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REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM

(Presented by Gonzalo Gallegos, Executive Secretary of CICTE)

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I. INTRODUCTION

I present this Report on Activities of the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) for the year 2009 in accordance with Article 17.h of the Statute and Article 11.e of the Rules of Procedure of CICTE.

Under the policy guidance and mandates established by the CICTE Member States to prevent and combat terrorism in the Hemisphere, the Secretariat continues mobilizing its limited human and financial resources to implement a wide range and number of capacity building and training programs. In 2009 the Secretariat conducted 73 activities, training courses and technical assistance missions in 26 different Member States, benefitting 2,845 participants through nine programs in five areas: border controls, critical infrastructure protection, counter-terrorism legislative assistance and combating terrorism financing, strengthening strategies on emerging terrorist threats (crisis management), and international cooperation and partnerships.

II. SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

This is my first Report on Activities as CICTE Executive Secretary. I wish to thank the staff for their support and professionalism during this transition, especially Pablo Martinez, who assumed the responsibilities of Acting Secretary between Carol Fuller's departure and my arrival. I began my tenure six months ago looking to continue the Secretariat's development as one of the premier counter-terrorism capacity building entities in the world. The Secretariat will continue working with our member nations to provide them an unparalleled level of training while being responsive to their needs. We will strive to expand our contacts, while coordinating and participating at the sub-regional, regional and international levels to ensure prescience in this field. Through this interaction we will ensure our member states obtain the best programming possible, while continually exposing the Member States to the most effective methodologies available.

The Secretariat brings its greatest value where its capacity building programs develop a synergy and create dynamics conducive to interaction and trust. Therefore, the Secretariat's outreach continues promoting international cooperation with other regional (OSCE, CoE and APEC) and international organizations (UNCTED, UNODC, UNICRI, ICAO, IMO, etc.). Our methodology of sub-regional workshops on Best Practices continues to be used by international experts and we are regularly cited as an example of efficiency and a model to be emulated.

The Secretariat will continue focusing on its core competency areas, with strategies being developed for the next three years from through 2013. In addition, we are redoubling our coordination and cooperation efforts through the Secretariat of Multidimensional Security (SMS), leveraging the experience and talents of our sister secretariats within SMS, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) and Public Security, to provide more substantial and relevant programming opportunities to our Member States.

As we look back at the end of this programming year, the Secretariat has overcome its change in leadership, the departure of two Program Managers one replaced by the Government of Brazil, and the other by the Government of the Bahamas, and the arrival of a new Technical Secretary. The Assistant Secretary, Pablo Martinez, has been extended by the Government of Uruguay to 2013, ensuring the continuity of leadership for the near future.

As we look forward to our new programming year, the Secretariat will look to reap the bounty of successful outreach, cooperation, coordination and communication with not only our Member States, but with sub-regional, regional and international organizations, bringing those relationships to bear to this year's efforts. By expanding the Secretariat's port security program, integrating crisis management exercises into more of our capacity building exercises, playing off the synergies developed in our relations not only within the OAS and through the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security, but also with UNODC and UNICRI, especially in the field of major event security, and by expanding programs into the cutting edge areas of security, like our cyber security programs, we will continue to remain relevant and a high value for the funding we receive.

Over the next year, working in coordination with the Secretariat for Multidimensional security and with our sister Secretariats, CICAD and Public Security, we will continue to seek out the Member States' counsel, advice, and consent as we execute our existing programs and plan for the future which although just over the horizon will bear new threats and challenges, but most of all opportunities to work together in this effort.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Border Controls

Maritime and Port Security remains the Secretariat's largest and most complex program with the goal of strengthening Member States' capacity to comply with the security requirements of the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). We count as our implementing partners Transport Canada, the U.S. Coast Guard, members of the private sector, and two other OAS Departments (the Executive Secretariats of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), and the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP). With 17 activities and capacity building programs in 2009, the Secretariat assisted 1,542 officials with training.

The core of the program is the **Port Facility Security Needs Assessment and Follow-on Training Program**. Through a competitive bidding process, the Secretariat contracts companies experienced in maritime and port security to conduct port facility security training needs assessments that evaluate access controls to port facilities; cargo security; customs and immigration performance and procedures, including police and guard procedures; and security awareness in general. The assessments also evaluate significant security precautions as outlined in the ISPS Code, including access control to restricted areas, handling of cargo, ship stores, unaccompanied baggage, and facility monitoring procedures. Based on the results of the assessment, the Secretariat then works with the contractor to tailor security training to address and mitigate identified vulnerabilities and risks. Such training specifically addresses fundamental aspects of port facility security and related law enforcement procedures, and includes crisis management exercises. In addition to port authority

management, the target audience is generally customs, immigration and other law enforcement officials working in the seaports in the beneficiary countries.

Phases I and II of the PSAP entailed a range of activities including: comprehensive port security assessments and follow-on training in 10 countries, including a second round of training in two of those countries; one national workshop and four sub-regional workshops on best practices in maritime security and ISPS implementation; strategic level crisis management exercises (CMEs) in six countries; and a workshop introducing the APEC Manual of Maritime Security Drills and Exercises to the 14 Caribbean OAS Member States.

In 2009, several ports in Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, and Saint Vincent & The Grenadines benefited from these assessments and follow-on trainings. 17 activities were implemented in which 1,542 officials were trained.

The efforts undertaken under the Maritime Security Program in the last years constitute a systematic multiplication of efforts on the part of all of the primary partners, as well as others including the Asia Pacific Economic Forum's Maritime Security Experts Group (MEG-SEC, formerly under the Chairmanship of Canada), Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, the World Customs Organization (WCO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and national authorities from several other countries and private sector entities engaged on aspects of maritime security.

Crisis Management Exercises (CME) improve coordination and cooperation between the various players who would be involved in a crisis situation and who share port security responsibilities at the strategic-political and tactical-operative decision levels. In 2009, following 6 months of preparatory work and two in-country meetings between PSAP partners (United States Coast Guard and Transport Canada) and Chilean authorities, the Secretariat conducted a Crisis Management Exercise (CME) on Maritime and Port Security—the fifth of its kind—in Valparaíso, Chile, on June, 2009. The exercise was conducted in conjunction with the Chilean Navy (DIRECTEMAR), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Interior.

Two workshops on best practices in Maritime Security and Implementation of the ISPS Code were undertaken in 2009, first a Sub-regional Workshop for Northern and Western Caribbean countries the end of March in Nassau, Bahamas, and the second, a Sub-regional Workshop for Southern and Eastern Caribbean countries, in July in Point Lisas, Trinidad.

The over-arching objective of these workshops is to strengthen the capacity of the participating States to effectively comply with the security obligations established by the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code and other international maritime security standards. Key themes discussed include challenges to implementation of the ISPS Code, risk assessment and management, access controls, cruise ship security, small vessel security considerations, container security, reviewing and revising existing port facility security plans, security audits, and public-private partnerships.

Translation of and Training Workshops on the APEC Manual on Maritime Security Drills and Exercises were undertaken in earnest in 2009. In August 2008, the APEC Transportation Working Group and Maritime Security (MEG-SEC) sub-group, met in Lima, Peru. There, the Canadian Chair, the Deputy Secretary of CICTE, and the Port Security Program Manager proposed

translation of the APEC Maritime Security training manual into Spanish for joint use in training by both APEC and Member States. A private company under contract translated the manual with the support of Transport Canada as a tool for APEC economies and port authorities.

The First Training Workshop on the APEC Manual on Maritime Security Drills and Exercises was held on June 2009, in St. Lucia with the Secretariat partnering with the St. Lucia Air and Sea Ports Authority (SLASPA) and the Government of St. Lucia to organize the workshop.

The Secretariat's Work Plan mandates that it identify and provide technical assistance and training to Member States on security-related aviation procedures and improvements. **The Aviation Security Program** helps them meet the new ICAO standards. Through the collaboration with the United States Transportation Security Agency (TSA) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and increasingly with experts in other countries, the Secretariat has been working towards strengthening the security of regional airports as it is a critical element in controlling international borders and in creating passenger confidence in commercial air transport. Member States have committed to comply with the security standards and practices set out in the Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation, its annexes (particularly Annex 17), and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) recommendations.

Currently, two projects in this program being implemented through: 1) National and sub-regional training, primarily by the U.S. Transportation Security Agency (TSA); and 2) scholarships to ICAO training courses.

In addition the Secretariat organizes a continuum of three aviation security courses:

- The Basic Aviation Security course enhances the skills of Aviation Security Screeners as the first line of defense against terrorism in international aviation. Four Basic Aviation Security training courses were offered nationally to Haiti, Suriname, Belize, and Trinidad and Tobago with 71 aviation security screeners trained. All courses were sponsored by the Secretariat and lead by the US Transportation Security Administration. (TSA)
- Advanced Aviation Security– addressing concepts and principles of managing aviation security operations within the unique environment of an international airport with emphasis on preventing terrorist attempts; designed for mid-level managers and supervisors who are responsible for aviation security planning, oversight and/or operations. In 2009, three Advanced Aviation Security courses were conducted in Costa Rica, Suriname, and The Bahamas training 67 mid to senior level aviation personnel.
- Crisis Management courses in Aviation Security are designed to provide mid to senior level aviation management and other government officials with the knowledge and skills needed to develop and implement sound crises management procedures. In 2009, six Crisis Management workshops were conducted nationally in Panama, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Haiti, with 124 mid to senior level aviation management personnel and other government officials trained. *The national crisis management workshop in Haiti in 2009 marked the first aviation security training program course with the Secretariat and Haiti's National Airport Authority.*

Each national training course trains approximately 20 aviation security personnel specific to the subject being taught. These courses are being held throughout the year in Central American, South American, and Caribbean member states. In 2009, 251 officials from OAS Member States received training through these courses.

ICAO offers country-specific training courses when requested and accepts aviation security personnel from OAS Member States in other ICAO courses who are then funded by Secretariat scholarships to attend the courses. The purpose of the Secretariat scholarships awarded to member states to attend ICAO courses is to complement and not duplicate the courses that the Secretariat offers in the area of Aviation Security to its Member States. The CICTE Secretariat offered a total of 16 scholarships to qualified nationals from OAS member states to attend 6 ICAO Aviation Security courses throughout the region in 2009 in courses such as Screener Certification Workshops, Instructors Development trainings, and National Civil Aviation Security Trainings.

The Secretariat continues developing its **Document Security and Fraud Prevention** programs, as the use of false identities and fraudulent travel documents remains an important modus operandi that tends to be exploited by trans-border criminal networks. The 9/11 and Bali terrorist attacks and the failed terror plot of December 25, 2009 in Detroit, Michigan, among others, highlighted the importance of travel document security, identity management and intelligence-led passenger processing for preventing and combating such crime. The Americas and Caribbean have a long history of cross-border migration and, in many instances, weaknesses in border control and identity management. For the past decade population mobility and effective border controls have become a matter of even greater concern for governments in the Caribbean and Central America, due largely to the rise of irregular migration and trans-border crime. The linkages between national (and regional) security and border controls have prompted governments to factor international organised crime and terrorism threats into strengthening their migration and identity management measures. The need for enhanced comprehensive border and identity capacity-building strategies has emerged as a priority for both individual governments and regional bodies.

Under the rubric of *border controls* and to assist OAS Member States to enhance security in the control, issuance and handling of travel and identity documents, the Secretariat has developed a Document Security and Fraud Prevention Program (DSFP), currently consisting of two sub-programs: 1) Sub-regional Workshops on Best Practices in Travel Document Security (delivered in conjunction with ICAO's MRTD Program, INTERPOL, the IOM and others); and 2) Advanced Training in the Detection of Fraudulent Travel Documents and Imposters (delivered in partnership with technical experts from the Forensic Document Laboratory (FDL) of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS/ICE)).

Following the successful pattern of its Port Security Assistance Program, the Secretariat has developed partnerships with numerous entities working in document security and fraud prevention. In this way the Secretariat is increasingly functioning as a regional "platform" for document security-related capacity-building efforts, and continuously seeks to assist donors to coordinate their training efforts in the area of document security and fraud prevention and border controls more generally.

In 2009 and early 2010 the Secretariat oversaw the development and execution of three training courses in the detection of fraudulent travel documents – for officials from El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala; Peru and Ecuador; and the Dominican Republic and Panama. Experts from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Forensic Documents Lab (FDL) led these courses

that targeted front-line migration, customs and law enforcement personnel and their supervisors. The course content included issues ranging from basic travel and identity document security features, to the detection of fraudulent documents and imposters.

The CICTE Secretariat also partnered with ICAO and others in holding the Sub-regional Best Practices Workshop for the Caribbean on Document Security and Fraud Prevention, in Grenada. Similar to preceding sub-regional workshops, numerous experts working on various aspects of travel and identity document issuance and control came together to discuss current regional and global challenges in travel document security, and best practices for addressing these.

Going forward, and to more fully comply with established mandates and to effectively address emerging threats and trends, the DSFP Program is being expanded to provide additional capacity-building assistance targeting the handling and issuance of both travel and identity documents as well as the integrity of civil registries.

The recently funded “OAS/CICTE – ICAO Capacity-building in Travel Document Security and Identity Management in the Americas” project is a 24-month technical cooperation initiative developed in conjunction with ICAO’s MRTD Program. The objective of the project is to assist participating beneficiary States to achieve compliance with the standards contained in ICAO Annex 9 and Document 9303 and best international practices on travel document issuing. In particular, it also aims at consolidating the beneficiary States’ capabilities to prevent terrorism and trans-border crime through enhanced cross-border cooperation and capacity building in achieving effective travel document issuance and identity management systems through needs assessments, project development and future capacity-building activities.

Project activities will include five sub-regional workshops and technical consultations, as well as one hemispheric workshop, to address a number of current administrative and operational deficiencies in OAS Member States’ travel document issuing, identity management and border security. These workshops and consultations will focus on: 1) the issuance of secure machine-readable travel documents (MRTDs) and electronic or “e-MRTDs”, according to ICAO standards and specifications; 2) improving and modernizing national Civil Registry systems and introducing secure birth certificates or other breeder documents; 3) addressing vulnerabilities in travel document issuance processes; and 4) enhancing the technical knowledge and security awareness of immigration and passport staff empowering them to perform their daily duties in an informed and professional manner. In addition, the project endeavours to strengthen cross-border cooperation between participating OAS Member States in consolidating their efforts in identity management and border security through outlining comprehensive regional technical cooperation initiatives for the future.

These workshops will be supplemented with two “gaps assessment and capacity-building” missions. In addition to addressing the aforementioned range of key issues, these will identify vulnerabilities and capacity gap areas at both the national and regional levels to be tackled through further capacity-building activities, and promote enhanced information-sharing between the participating States. Based on the results and findings of the workshops, and three assessment and gap analysis missions to OAS States, OAS-CICTE and ICAO will collaborate on the development of additional regional and country-specific capacity-building initiatives focused on identity management, including the travel document issuance process, and border security. This subsequent phase will be coordinated with the appropriate regional and international stakeholders, and will be presented to the international donor community and implementation partner agencies, including the

Government of Canada and appropriate agencies therein.

Legislative Assistance and Terrorism Financing

Since 2002 the CICTE Secretariat has provided technical assistance to Member States in developing and passing the necessary legislation to effectively combat terrorism, in accordance with the universal legal instruments against terrorism—especially UN Security Council Resolution 1373, the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism (IACAT), and the FATF Recommendations on Money Laundering (40) and Terrorist Financing (9). Begun initially with technical assistance from the OAS Legal Department, the Secretariat’s activities in this program are now implemented primarily through a partnership with the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the UN Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC/TPB) and with CICAD (in regard to the Financing of Terrorism sub-program).

Activities are implemented through two sub-programs. **Legislative Assistance** encompasses three sets of activities: 1) legislative technical assistance missions --consultations with senior officials of the three powers of the State and national workshops with legislation drafters; 2) specialized in-country training for prosecutors, judges and law enforcement officials; and 3) regional or sub-regional activities (e.g., training courses or Ministerial Conferences). Assistance to combat **Terrorism Financing** is provided through specialized training and workshops at the national or sub-regional level. Both sub-programs are consistently related to one another, as terrorism-financing issues are dealt with under the Legislative Assistance sub-program, and vice-versa.

The partnership with UNODC has provided significant assistance to OAS Member States in drafting and approving the legislation necessary for them to ratify or accede to and then implement and apply the UN counter-terrorism instruments (conventions and protocols (and the IACAT—24 OAS Member States are now States Party). Similarly, the partnership provides assistance on the drafting of national legislation, including laws to criminalize terrorism financing as required under UNSCR 1373. Increasingly, the partnership is providing specialized prosecutions training to assist countries in applying the legislation, including terrorism financing laws. Additionally, this effective partnership leverages the financial and personnel resources of the UN while assuring regional expertise and providing the “legitimacy” of the OAS Member States through the participation of the OAS/CICTE Secretariat. The Secretariat’s participation in the activities implemented under this program varies from co-sponsorship to training and consultations by CICTE staff and/or a CICTE-funded expert, especially on the hemisphere’s legislative instruments.

The Secretariat supplements CICAD’s money laundering work by highlighting the ideological objectives and unique aspects of Terrorism Financing as opposed to more profit-oriented criminal aspects of money laundering. The Secretariat maintains active contact with other international actors in this field such as FATF, UNODC, CFATF, GAFISUD, and the IMF/WB as well as various USG agencies. The Secretariat also partners with the Government of Spain, co-sponsoring or participating in seminars organized at Spain’s training centers in the hemisphere for judges, prosecutors, and other Latin American officials on counter terrorism legislation, terrorism financing, and related topics.

In 2009, through the technical assistance jointly provided with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and in regard to the fight against the financing of terrorism with UNODC and the Executive Secretariat of CICAD (Inter-American Drug Abuse Control

Commission), the following was achieved: 1) the ratification of different international legal instruments against terrorism by nine Member States; and 2) the adoption of two new national laws with regard to the fight against terrorism and its financing, and the study and/or tabling before Congress of different legislative projects in other Member States. In this sense, the assistance that the Secretariat and UNODC have provided to Costa Rica since 2004 should be pointed out. This technical assistance successfully resulted in the parliamentary approval, in February 2009, of a new law against terrorism and its financing, which subsequently came into effect later in the year.

In 2009, within the framework of the Legislative Assistance and Counter-Terrorism Financing Program, 279 officials were trained and 12 technical assistance and capacity building activities were organized at the national, sub-regional and regional levels.

Furthermore, under this program several key strategic alliances were strengthened in 2009. Under the partnership with the Executive Directorate of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee (UNCTED), the Secretariat was invited to participate in an official visit to Panama in January 2009, in turn, UNCTED participated in different training activities organized by the Secretariat and UNODC. Similarly, the cooperation with the Financial Action Task Force (and its regional antennas, GAFISUD and GAFIC) was strengthened in the context of the fight against terrorism financing and, with regard to the illicit smuggling of bulk cash, a strategic association with the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (DHS/ICE) was forged, resulting in the implementation of two specialized regional training workshops.

Critical Infrastructure Protection

Cyber Security

The CICTE Secretariat has worked to enhance Member States' cyber security capabilities since 2003. At the 2004 OAS General Assembly, the Member States approved the OAS Comprehensive Inter-American Strategy to Combat Threats to Cyber Security in Resolution AG/RES. 2004 (XXXIV-O/04). In addition to combating cyber crime and promoting a culture of cyber security, the strategy calls for the Member States to establish national "alert, watch, and warning" groups, known as Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs), as well as a Hemispheric network made up of these CSIRTs.

Since 2007 the Secretariat has placed high priority on enhancing coordination with the other two OAS entities responsible for cyber security, and cultivating partnerships with other national, regional and international entities engaged in cyber security. In April 2009 the Secretariat partnered with the Council of Europe (CoE) and the Government of Spain to organize a conference in Madrid, Spain with more than one hundred policy-level representatives from the OAS and CoE Member States participating. With financial support from the Government of Canada, and in conjunction with the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA) and the Government of Brazil, the Secretariat organized an OAS Hemispheric Workshop on the Development of a National Framework for Cyber Security, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in November 2009 for more than 32 Member States and more than one hundred participants.

Since February 2008 the CICTE Secretariat has collaborated with the OAS Office of Information and Technology Services (DOITS) establishing and expanding the OAS Secure Hemispheric Network of National CSIRTs and Cyber Security Authorities. In August 2009 the CICTE Secretariat and DOITS held an online Meeting of the OAS Secure Hemispheric Network of National CSIRTs and Cyber Security Authorities, in which users of the network committed themselves to promote and increase its use of the Network as a platform and tool for exchanging information regarding technical challenges, experiences, best practices, resources, and specific cyber incidents. Currently 20 countries are represented with over 70 users actively participating in the Network.

Recognizing the need for tailored assistance at the national level, in September 2009 CICTE began implementing cyber security technical assistance missions on a country-by-country basis. The first activity was in Colombia developing a plan of action for developing a government-wide national CSIRT. The second activity sent a delegation from the Paraguayan CSIRT for a technical visit and training session with Brazil's Department of Security of Information and Communications (DSIC).

Based on the work that has been carried out so far, the CICTE Secretariat has determined that training and policy enhancement activities should continue with a focus on developing capacity for those Member States which have yet to establish their national CSIRTs, enhancing the technical capacity of personnel in established CSIRTs, promoting the development of national cyber security strategies or frameworks, and consolidating international cooperation throughout the Hemisphere. The Secretariat will concentrate its efforts in four main areas: 1) Cyber security development and training; 2) Stakeholder coordination and development of a national framework; 3) National technical assistance missions, training, awareness raising, and scholarships; and 4) the hemispheric network of national CSIRTs and cyber security authorities.

Security for Major Events and the CICTE-UNICRI Partnership

Collaboration between the CICTE Secretariat and UNICRI dates back to 2006, when the two entities launched the IPO Americas program. IPO Americas is a regional initiative developed within the framework of the International Permanent Observatory on Major Events Security (IPO) of UNICRI, the program mandated by the United Nations Resolution E/2006/28 to enhance major events security worldwide. The main objective of IPO Americas--whose features were designed by UNICRI and CICTE during two Regional Seminars held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia in 2007 and 2008, and which were attended by virtually all of the countries in the Americas--is to facilitate cooperation among countries in the Western Hemisphere and to promote the sharing of best practices in major events security within other regional contexts.

As a result of the partnership between the CICTE Secretariat and UNICRI, IPO Americas led to the creation of the first Network of National Focal Points for Major Events Security (NFP), intended to promote the exchange of information, knowledge, documents and technology among countries in the region. The appropriate national authority of each country participating in IPO Americas designated its NFP, and to date the Network counts the participation of 27 different countries¹.

¹ Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts

Before the official launch of IPO Americas, both the CICTE Secretariat and UNICRI provided additional support to Caribbean States in 2006 and 2007 in preparation for the 2007 ICC Cricket World Cup. The technical assistance and capacity building initiatives provided during this time were deemed a success by the target beneficiary countries, as well as by the CICTE Member States, who decided to continue the Secretariat's efforts in this area through the creation of a permanent Tourism Security Program.

As a result of the support from Canada's Anti-Crime Capacity Building Program (ACCBP), we can engage together, through IPO Americas, in a range of extremely meaningful activities designed to significantly enhance the capacity of the region to secure major events, and protect vulnerable targets.

The official launch of the project will take place in May during a regional workshop in Vancouver, Canada, with the participation of all the NFPs, with the aim of defining, together, a range of concrete actions and activities to cooperate in view of major events of common concern.

The main objectives of our activities will be: 1) To contribute to the development of security strategies to protect major events and crime prevention; 2) To consolidate and further develop synergies between IPO Americas participating countries and promote integrated mechanisms to prevent crime in connection with major events in the Region; 3) To promote multi-sector approaches, such as public-private partnerships; and 4) To promote legacy factors from major event security in the field of crime prevention and bring long-lasting benefits in host countries and the Region as a whole.

Tourism Security

The OAS/CICTE Tourism Security Program started as a Pilot Project in 2006 in the Caribbean countries, continued developing in this sub-region and is expanding to include the rest of the Member States starting in Mexico and very soon in Central American countries.

The most recent training courses offered by the Secretariat in the Caribbean were a sub-regional course hosted by Trinidad and Tobago in March 2009 and a national course in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, in August 2009.

As mandated by CICTE Member States in March 2008 this program has expanded to Latin American countries. Because of its leadership in the tourism industry, Mexico was identified as a starting point of coordination. In 2009, after initial consultation on the tourism and security environment with the appropriate Mexican authorities the Secretariat conducted workshops with stakeholders in Acapulco, Cancun and Cozumel. The workshops allowed the Secretariat to consolidate a platform of relevant stakeholders both from the public and private sectors, to identify existing forms of cooperation between public and private entities as well as needs and priorities, to develop guidelines for execution of the program, and to refine the training objectives, topics and content. With the objective of developing the capacity of security supervisors in both the public and

private sectors, the courses were held in Acapulco, Mexico, in August 2009 and in Cancun in January 2010.

The Secretariat has actively participated in the work of the UN Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) Working Group which, under the leadership of a Secretariat partner, the UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), focuses on Public-Private Partnerships to Protect Vulnerable Targets. The Secretariat's training under the Tourism Security program places great emphasis on building confidence between the public and private sector participants of its training courses in order to foster and/or strengthen partnerships. Indeed approximately 70% of the participants come from the private sector, compared to 30% from the public sector.

The emergence of the concept of Critical Infrastructure Protection marked a turning point in the counter terrorism deliberations and programs of CICTE. Public awareness with respect to criminality in a broad sense, terrorism and security remains a problem in many countries of the Latin American and Caribbean region. Yet, criminal threats and activities against a critical infrastructure such as the tourism security industry could have a cascading or ripple effect extending far beyond the target country. Although providing security to citizens, visitors and property is a primary and basic responsibility of Governments, certain tasks and risk management may be shared with the private sector especially as "critical" infrastructure is often owned and/or operated through public/private partnerships or under private ownership in many countries of the region. Governments must play a leadership role in pulling the sectors together and coordinating their responses, understanding the interests and concerns of the respective sectors, and establishing appropriate laws and regulations to govern these relations. However, working across the public-private sector divide can be a significant challenge for some countries.

This initiative is consistent with the OAS objectives of building capacity and supporting initiatives fostering common security in the Hemisphere to protect the tourism industry and the tourists themselves is clearly an investment in sustainable development, welfare and prosperity of OAS Member States, especially within countries where the tourism sector plays an important role in the overall economy.

Strategies on Emerging Threats: Crisis Management

The Secretariat's program on strategies on emerging threats is focused on strengthening the capacity of Member States, through crisis management exercises for government officials, to prevent, mitigate, recover, respond and be resilient to terrorist acts. These exercises look for institutional capacity building and the development and strengthening of coordination, cooperation and national mechanisms and strategies to respond to crisis.

The proposed exercises are aimed at addressing the needs stated by CICTE Member States in 2007 to find effective ways to prevent and mitigate the consequences of, and be prepared to respond to, potential threats to critical infrastructure, and to ensure the security of installations and the people in them. Public health services, emergency and security services, transportation systems, airports and ports, all included within the scope of the simulation scenario may be considered are also considered as critical infrastructure.

Through this program the Secretariat also contributes to enhancing hemispheric cooperation on CBRN related matters, developing and executing training to provide technical and policy coordination assistance to Member States on how to manage a potential bioterrorist incident.

The primary objective is to assist OAS/CICTE Member States to better prepare to deal with potential terrorist incidents by engaging senior policy-makers in realistic table-top exercises designed to bring specific issues of contingency planning and threat mitigation to their attention, with the goal of helping them to prepare, or improve existing, formal terrorist contingency plans and promote interagency coordination to implement those plans. A second objective is to raise awareness of the potential for bioterrorism—identified by CICTE Member States as an emerging terrorist threat—to undermine the economy and democratic and social structure of countries in the Americas.

Realistic tabletop exercises emphasize specific issues dealing with contingency planning and consequence management, with the goal of motivating public authorities to prepare and test formal crisis management plans—either government-wide or in specific sectors such as ports, tourism or health—in which policymakers and counter-terrorism experts within Member States role-play a terrorist scenario specifically designed to help them assess their existing plans and capabilities.

Each scenario highlights a potential terrorist threat and challenges government officials to brainstorm real-time solutions to the problems with which they are confronted. An after-action discussion and evaluation provides the authorities with professional criticism and the opportunity to improve or draft national action plans to respond to potential threats.

In 2009 and early 2010, sub-regional Simulation Crisis Management Exercises “Fahrenheit 161” and “Bio-Shield” were hosted by the Governments of Mexico and of Trinidad and Tobago in Cancun on November 11-14, 2009 and in Port of Spain on March 10-12, 2010. The intent of these exercises was to examine plans, processes, and procedures for ensuring public health and safety and preserving national and regional commerce and trade after an intentional biological attack. An integrated approach combined academic plenary sessions with a discussion-based Table Top Exercise (TTX) that included breakout sessions to engage players and reinforce subject material.

The Exercise held in Mexico included representatives from Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and Dominican Republic for a total of approximately 115 participants. The Exercise held in Trinidad and Tobago included representatives from Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, The Bahamas for a total of 85 participants. In both exercises international subject matter experts delivered five academic presentations on the areas of emergency/incident management, law enforcement, public health/medical surveillance, and public information/media. Panel sessions in both plenary and breakout groups provided a valuable information exchange forum.

The objective of these exercises and its two following stages—evaluation and technical assistance—is to examine plans, processes and procedures to ensure public health and security as well as preserve domestic and international trade after a biological attack of a transnational nature.

The goal of these exercises was to provide an opportunity to examine plans, processes and procedures for ensuring public health and safety and preserving national and regional commerce and trade after an intentional biological attack. This event will be the catalyst to begin development of

formal plans for Mexico to respond to a biological incident and establishment of a national Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) response exercise program.

CICTE SECRETARIAT			
CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAM AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COURSES IN 2009			
PROGRAM	NUMBER OF EVENTS	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING	NUMBER OF TRAINEES
Aviation Security	17	17	251
Maritime and Port Security	17	20	1,542
International Cooperation and Partnerships	3	0	3
Legislative Assistance and Combating Terrorism Financing	13	31	344
Cyber Security	6	34	206
Document Security	4	20	126
Tourism Security	6	15	270
CICTE Committee Meetings	4	32	0
Crisis Management on Emerging Terrorist Threats	3	7	103
TOTAL	73	176	2845

IV. PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

Unique among OAS secretariats, some of our most experienced staff are Associate Staff Members detailed by their governments. Brazil reaffirmed its commitment to CICTE by assigning a new official in early 2010 for a second two-year period, and Uruguay has extended our Assistant Secretary and programs Coordinator for three more years up to 2013, which has a tremendous value in terms of experience and institutional memory. Bahamas seconded an official in August 2009 for a period of two years. These details represent significant in-kind contributions by OAS Member States to CICTE. Only two Secretariat positions are funded by the Regular Fund of the OAS. I would like to particularly thank the governments of Bahamas, Brazil and Uruguay for these commitments.

Fortunately, major donors have begun to recognize the need to include funding for Program Managers to implement major CICTE programs, and, as a result, two Program Manager positions are now funded by donor contributions. It is unlikely, however, that the Secretariat can maintain its current level of training programs only through the new policy of direct costs to donors. It is essential that Member States continue to detail additional staff to the Secretariat or, alternatively, provide

funding to hire technical contractors locally. The approval by the OAS General Assembly of the new Indirect Cost Recovery (ICR) policy related to administrative overhead on voluntary contributions has enabled the Secretariat to hire two administrative staff, providing greatly needed administrative stability to the Secretariat.

Although the ICR policy has provided some relief to fund administrative operations of the Secretariat, program implementation depends entirely on voluntary contributions of donors – both large and small; we appreciate all forms of support, and believe we provide excellent value for the funds provided. I wish to thank the governments of Canada, United States, Spain, Mexico, Chile and all others that have contributed with funds and make our programs possible.

Gonzalo Gallegos
Executive Secretary
Inter-American Committee against Terrorism