	3	3	22	26	73
Canada	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	11
Chile	2	5	14	20	2	7	4	68
Colombia	2	3	22	47	1	3	1	98
Costa Rica	2	6	12	32	6	5	8	82
Dominica	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	15
Dominican Republic	5	5	14	128	0	6	0	168
Ecuador	0	6	28	96	2	9	0	153
El Salvador	2	4	21	9	5	8	0	60
Grenada	1	0	3	10	2	0	0	30
Guatemala	4	2	21	21	6	8	0	73
Guyana	1	0	3	0	0	4	0	17
Haiti	0	1	5	4	0	0	0	22
Honduras	5	6	20	4	3	12	0	61
Jamaica	1	1	6	2	3	1	0	30
Mexico	4	5	9	13	3	22	6	75
Nicaragua	3	3	12	19	3	17	0	71
Panama	1	6	11	12	6	5	0	55
Paraguay	2	4	11	76	3	2	0	111
Peru	4	6	27	136	6	6	1506	1705
St. Kitts & Nevis	1	0	3	0	1	1	0	14
Saint Lucia	1	0	3	0	1	0	0	16
Saint Vincent and the	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	13

Grenadines								
Suriname	2	0	6	0	2	10	0	29
Trinidad and Tobago	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	17
United States	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	13
Uruguay	2	4	15	42	6	12	0	91
Venezuela	4	2	14	25	2	4	74	136
TOTALS	64	82	365	831	83	192	1633	3654

(*) In 2002, 52 fellowships were awarded for on-line studies at the master's degree level and are included among the Professional Development Fellowships.

APPENDIX G

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE PERMANENT OBSERVERS

COUNTRY	CONTRIBUTIONS IN CASH	CHIEF CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND	TOTAL CONTRIBUTION
Cyprus	US\$ 1,000 – Special Mission in Haiti Total: US\$ 1,000		US\$ 1,000
Denmark	US\$ 120,000 – UPD – Central American Program US\$ 71,538 – UPD- Political Management, Guatemala US\$ 139,961 – IACHR – Strengthening of Indigenous Peoples’ Rights Total: US\$ 331, 499		US\$ 331,499
European Union	US\$ 58,444 - CICAD – Inter-American Drug Information Network, On-line Management Project US\$ 144,163 – CICAD – Drug Abuse Epidemiological and Surveillance System in the Caribbean Total: US\$ 202,607		Total: US\$ 202,607
Finland	US\$ 8,046 – UPD – Decentralization Local Government US\$ 42,544 – General Secretariat Total: US\$ 50,590		Total: US\$ 50,590
France	US\$ 75,255 – UPD – Demining Program US\$ 31,858 – CICAD/CIFAD Andean Regional Seminar on combating money laundering and corruption US\$ 29,316 – CICAD – RETCOD Total: US\$ 136,429	US\$ 140,000 – OAS Special Mission in Haiti (equipment and technical assistance) US\$ 50,700 – CICAD – technical and professional assistance US\$ 2,500 approx. – Professor sent to the course on International Law in Brazil Total: US\$ 193,200	Total: US\$ 329,629
Germany	US\$ 92,440 – Special OAS Mission in Haiti Total: US\$ 92,440		Total: US\$ 92,440
Italy		US\$ 16,724 – Special Mission in Haiti (Equipment and technical assistance) US\$ 24,000 – CICTE - (Equipment: computers, fax,	Total: US\$ 40,724

		printer, photocopier, scanner) Total: US\$ 40,724	
Japan	US\$ 45,000 – UPD – Demining Program US\$ 155,000 – CICAD – Nursing School Project for Demand Reduction US\$ 217,485 – USDE– Project: Achieving a Hemispheric Water Vision Total: US\$ 417,485		Total: US\$ 417,485
Korea	US\$ 20,000 – Peace Fund – General Fund US\$ 20,000 – Peace Fund – Belize/Guatemala Subfund US\$ 10,000 – Peace Fund – Honduras/Nicaragua Subfund Total: US\$ 50,000	US\$ 46,623 – UPD – Equipment for the Demining Program (computers and trucks) US\$ 2,600 – Fellowships –E-business and investments in trade and development US\$ 10,500 – Fellowships – Program on Policies for Development of Information Technology for Latin America and the Caribbean US\$ 33,600 – Fellowships – Workshop on Educational Policies and Reforms Total: US\$ 93,323	Total: US\$ 143,323
Netherlands	US\$ 655,455 – UPD – Technical Assistance Plan for Guatemala US\$ 168,671 – UPD – Political Management, Guatemala US\$ 78,015 – USDE– Strategic Plan of Action for the San Juan River Basin US\$ 149,145 – USDE– Caribbean Dialogue on Water and Climate (DWC) US\$ 55, 849 – USDE– Flood Vulnerability Reduction and Development of Early Warning Systems in Minor River Basins in Central America (SVP) Total: US\$ 1,107,135		Total: US\$ 1,107,135
Norway	US\$ 412,221 – UPD – Technical Assistance Plan Guatemala US\$ 9895 – UPD – EOM Nicaragua 2002 US\$ 134,588 – UPD – PROPAZ Foundation US\$ 273,081 – UPD – Central American Program		Total: US\$ 2,443,679

	<p>US\$ 457,917 – UPD – Political Management Guatemala</p> <p>US\$ 1,045,072 – UPD – Demining Program</p> <p>US\$ 52,539 – Peace Fund – General Fund</p> <p>US\$ 58,366 – Special Mission in Haiti</p> <p>Total: US\$ 2,443,679</p>		
Spain	<p>US\$ 195,583 – IACHR – Improvement of documentation and publications services</p> <p>US\$ 110,647 – Peace Fund – General Fund</p> <p>US\$ 73,704 – Special OAS Mission in Haiti</p> <p>US\$ 149,028 – CICAD – Project on Institution-building in the Andean Countries</p> <p>US\$ 205,364 – CICAD – On-line Master’s Project on Drug Dependencies (Demand Reduction)</p> <p>US\$ 49,272 – CICAD – Project for the National Drug Control Commissions in Central America and the Dominican Republic (Institution Building)</p> <p>Total: US\$ 783,598</p>	<p>US\$ 130,900 – Fellowships- III Ibero-American Course on Port Engineering</p> <p>US\$ 154,000 – Fellowships – VII Ibero-American Course on Port Management</p> <p>US\$ 22,050 – Fellowships – XX Distance Education Course, UNED</p> <p>US\$ 32,000 – Fellowships – Ibero-American Seminar on Information Technologies Applied to Education: Virtual Education 2002- Ibero-American Approach, Global Perspective: International Conference on Education, Training and New Technologies. UNED (On Line)</p> <p>US\$ 204,000 – Fellowships – Ibero-American Program for a Master’s Degree in Drug Dependencies. UNED (On Line)</p> <p>US\$ 49,555 – Fellowships – Master’s degree program in open and distance education and learning. UNED (On Line)</p> <p>Total: US\$ 592,505</p>	Total: US\$ 1,376,103
Sweden	<p>US\$ 821,545 – UPD – TCP II</p> <p>US\$ 199,587 – UPD – Hijos del Río</p> <p>US\$ 549,119 – UPD – Rural Judicial Facilitators</p> <p>US\$ 99,819 – UPD – EOM Nicaragua 2002</p> <p>US\$ 212,793 – UPD – Central American Program</p>		Total: US\$ 2,393,504

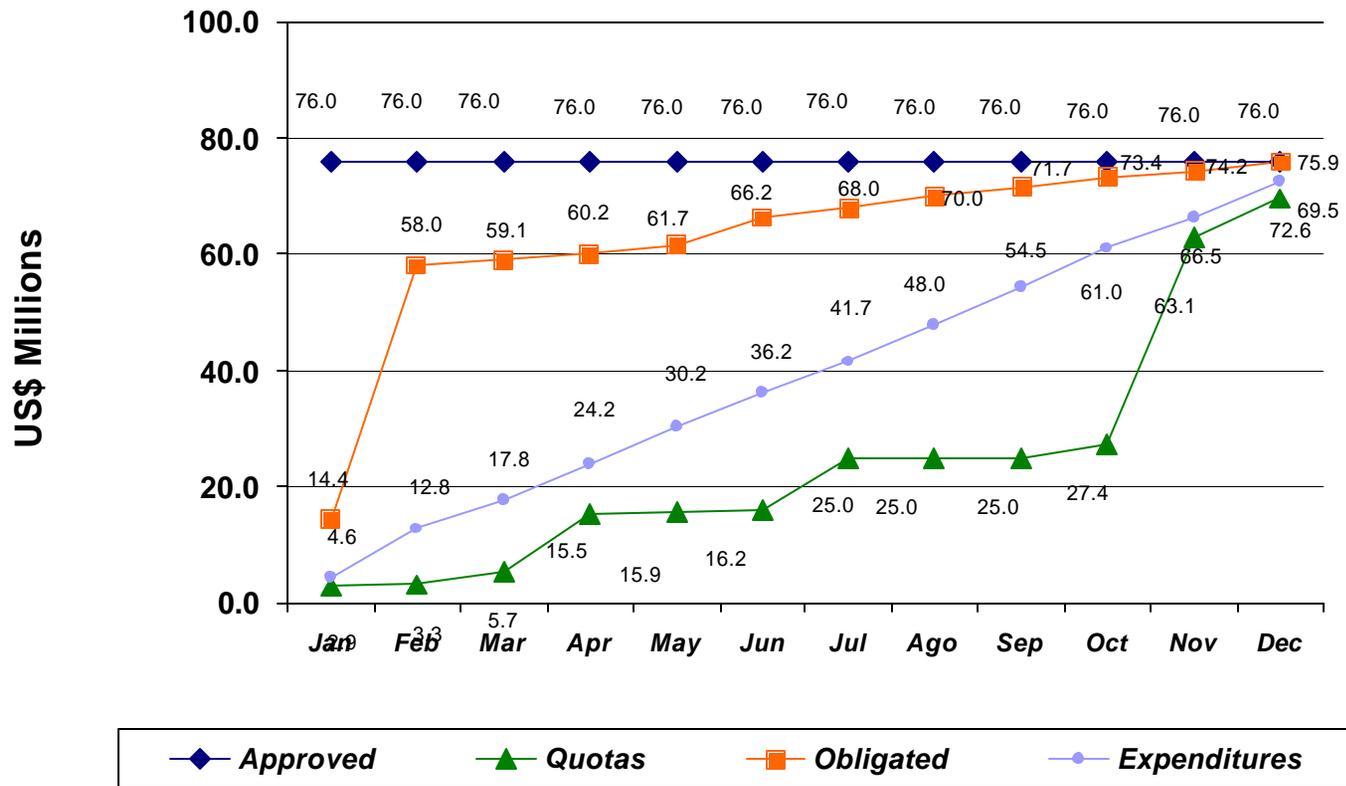
	US\$ 52,657 – UPD – EOM Bolivia 2002 US\$ 332,956 – UPD – Demining Program US\$ 104,028 – Special OAS Mission in Haiti US\$ 21,000 – Inter-American Children’s Institute Total: US\$ 2,393,504		
Switzerland	US\$ 9,890 – UPD – TCP II Total: US\$ 9,890		Total: US\$ 9,890
Turkey	US\$ 3,200 – Americas Magazine US\$ 3,500 – OER – Children’s Corner, Internet Page US\$ 5,000 – CICTE US\$ 3,000 – Inter-sectoral Unit on Tourism Total: US\$ 14,700		Total: US\$ 14,700
United Kingdom	US\$ 23,250 – UPD – Technical Assistance, Caribbean US\$ 21,900 – UPD – EOM, Colombia 2002 US\$ 276,602 – UPD – Demining Program US\$ 14,268 – Special Mission in Haiti US\$ 14,268 – CICTE US\$ 75,240 – Peace Fund – Belize/Guatemala Subfund Total: US\$ 425,528		Total: US\$ 425,528
TOTAL	<u>US\$ 8,460,084</u>	<u>US\$ 919,752</u>	<u>US\$ 9,379,836</u>

APPENDIX H

PROGRAM-BUDGET: LEVELS OF EXECUTION

	Regular Fund 2002											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Ago	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Approved	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0
Quotas	2.9	3.3	5.7	15.5	15.9	16.2	25.0	25.0	25.0	27.4	63.1	69.5
Obligated	14.4	58.0	59.1	60.2	61.7	66.2	68.0	70.0	71.7	73.4	74.2	75.9
Expenditures	4.6	12.8	17.8	24.2	30.2	36.2	41.7	48.0	54.5	61.0	66.5	72.6
	Regular Fund 2001											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Abr	May	Jun	Jul	Ago	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Approved	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0
Quotas	2.6	3.2	3.4	10.4	11.1	11.1	24.6	24.6	24.7	24.7	27.4	45.1
Obligated	56.6	58.9	60.3	60.9	63.1	65.9	67.1	70.1	70.8	72.2	73.2	75.3
Expenditures	5.2	9.3	18.2	24.4	29.7	35.1	41.0	46.7	52.2	58.7	64.3	70.6

2002 Regular Fund Budgetary Execution Report and Quotas collected from January to December



2001 Regular Fund Budgetary Execution Report and Quotas collected from January to December

