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Secretaría de Seguridad Multidimensional

**XLV MEETING OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS
FOR THE CONTROL OF MONEY LAUNDERING
October 4 and 5, 2018
Santa Cruz, Bolivia**

**OEA/Ser.L/XIV. 4.45
DDOT/LAVEX/doc.27/18
October 4, 2018
Original: Spanish**

**OPENING SPEECH OF DR. MARÍA EPIFANÍA – MINISTER EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE MONEY LAUNDERING
PREVENTION SECRETARIAT (UIF-SEPRELAD), AND OUTGOING CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS FOR
MONITORING MONEY LAUNDERING**

2018



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Good Morning

- **Mrs. Ana Teresa Morales Olivera** Executive General Director Financial Investigation Unit (FIU) Bolivia
- Mr. **Mario Guillen Suarez** – Minister of Economy and Public Finance
- Mr. **Carlos Romero Bonifaz** – Minister of Government
- Mr. **Diego Jimenez Guachalla** – Viceminister of Institucional Transparency and Fight against Corruption.
- **Mr. Nelson Mena**, Department against Transnational Organized Crime, Secretary of Multidimensional Security, OAS.
- Gentleman member of the diplomatic corps, and;
- Delegates members of the OAS

Gentleman of the Executive Secretary of the **GROUP OF EXPERTS FOR THE CONTROL OF MONEY LAUNDERING** - GELAVEX, press gentleman and special guests.

Be cordially welcome

First of all I appreciate the attention with which we are honored by the hosts and organizers of this meeting, which is more than crucial for the fight against organized crime, with the fight against money laundering as a transversal axis.

For the Paraguayan representation it is a very significant occasion, since on this date, I will proceed to deliver the Pro - Tempore Presidency of GELAVEX to the representation of the Republic of Bolivia. The Republic of Paraguay has exercised the presidency in the person of my predecessor, who has been mandated to carry out the arduous task of executing the actions of the GELAVEX strategic plan.



In this regard, I would like to express my gratitude for the trust placed in Paraguay for the exercise of its mandate, for having the support of the Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DDOT), the coordinators of the Subgroups of work who have worked in the post of achievement of several products that will add and will be important for the future competences of all of us gathered today, translated for the benefit of our countries in the constant struggle against the scourge of money laundering, their predicate offenses and against the organized crime.

I would like to point out that during this period the Subgroup on Work in Confiscation and International Cooperation, coordinated by the delegation of Costa Rica, Paraguay and the project Management of Seized and Forfeited Assets in Latin America - BIDAL, have developed the command of the group in the terms of the Study on liquidation or sale of seized assets, valuation for its due destination and, in this sense, to thank for its responsibility and commitment regarding the tasks.

Likewise, Subgroup of Work in Financial Intelligence Units and Criminal Investigation Bodies, coordinated by the delegation of Chile, Bolivia and Paraguay, have worked hard in the development of Studies on new AML / CFT typologies, including the use of virtual currencies .To all of them, the deep appreciation of this outgoing presidency for the dedication and work.

Each of these results and products will be discussed and analyzed in the next few days, for which a detailed report will be received from each coordinator of the Sub Groups, a timely opportunity to continue carrying out actions to strengthen the mandate GELAVEX, in order to achieve that through these meetings pave the way to further strengthen its role as adviser to the member countries of the OAE in matters of money laundering offenses, and related to both the illicit traffic of drugs and other serious crimes.

I do not want to let this moment pass, to express to you that in Paraguay, today we are in a process of transition and adaptation of several aspects in what it does to its AML / CFT system, especially related to the legislative regime, this is in the tireless search to strengthen the institutional and personal capacities in this persevering fight against the organized national and transnational crime; These meetings constitute an opportunity to nurture experiences along this difficult path.

Finally, once again thank the OAS / CICAD, and also the BIDAL Project, which made it possible for Paraguay today to have the National Secretariat for the Administration of Commissioned Property –SENABICO and whose operating experience, the Paraguayan delegation will be sharing with all of us today.



In this way, we officially open the **XLV Plenary Meeting of the Group of Experts for the Control of Money Laundering** with three main issues that will be the object of treatment;

- 1) International Cooperation
- 2) Strengthening the FIUs and criminal investigation agencies, and;
- 3) Administration of Forfeited Assets

Thank you very much everyone for your presence and the valuable collaboration you have rendered to this pro-tempore presidency.

Finally, I wish the presidency that assumes the representation of Bolivia the best of the successes and the commitment of collaboration to achieve the objectives of GELAVEX.

DRAFT