

AG/RES. 2396 (XXXVIII-O/08)

SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 3, 2008)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council contained in the Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly (AG/doc.4820/08) on the annual reports of the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization of American States (OAS), particularly those pertaining to the Annual Report of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) to the General Assembly (CP/doc.4314/08);

REITERATING the commitments undertaken in resolutions AG/RES. 1650 (XXIX-O/99), “Hemispheric Cooperation to Prevent, Combat, and Eliminate Terrorism”; AG/RES. 1734 (XXX-O/00), “Observations and Recommendations on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism”; and AG/RES. 1789 (XXXI-O/01), AG/RES. 1877 (XXXII-O/02), AG/RES. 1964 (XXXIII-O/03), AG/RES. 2051 (XXXIV-O/04), AG/RES. 2137 (XXXV-O/05), AG/RES. 2170 (XXXVI-O/06), and AG/RES. 2272 (XXXVII-O/07), “Support for the Work of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism”;

REAFFIRMING that terrorism, whatever its form or manifestation and whatever its origin or motivation, has no justification whatsoever, is inimical to the full enjoyment and exercise of human rights, and poses a grave threat to international peace and security, institutions, and the democratic values enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and other regional and international instruments;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION the Eighth Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, which was held in Washington, D.C., from March 5 to 7, 2008, and the adoption of the “Declaration: Reaffirmation of the Hemispheric Commitment to Fighting Terrorism”;

RECALLING the need to confront terrorism through sustained cooperation, with full respect for the obligations that international law imposes, including international human rights law, international humanitarian law, and international refugee law;

REAFFIRMING that the fight against terrorism demands the broadest possible cooperation among the member states and coordination among international and regional organizations, in order to prevent, punish, and eliminate terrorism in all its forms;

RECOGNIZING the importance of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, of September 8, 2006 (document A/RES/60/288), and the importance of its implementation in the fight against terrorism; and

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION:

That on June 5, 2007, Guyana deposited its instrument of ratification of the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism;

That to date 23 member states have ratified this Convention and that other countries not yet party to it are making important headway toward its ratification;

The sixth meeting of CICTE's National Points of Contact, held in Washington, D.C., on March 5, 2008, at which the member states considered the importance of domestic legislation on the financing of terrorism; and

The incorporation of the CICTE Secretariat into the OAS Secretariat for Multidimensional Security,

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate its most vigorous condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as criminal and unjustifiable under any circumstances, in any place, and regardless of who perpetrates it, and because it poses a grave threat to international peace and security, and to the democracy, stability, and prosperity of the countries of the region.

2. To endorse the "Declaration: Reaffirmation of the Hemispheric Commitment to Fighting Terrorism," adopted by the members of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) at its eighth regular session; and to encourage the member states to fulfill the commitments contained therein.

3. To reiterate that it is important for the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) to sign, ratify, implement, and continue implementing, as the case may be, the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, as well as pertinent regional and international conventions and protocols, including the 13 international conventions and protocols and United Nations Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001), 1540 (2004), 1566 (2004), 1617 (2005), and 1624 (2005), in order to find, deny safe haven to, and bring to justice, on the basis of the principle of extradite or prosecute, any person who supports, facilitates, participates, or attempts to participate in the financing, planning, preparation, or commission of terrorist acts or provides safe havens.

4. To call upon those member states that have not yet done so to ratify the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism and to implement it effectively.

5. To express its abiding commitment to fight terrorism and the financing thereof with full respect for the rule of law and international law, including international humanitarian law, international human rights law, and international refugee law, the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, and United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

6. To express its satisfaction with the progress made by member states in the adoption of effective measures to prevent, combat, and eradicate terrorism; and to underscore the need to continue strengthening their application and that of cooperation mechanisms in the fight against terrorism at the bilateral, subregional, regional, and international levels.

7. To reiterate its satisfaction with the opportunities CICTE provides as a forum for dialogue, coordination, and cooperation, and for its efforts to identify urgent and long-term measures to strengthen hemispheric cooperation to prevent, combat, and eliminate terrorism, taking into account the particular characteristics of member states and their needs and capabilities, including technical assistance provided to states that request it in order to comply with their obligations under the various binding international instruments, in accordance with the CICTE Work Plan.

8. To instruct the CICTE Secretariat to implement the programs and projects listed in the CICTE Work Plan for 2008.

9. Once again to thank the member states and permanent observers that have contributed human and other resources to CICTE's Secretariat to help implement the CICTE Work Plan.

10. Once again to call upon member states, permanent observers, and pertinent international organizations to provide, maintain, or increase, as appropriate, their voluntary contributions of funding and/or human resources to CICTE to enable it to perform its functions and enhance its programs and areas of activity.

11. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue providing, within the resources allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources, administrative and any other support needed for the CICTE Secretariat, including support for the Ninth Regular Session of CICTE, scheduled to be held in Mexico City from March 4 to 6, 2009, as well as the three preparatory meetings for that regular session; and for the seventh meeting of CICTE's National Points of Contact, which will take place in conjunction with that regular session.

12. To request the Chair of CICTE to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth regular session on the implementation of this resolution, the execution of which shall be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.