



November 2006

CICTE Informe 40

Counter-Terrorism Activities

Aviation Security Workshop hosted by CICTE in Belize

Chief Executive Officer in the Belize Ministry of Health, Transport, Communications and Local Government, Margaret Ventura, officially opened a national program development workshop on aviation security on November 6. The primary objective of the workshop was to provide updated training in aviation security related issued and familiarization of the national aviation security program. The five-day workshop was hosted by the Belize Department of Civil Aviation with assistance from the National Security Council Secretariat. It was funded by the Organization of American States and the Inter American Committee against Terrorism in collaboration with the United States Transportation Security Administration of the Department Homeland Security. Facilitators were Dana Glass and Mark Emerson (TSA instructors). Participants were senior officers from organizations and departments involved in aviation security such as Civil Aviation, Immigration and Police Departments, the Coast Guard, U.S. Embassy, the Belize Airports Authority, the Belize Airport Concessions Company and several air carriers and operators.

For more information: <http://www.lovefm.com/ndisplay.php?nid=5003>

NATO to Include Counter -Terrorism in Its Role

NATO countries will endorse a plan towards the end of November to widen the Alliance's role to include counter-terrorism, prevention of cyber attacks and security of natural resources, the Financial Times reported on Friday 23rd. The newspaper said it had obtained a copy of the plan, which sought to “provide a framework and political direction for NATO's continuing transformation ... for the next 10 to 15 years.” The plan said terrorism and weapons of mass destruction “are likely to be the principal threats to the alliance” over that period. The Financial Times said the plan would be signed by the leaders of the 26-nation alliance who were due to meet in Riga, Latvia on November 28-29. The plan, which would be made public towards the end of November, had already been endorsed by NATO defense ministers, it said. Setting out strategy goals, the plan said NATO should be ready to fight more than one big operation at a time, as well as an increasing number of smaller engagements. It said NATO should put a premium on “the ability to deter, disrupt, defend and protect against terrorism, and more particularly to contribute to the protection of the Alliance's populations, territory, critical

infrastructure and forces.” Other areas for the alliance to concentrate on included defending information from “cyber attacks.”

For more information: http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=topNews&storyID=2006-11-24T031332Z_01_L24780357_RTRUKOC_0_US-NATO-PLAN.xml&WTmodLoc=NewsHome-C1-topNews-4

INTERPOL Warns Legal Loopholes Threaten Bioterrorism Prevention Efforts

Interpol launched the second phase of its bioterrorism prevention program on November 6th with a specialized workshop for senior law enforcement officials to raise awareness and understanding. The three-day meeting, held in Kiev and attended by police representatives from 23 countries, addressed a range of issues including biohazards, laboratory security, bioterrorism identification, and the importance of legislation to combat the threat. Speaking at the opening ceremony, Ukraine’s Minister of the Interior Yuriy Lutsenko said the threat of bioterrorism needs to be taken seriously. “I would like to encourage every country here to support the activities of Interpol. Only through co-operation and coordinated action can we hope to combat the threat of bioterrorism, which if left unchecked could have devastating consequences.”

The first phase of Interpol’s bioterrorism prevention program identified the lack of legislative support for the law enforcement community as one of the most significant problems. In September, Interpol launched its bio-criminalization project to address the issue in three main areas:

- developing a thorough understanding of member countries’ legal frameworks in the area of bioterrorism;
- identifying legislative and information gaps;
- assisting member countries in drafting legislation.

“Effective legislation is needed to provide police with the tools to prevent and investigate bioterrorism threats,” said Interpol Secretary General Ronald K. Noble. “While many member countries have recognized the need for specific laws to combat this threat, only a few so far have drafted or implemented the necessary legislation.” The bioterrorism prevention unit at the Interpol General Secretariat in Lyon will work with the designated contact point in each Interpol National Central Bureau to ensure any such gaps are identified. “Implementing the appropriate legislation needs to be done urgently, as without this, law enforcement often has no framework or authority to act,” said Professor Barry Kellman, Legal Advisor to Interpol’s bioterrorism prevention unit.

Other initiatives introduced by Interpol include the creation of its Bioterrorism Incident Preparedness and Response Guide, which provides comprehensive, step-by-step procedures to assist law enforcement in preparing for and dealing with bioterrorism-related incidents. A Bioterrorism Prevention Resource Centre, which provides training materials, scientific documents, planning and crisis management guidelines and other vital information, has also been created and is accessible via Interpol’s website, www.interpol.int.

NATO Exercise Focuses on Anti-Terrorism Technology

Twelve NATO countries completed an exercise in western Greece on November 16th aimed at coordinating surveillance systems and preventing terrorist attacks, but officials said the

threat posed by low-tech weapons such as roadside bombs remained a major problem for Alliance forces in Afghanistan. The eight-day exercise involved special forces from six countries, systems to block the U.S. Global Positioning System signals, and a new U.S.-built miniature spy plane.

U.S. plans to Screen all who Enter and Leave the country

The United States Federal Government disclosed details on November 2nd of a border-security program to screen all people who enter and leave the United States, create a terrorism risk profile of each individual and retain that information for up to 40 years. The details, released in a notice published also on November 2nd in the Federal Register, open a new window on the government's broad and often controversial data-collection effort directed at American and foreign travelers, which was implemented after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. While long known to scrutinize air travelers, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is seeking to apply new technology to perform similar checks on people who enter or leave the country "by automobile or on foot," the notice said. The Department intends to use a program called the Automated Targeting System, originally designed to screen shipping cargo, to store and analyze the data. "We have been doing risk assessments of cargo and passengers coming into and out of the U.S.," DHS spokesman Jarrod Agen said. "We have the authority and the ability to do it for passengers coming by land and sea." In practice, he said, the government has not conducted risk assessments on travelers at land crossings for logistical reasons. "We gather, collect information that is needed to protect the borders," Agen said. "We store the information we see as pertinent to keeping Americans safe."

For more information: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/11/02/AR2006110201810.html>

Security Concerns high in Cricket World Cup Planning

Security concerns remain paramount in the minds of the Cricket World Cup planners ahead of the event in 2007. That was the word coming from Jamaica, shortly after the country joined its other Host Venues in the region, by passing legislation which will govern the event. The Sunset Legislation, which will expire after the event, has been passed by three-quarters of Host Venues. State Minister in the Ministry of National Security, Dr. Ronald Rhodd revealed that the Jamaican Cabinet would be releasing a list of countries which will need visas to enter the Caribbean island, during the event. A Cabinet submission has been prepared to address the issue of visa requirements for countries to be added to the list of those who require visas to visit Jamaica.

Earlier this year, Managing Director and CEO of ICC CWC WI 2007 Inc., Chris Dehring, expressed his satisfaction at the new security and immigration initiatives which the CARICOM Heads had agreed to during their meeting in St. Kitts and Nevis in June. Key to this agreement is the announcement that the Nine Host Venues plus Dominica, will be deemed as "one domestic space", which would remove the need for persons to be processed through immigrations and customs during the period.

For more information: <http://www.barbadosadvocate.com/NewViewNewsleft.cfm?Record=28582>

Recent events

Sponsored by CICTE

- November 6-9: Joint UNODC/CICTE technical assistance workshop on counter terrorism legislation, Mexico City.
- November 6-10: TSA National Program Development Workshop in aviation security in Belize.
- November 13-17: TSA Course on Crisis Management, Jamaica.

Other Training and Meetings

- November 6-8: Third International Conference on Cyber Crime Investigation (ICCyber2006), Brasilia, Brazil
- November 27-28: UN-LiREC regional conference on implementation of UNSCR 1540, Lima (presentation by CICTE Secretariat)
- November 27-28: Second Conference on Government Security - Brazilian Seminar on Critical Infrastructure (SecGov2006), Brasilia, Brazil (presentation by CICTE Secretariat)
- November 30 -December 1: II International Intelligence Seminar; “State, Media, and Terrorism”, Brasilia (presentation by CICTE Secretariat)

Upcoming events

- December 4-8 December: Tourism and Recreational Facilities Security training, Level 2 Trinidad & Tobago.
- December 4-6: U.S. Department of Justice Cyber Crime CCIPS Program Workshop, Brasilia, Brazil
- December 4-14: TSA Aviation Security Training, Jamaica.
- December 5-13: TSA Basic Security Training, St. Lucia.
- December 7: UNICRI conference on “Enhancing Security for Massive Events,” UN, New York City (presentation by CICTE Secretariat).
- December 10-14: CBP- Customs and Immigration assessment in Jamaica.
- December 15: CICTE VII Preparatory Meeting - Second Session, OAS, Washington D.C.
- December 15-17: CBP- Customs and Immigration assessment in St. Lucia.
- December 18-20: CBP- Customs and Immigration assessment in Grenada.

NEWS

- **Antiterrorism Law Pending to pass in Nicaragua**

The Ministry of Defense and the Nicaraguan Army supported approval by the members of the next National Assembly of an Antiterrorism Law that was introduced during the current term. Nicaragua's Defense Minister Avil Ramírez declared that the draft is pending approval by the National Assembly: “We hope that the next legislature will have the opportunity to finalize what

it has been working on.” He added that with this Antiterrorist Law it is possible to modernize the Nicaraguan Legislature as well as efforts currently underway nationally and regionally to firm up a hemispheric position on combating terrorism.

- **South Korean Envoy to lead APEC’s Anti-Terrorism team**

A South Korean envoy has been appointed to lead the anti-terrorism organization of the Asia-Pacific Economic Forum (APEC), the country’s Foreign Ministry said Thursday, November 16. “Park Sang-ki, Ambassador for Counter Terrorism at the Foreign Ministry, was named as head of the Counter Terrorism Task Force (CTTF) at the APEC’s ministerial meeting on 16 November in Hanoi, Vietnam,” the Ministry said in a press release. South Korea has become the third country to provide the leader of the organization following Indonesia and the Philippines, it added. Park is to take office next January for a two-year term. He will be in charge of implementing the group’s projects as well as promoting the organization’s cooperation with other international organizations such as the United Nations, the International Atomic Energy Agency, and the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Regional Forum. The CTTF’s major projects include the curbing of cargo carrying radioactive and other dangerous materials and the interception of terrorism-related funds.

- **Countries are not doing enough on terrorism: INTERPOL**

Governments around the world are not doing enough to prevent terrorist attacks, the head of the International Police Force (Interpol) said on Wednesday, November 15th. Ron Noble, Interpol’s Secretary General, cited a failure by security forces to check properly the passports of foreigners against its global database of stolen or fraudulent documents. “I think we would have to honestly say that we are not doing enough,” Noble told Al Jazeera television in an interview. “I am saying there is an international failure to fight terrorism at the most basic level that no rational citizen of any of our countries would accept if they were made aware of how significant the failure is and how easy it would be to correct.” Noble said Interpol had a database of more than 13 million stolen and lost passports. But apart from Switzerland, which uncovered 100 people carrying stolen documents every month, no country comprehensively checked passports against its list. He said the public would find it hard to understand why a measure which could prevent a terrorist attack and was “obvious to do, easy to do and a modest cost” was not being done. He said heads of state and senior ministers would be to blame. “After Sept. 11, if a citizen were to learn that a terrorist attack occurred by someone having entered their country with a stolen passport that was registered with Interpol but their country wasn’t regularly checking it, I say governments would fall,” he said.

For more information:

http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=worldNews&storyID=2006-11-15T161607Z_01_L15468101_RTRUKOC_0_US-SECURITY-INTERPOL.xml&WTmodLoc=IntNewsHome_C2_worldNews-1

- **UN General Assembly equates Hostage-Taking to Terrorism**

The UN General Assembly issued a resolution Friday, November 10, demanding that all hostages, wherever they happen to be, be freed immediately and without any prior conditions. The resolution endorsed by the Third Committee of the 61st General Assembly Session condemns all acts of hostage-taking and equates them to terrorism. The document was adopted at Russia's initiative. It reaffirms that a seizure of hostages, wherever it occurs and whoever conducts it, is a heinous crime aimed at stripping man of his rights and cannot be justified under any circumstance. The resolution stresses in particular that hostage-taking is a version of terrorism, which requires tough, resolute and coordinated actions on the part of the international community so as to put an end to this barbaric practice and to ensure strict compliance with international standards in the field of human rights. The UN General Assembly states, with a sense of deep concern, that in spite of all international efforts, instances of hostage-taking, especially the ones involving terrorists and armed groupings, are becoming more frequent in many parts of the world. It calls on all countries to do their best to prevent acts of hostage-taking, to fight such attacks and to punish culprits, through closer international cooperation in that area.

- **CICTE participates in Brazil's II International Seminar of Intelligence**

The Government of Brazil held its II International Seminar of Intelligence--“State, Media and Terrorism”--in Brasilia from November 30 to December 1. Participants attended from 14 countries to share their perspectives on terrorism, as well as the efficiency and limitations of counter terrorism measures, and the role of the media. CICTE Secretary Carol S. Fuller gave the opening presentation: “OAS Perspectives on Terrorism in the Hemisphere.” Romulo Dantas, CICTE Program Manager for Cyber Security, moderated a panel of experts on Counter Terrorism Measures.

- **CICTE participates in a meeting on implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540**

The UN Regional Centre on Peace and Disarmament in Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-LiREC) hosted a seminar in Lima, Peru, November 27-28, on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (dealing with the non-proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons). The seminar served as a forum for discussion to raise awareness of the need to take concrete steps to comply with states' obligations under UNSCR 1540. Various speakers provided information on assistance available to help states achieve this objective and on the role of regional and international bodies in providing assistance to countries. CICTE Program Manager Sheridan Hill spoke on the work being done by the CICTE Secretariat to assist Member States with information and capacity-building programs. He offered the Secretariat's assistance in coordinating with UN-LiREC on a conference in 2007, in accordance with a mandate from the CICTE Member States adopted at CICTE VI in March 2006.