



# Inter-American Committee against Terrorism - CICTE

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security - Organization of American States

## Newsletter No. 85 - February, 2011

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## Counter-Terrorism Activities

### Sub-regional Workshops on Cruise Ship Facility Security

9-11 February, Montego Bay, Jamaica; 14-16 February, St. George's, Grenada

The CICTE Secretariat, in collaboration with Transport Canada and the United States Coast Guard, held two back-to-back workshops on cruise ship facility security. Expert presenters from Canada Border Service Agency, Cubic Applications, Royal Caribbean Cruise Line, Transport Canada, and the U.S. Coast Guard provided both a public and private sector perspective. The workshops touched upon operational level relationship building, successes, challenges, best practices, threat detection, passenger, bags and cargo screening, commerce resumption, and other general maritime security concerns. The primary objective of these workshops was to strengthen the participants' capacity in these areas and foster communication and collaboration among the participating Member States to confront terrorism threats in the region and cooperate with each other to more effectively mitigate those threats. Participants



were from the port authority, coast guard, port facility security officers, security officials, and customs and immigration officials.

The first three day workshop, in Jamaica, was for the Northern-Western Caribbean countries: Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, Bahamas, Haiti, Belize, Dominica, and Antigua & Barbuda. The official responsible for the inauguration of the ceremony on behalf of the Jamaican Government was Mr. Orane Bailey, Policy Director, Border Security and Control Unit, Ministry of National Security. The second workshop, in Grenada, was for the Eastern-Southern Caribbean countries: Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Suriname, Guyana, Barbados, and Trinidad & Tobago. The official responsible for the inauguration of the ceremony on behalf of the Grenadian Government was Mr. Phillip Alexander, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, Ministry of National Security.

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### **CICTE Scholarships for ICAO Workshop: National Civil Aviation Security Training Program Workshop Trinidad and Tobago, February 16-24, 2011**

The CICTE Secretariat, through its Aviation Security program, issued 6 scholarships to aviation security officials from Antigua and Barbuda (1), The Bahamas (1), Haiti (2), Suriname (1), St. Vincent and the Grenadines (1) for their participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Workshop on National Civil Aviation Security Training Programs in Piarco, Trinidad and Tobago from February 16-24, 2011. The objective of this 7 day workshop was to develop the knowledge and techniques necessary for the development and implementation of a National Civil Aviation Security Program within their respective countries and according to ICAO standards and recommended practices. For more information, please contact Shevaun Culmer at [sculmer@oas.org](mailto:sculmer@oas.org).


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## **Editorial**

<sup>1</sup>A car bomb in Ciudad Juarez last June, as well as other similar incidents that occurred in Mexico in 2010 and have continued to occur in 2011<sup>2</sup>, led to an intense media debate in both Mexico and the United States about new ways in which violence occurs in Mexico. Some have labeled these new forms of violence as “narco-terrorism” or, simply, “terrorism”.

These incidents are thus far isolated and exceptional, but should not be underestimated. We must exercise extreme caution with regard to analyzing and characterizing the ways in which criminal organizations employ violence. Each incident needs to be placed in its context and we must avoid generalizations and analogies that might be misleading. While there may be connections between criminal and terrorist activities<sup>3</sup>, the differences between them need to be understood and recognized in order that appropriate policies and strategies be designed to prevent and combat of the respective criminal phenomena.



The lack of a universally accepted definition of the term "terrorism" is sometimes highlighted in the debate. However, from a strictly legal point of view, it is more appropriate to refer to “acts related to terrorism”, which are criminal regardless of who commits them, rather than “terrorism” in general.

These "acts related to terrorism", numbering more than 50, are defined in a series of international legal instruments, namely conventions and protocols, that have been developed by the international community, acting within the UN system, over approximately four decades. These conventions and protocols require the States that adopt them to criminalize most foreseeable terrorist acts. Combined with a series of Resolutions by the United Nations Security Council, these multilateral treaties form what is known as the "international legal regime against terrorism." Far from being merely a set of abstract rules and regulations, this legal framework provides countries with concrete tools to suppress acts related to terrorism. Moreover, it seeks to address the phenomenon via a preventive approach, by requiring States to address terrorist financing, tackle their recruitment process and to punish other preparatory acts, whilst promoting and facilitating international cooperation in criminal matters among Member States. These legal responses have been strengthened by the adoption by consensus of all Member States, of the "UN Global Strategy against terrorism" and its annexed action plan, based on four fundamental pillars<sup>4</sup>, in September 2006.

Today, nearly ten years after the tragic attacks that took place in the United States on September 11<sup>th</sup> of 2001 terrorism remains a real and concrete threat which affects all countries. Moreover, within Latin America and the Caribbean, the attacks carried out in Argentina in the early 1990's, the actions perpetrated by ideologically inspired groups in South America during the same period, and the need to protect key industries for the region such as tourism, persuaded Government officials responsible for security matters of the need to take a proactive approach in combating terrorism, that is, not only to prevent terrorist acts from taking place within each country's borders, but also to cooperate with one another in the prosecution and punishment of those grave crimes.

Since 2001, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, pursuant to the mandate given to it by the General Assembly, has been providing technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen their legal regimes against terrorism and to enhance the capabilities of their criminal justice systems. In order to achieve these goals, UNODC has worked together with other key actors both within<sup>5</sup> and outside the UN system, including, at the hemispheric level, the Inter-American Committee against terrorism of the OAS (CICTE/OAS). This partnership has resulted in an exemplary level of cooperation which has directly benefited both organizations' Member States.



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Even though significant progress has been made in the prevention and suppression of acts related to terrorism, the adaptability of terrorist organizations and the new risks implied, for instance, by the possibility of them acquiring weapons of mass destruction, reminds us to remain vigilant and to continue working towards a safer world for all.

**Antonio Luigi Mazzitelli, Regional Representative, and Hernán A. Longo, Terrorism Prevention Specialist, Terrorism Prevention Branch,  
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime  
Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean**

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<sup>1</sup>The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations

<sup>2</sup>In July 2010 a car bomb was detonated in Ciudad Juarez, killing four people. A month later another blast took place in Ciudad Victoria, Tamaulipas, fortunately with no human casualties. The most recent attack of this kind occurred in Hidalgo on January 23, 2011; the explosion caused the death of a police officer and injuries to other three people.

<sup>3</sup>Precisely in order to analyze and discuss the connections between terrorism related offences and other criminal acts, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is organizing a Symposium to be held in Vienna from 16 to 17 March 2011.

<sup>4</sup>The Global Strategy is available on <http://www.un.org/es/comun/docs/?symbol=A/RES/60/288>

<sup>5</sup>UNODC carries out its technical assistance work in close coordination with the Specialized Committees of the Security Council established by UN Security Council Resolutions 1267, 1373 and 1540. In addition, through its Terrorism Prevention Branch UNODC is an active member of the group of agencies within the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF). For more information on UNODC technical assistance capabilities on counterterrorism, visit <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/terrorism/index.html?ref=menuse>


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## Training Course on Fraudulent Document Detection and Fraud Prevention

The Secretariat of CICTE, in collaboration with the Government of Costa Rica, held a training course on the detection of fraudulent travel documents and imposters on February 21-25, as part of the CICTE Program on Document Security and Fraud Prevention. Experts from the Forensic Documents Laboratory (FDL) of Immigration and Customs Enforcement in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) provided the technical instruction. The primary objective of the workshop was to enhance the capacity of the participating officials to prevent and detect the use of altered or fraudulent travel and other identity documents. Hosted in San Jose, the course was attended by 31 participants from Costa Rica and El Salvador. Participants were drawn from migration, law enforcement, customs, and other related authorities responsible for border control and the examination of travel and other identity documents.



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## Workshop on the Prevention and Fight against Terrorism and its Financing – San Jose, Costa Rica

The Secretariats of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (OAS/SMS/CICTE) and of the Inter-American Commission on Drug Abuse Control (OAS/SMS/CICAD), in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and under the auspices of the Government of Costa Rica and the Drug Institute of Costa Rica (*Instituto Costarricense sobre Drogas*, ICD), organized the third “Workshop on the Prevention and Fight against Terrorism and its Financing” in San José, Costa Rica, on February 15-18, 2011.

The Workshop, a follow-up to a workshop held also in San José in March 2010, brought together experts from international organizations such as OAS/CICTE and CICAD, UNODC, GAFISUD, as well as from the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (DHS/ICE) agency of the United States, to share their experiences and exchange best practices with public prosecutors, judges, financial intelligence analysts, criminal justice and border control officials from Costa Rica. Main topics of the workshop included: challenges and opportunities in the implementation of Costa Rica’s national legislation against terrorism (2009); international cooperation tools of the regional and international levels for the prevention and fight against terrorism and its financing; special investigative techniques; evidence aspects of judicial inquiry; bulk-cash smuggling for terrorist purposes; and the role of the private sector when investigating this crimes. The Workshop took a hands-on approach and developed a two-day case study specifically designed to address the issues presented during the theoretical sessions from a practical perspective. Additionally, two field visits took place: one to a financial entity and another one to San Jose’s international airport.



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## 2011 Excellence in Screening Techniques Course, Uruguay, February 21-25<sup>th</sup>

The Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States (OAS), in conjunction with the National Directorate of Civil Aviation and Aeronautic Infrastructure (DINACIA) organized a course entitled Excellence in Screening Techniques from February 21-25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 for 25 medium to high level officials from various entities with responsibility for aviation security. The course was delivered by instructors of the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and included participation from the National Directorate of Civil Aviation and Aeronautic Infrastructure; Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries; National Directorate of Migration; Air Force and National Air Police. The objective of the course was to contribute to the development of knowledge and techniques in screening for passengers and baggage as well as the practice of existing procedures. For more information, please contact Shevaun Culmer at [sculmer@oas.org](mailto:sculmer@oas.org).

## Council of Europe News

### Council of Europe Conventions:

On 2 February 2011 Ukraine ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism ([CETS No. 198](#)).

### Council of Europe events:

- [CyberCrime@IPA](#) : *Launching Conference (Istanbul, Turkey, 17-18 February 2011)*  
The event was organised under the CyberCrime@IPA joint regional project of the European Union and the Council of Europe on cooperation against cybercrime under the Instrument of Pre-Accession. The conference resulted in the adoption of the project work plan and the finalisation of the cybercrime situation report. Senior officials expressed strong commitment towards domestic measures and regional cooperation against cybercrime.
- *Introduction of the appeal in the Russian judicial system: new Council of Europe/European Union project*  
A new project on the "Introduction of the appeal in the Russian judicial system" held its opening ceremony on 24 February 2011. This is a joint project of the European Union and the Council of Europe and will be implemented by the Council of Europe in close partnership with the State Legal Department of the Administration of the President of the Russian Federation. The project aims at contributing to the establishment of a fully fledged appeal within the system of courts of general jurisdiction in Russia.
- *Workshop on police ethics (Strasbourg, 24-25 February)*  
Representatives of law enforcement agencies from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro and Serbia attended the workshop "Make Ethics Grow!" on 24 and 25 February 2011 in Strasbourg. During the interactive sessions, the participants discussed the key principles of the European Code of Police Ethics as well as its practical application in their everyday work as well as suitable ways of its dissemination. The role of leadership in police forces with regard to ethical behaviour of officers and training methods on ethics was also discussed.
- *Case-law of the European Court of Human Rights*  
In February 2011, the European Court of Human Rights notified a number of relevant judgments related, *inter alia*, to the issues of confiscation of publications containing separatist propaganda, effective investigation into allegations of abduction and detention during a special operation, possible deportation despite the risk of inhuman and degrading treatment in the recipient country, excessive length of pre-trial detention and criminal proceedings. For more information please refer to press releases and texts of the judgments on the Court's Internet site [www.echr.coe.int](http://www.echr.coe.int)

### Forthcoming events:

- 41<sup>st</sup> meeting of the CoE Committee of Legal Advisers on Public International Law, Strasbourg, 17-18 March 2011
- 35<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of the MONEYVAL, Strasbourg, 10-15 April 2011
- Special meeting of the UN SC CTC with international, regional and subregional organisations on Prevention of Terrorism is hosted by the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 19-21 April 2011
- The 2011 conference on cooperation against cybercrime is scheduled for 29 June to 1 July 2011 in Strasbourg. Themes to include: 10th anniversary of the Budapest Convention: SWOT now?; CyberCrime strategies; Cybercrime capacity building and Monitoring progress against cybercrime

For more information on the Council of Europe activities against terrorism, please consult [www.coe.int/terrorism](http://www.coe.int/terrorism)


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## Recommended Readings

### Beyond Protection: In the Wake of the Moscow Domodedovo Airport Terrorist Attack (ARI)

**Ekaterina Stepanova**

**ARI 19/2011 – 3/2/2011**

Theme: The failure of counterintelligence to prevent and preemptively disrupt terrorist plans and networks is highlighted in this paper as the single most critical flaw highlighted by the Domodedovo attack and other recent terrorist incidents in Russia.

Summary: When considering the terrorist attack at Moscow's Domodedovo airport perpetrated on 24 January 2011 it is important to consider the broader security and policy implications. This paper describes how this latest incident in a long series of mass-casualty attacks in Russia is similar to and different from previous ones. It reviews some of the general flaws in public transport security and in the protection-centered measures undertaken in response to the blast. It notes that the fundamental socio-political causes of terrorism will persist in Russia for the foreseeable future, arguing that effective counterterrorism is about minimizing terrorist manifestations *under given conditions*. It questions the excessive focus on physical protection measures and argues for a better balance between protection and resilience strategies. For more information [click here](#).

## Recent Events

Month	Days	Event	Venue
February	9 - 11, 2011	Sub Regional Workshop on Cruise Ship Facility Security	Montego Bay, Jamaica
	14-16, 2011	Sub Regional Workshop on Cruise Ship Facility Security	St. George`s, Grenada
	15-18, 2011	National Workshop on Counter-Terrorism Financing	San Jose, Costa Rica
	16-24, 2011	Scholarships to ICAO National Aviation Security Training Program Workshop	Trinidad & Tobago
	21-22, 2011	Stakeholders meetings and workshop on Tourism Security	Los Cabos, Mexico
	21-25, 2011	Course on Detection of Fraudulent Documents and Fraud Prevention	San Jose, Costa Rica
	28-Mar 5, 2011	Preparatory Meeting - Development of a Cyber Security Technical Exercise	Buenos Aires, Argentina
	28-Mar 4, 2011	Specialized National Workshop on Immigration & Customs Controls	Kingston, Jamaica

## Upcoming Events

March	1-5, 2011	Specialized Training Course on Tourism Security	Los Cabos, Mexico
	9 - 11, 2011	Cyber Security Best Practices Workshop for Central America	Mexico City, Mexico
	14-22, 2011	Scholarships to ICAO Instructor Certification Course	Argentina
	28-31, 2011	Table Top Exercise - Security for Major Events	Mexico City, Mexico
	28-30, 2011	II Crisis Management Exercise on Port Security	Lima, Peru
April	11 - 15, 2011	CBRNE Seminar Israel-Mexico	Mexico City, Mexico
	TBC	Cyber Security Follow up Technical Assistance Mission	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
	7-15, 2011	Scholarships to ICAO Instructor Certification Course	Potomac, Maryland, USA
May	9-13, 2011 - TBC	Course on Detection of Fraudulent Documents and Fraud Prevention	Colombia
	9-13, 2011	Hemispheric Cyber Security and Cyber Crime Workshop on Regional Coordination and Information-Sharing	Miami, United States

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## News

### **FBI Official Sees 100% Likelihood of WMD Strike on U.S., February 17, 2011**

A senior FBI official said there is a 100 percent chance that the United States at some time will be attacked with a weapon of mass destruction, Newsmark reported on Monday February 14. "The notion of the probability of a WMD attack being low or high is a moot point because we know the probability is 100 percent," FBI Assistant Director for the WMD Directorate Vahid Majidi said. "There is going to be an attack using chemical, biological or radiological material." Majidi said the expected WMD attack could be carried out by an international terrorist group, a lone actor or a criminal operation. An incident would be expected to feature a weapon less devastating than a nuclear bomb due to the difficulty in preparing and transferring such as device.

"While the probability of a terrorist nuclear strike is incredibly low, a 10 kiloton device would be of enormous consequence," Majidi said. "So even with those enormously low probabilities, we still have to have a very effective and integrated approach trying to fight the possibility." Even a WMD with a small number of casualties could still cause terrible psychological effects. Majidi notes that even a single individual with bad intentions and good training and materials can engineer an attack that is catastrophic physically, economically, as well as psychologically. For more information [click here](#).

### **3M Security Systems Debuts Multilateral Border Crossing Program, January 27, 2011**

3M Security Systems Division has designed a novel border security program that helps travelers between participating nations of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) enjoy faster and hassle-free travel. With CARIPASS, the first multilateral border crossing program in the world, participating governments aim to enhance regional security and support expedited travel throughout the participating Member States. 'This one-of-a-kind program which is premised on the cooperation of multiple sovereign states will help facilitate the efficient movement of travelers, while maintaining a high level of security,' said Lynne Anne Williams, executive director of CARICOM IMPACS, in a statement.

"In working with 3M Security Systems, we were able to achieve a customized solution specific to our security needs and goals," said Williams. Company officials said that CARIPASS utilizes a number of new technologies secured and integrated by 3M in response to CARICOM's needs, allowing travelers to move quickly between 10 CARICOM nations: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago. The program, which is voluntary, hopes to expand to the rest of the CARICOM countries in the near future. For more information [click here](#).

### **Gang Dismantled Responsible for Laundering 100 Million Euros through Remittances, February 2, 2011**

The Federal Police has detained 28 people that formed a complex gang that had created a "front" company in Madrid, through which they may have laundered up to 100 million Euros generated by illicit activities.

According to information from the Chief of Police, those arrested formed part of a network of money-launderers – that has been dismantled – that specialized in sending money earned through illicit activities to various South American and Caribbean countries so as to avoid legal controls of the money.

The funds were sent with the intention of resembling immigrants' savings being sent to their home-countries, which is common in Spain. The money was hand-delivered by members of the gang to one of the various front shops. The illegal money was then sent overseas, mixed in with legitimate remittances, making detection very difficult. The packages were all sent using fraudulent documents. In the raids, police seized 500,000 Euros. For more information [click here](#).



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## Moscow Airport Attacker Identified; Family Arrested

February 9th, 2011

Russian authorities have identified the alleged perpetrator of the suicide attack on Moscow's main airport and arrested his brothers, an employee said Wednesday.

The explosion on January 24 in the Domodedovo Airport was the work of Magomed Yevloyev, 20, said an employee of the main Russian investigative agency in the province of Ingushetia, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to discuss the matter publicly.



For more information [click here](#).

## US\$5 travel fee funds CARICOM security

February 11, 2011

Travelers in CARICOM may soon pay a US\$5 fee to fund regional security, according to talks held yesterday at the Diplomatic Centre, St Ann's between the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Kamla Persad-Bissessar and Antigua and Barbuda Minister of National Security, Senator Errol Cort, who chairs CARICOM's Council for National Security and Law Enforcement (CONSLE).

A statement from the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) said Cort briefed Persad-Bissessar on several issues of regional security. He said the region's Anti Crime and Security Agenda (and maybe also the Regional Tourism Marketing Program) could benefit if a Border Security Processing Fee (BSPF) of US\$5 is imposed on all travelers traversing the region. "This can reap a return of over US\$57 million."

It is thought that this move could aim to fund any new security measures in the region to replace the patrols by the British destroyer, HMS Manchester, being pulled from the Caribbean due to UK defense cuts. In light of this, Senator Cort has urged closer ties between the United States and CARICOM. To this end, he held urgent talks in early February with an official in charge of the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI) from the US State Department to discuss partnership and security.

For more information [click here](#).

## FBI: Saudi student's bombing plans mentioned Bush's Dallas home

February 24, 2011

Khalid Ali-M Aldawsari, a 20-year-old Saudi Arabian national has been arrested by the FBI in Lubbock, Texas for allegedly plotting to carry out terrorist attacks planned to target the Dallas home of former President George W. Bush, documents show. The man was arrested late February 23, and is suspected of having worked without the aid of any organization or other individuals. Aldawsari, who came to the United States in 2008 on a student visa and is enrolled at South Plains College near Lubbock, faces a maximum sentence of life in prison if convicted of attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction.

The FBI learned of the alleged plot on February 1 when a chemical supplier in North Carolina reported that a man was attempting to purchase 5 liters concentrated phenol, which can be used to make explosives. Aldawsari had already successfully purchased other bomb ingredients in December, authorities said. In addition to the chemicals, he allegedly purchased other items including a gas mask, a Hazmat suit, a soldering iron kit, glass beakers and flasks, wiring, a stun gun, clocks and a battery tester.

David Kris, the assistant attorney general for national security, lauded investigators for the arrest, and highlighted the fact that "this case serves as another reminder of the need for continued vigilance both at home and abroad."

For more information [click here](#).





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