**INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM (CICTE)**

TWENTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION OEA/Ser.L/X.2.21

October 7 and 8, 2021 CICTE/doc.11/21

Washington, D.C. November18, 2021

Original: Spanish

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION

(Prepared by the CICTE Secretariat)

**Introduction**

The Twenty-first Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) was held virtually on October 7 and 8, 2021.

The main topic of this session was “Practical cooperation for addressing the linkages between organized crime and terrorism.” The meeting also considered the committee’s Annual Report and Work Plan for 2021-2022.

The meeting was attended by delegations from OAS member states and representatives of permanent observers. Representatives of international and regional organizations, civil society, academia, and special guests also participated.

The meeting documents are available at:

<http://www.oas.org/en/sms/cicte/sessions/regular/2021/>

**Opening ceremony**

The opening ceremony of the Twenty-first Regular Session of CICTE was held on October 7.

The ceremony was attended by Ambassador Josué Fiallo, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic, in his capacity as Chair of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, and OAS Secretary General, Mr. Luis Almagro.

Ambassador Fiallo’s and Secretary General Almagro’s remarks were distributed to delegations as informative documents [CICTE/INF.2/21](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_21/CICTE01442T03.docx) and [CICTE/INF.3/21](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_21/CICTE01443T03.docx), respectively.

**First plenary session**

The first plenary session was held on October 7. During the session, the delegations considered the following items:

1. **Adoption of the Draft Agenda and Schedule of the Twenty-first Regular Session**
   1. Draft Agenda for the Twenty-first Regular Session

The draft agenda was submitted to the consideration of the member states and, there being no comments from the floor, it was adopted without amendment. The agenda was distributed as document [CICTE/doc.3/21 rev. 1](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_21/CICTE01437E03.docx).

* 1. Draft Schedule for the Twenty-first Regular Session

The draft schedule was submitted for consideration by the member states and, there being no comments from the floor, it was adopted without amendment. The schedule was distributed as document [CICTE/doc.4/21 rev. 2.](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_21/CICTE01438E03.docx)

1. **Election of officers**

The Chair proceeded to the election of CICTE officers for the 2021-2022 term.

1. Chair of CICTE

The delegation of the United States nominated Guyana to chair CICTE for the 2021-2022 term. This nomination was seconded by the delegation of Guatemala, which suggested that the election be by acclamation. The member states elected Guyana by acclamation to serve as Chair of CICTE.

Mr. James Singh, Head of Guyana’s Anti-Narcotics Unit, accepted this appointment on behalf of his country and expressed his government’s appreciation for the confidence placed in Guyana by the member states.

Mr. Singh also thanked Ambassador Fiallo for his leadership as Chair of CICTE during the 2020-2021 term.

The Minister of Home Affairs of Guyana, Mr. Robeson Benn, made a statement on his country’s assumption of the chairmanship of CICTE. Mr. Singh chaired the following sessions.

1. Vice Chair of CICTE

The delegation of Chile nominated Mexico for the position of Vice Chair of CICTE for the 2021-2022 term. This nomination was seconded by the delegation of Canada, which proposed that the election be by acclamation. The member states elected Mexico by acclamation to serve as Vice Chair of CICTE.

The delegation of Mexico expressed its gratitude for this appointment on behalf of its country and offered its full cooperation to the chairmanship.

**Second plenary session**

The second plenary session was held on October 7. During the session, the delegations considered the following item:

1. **Topic: Practical cooperation for addressing the linkages between organized crime and terrorism**

**Regional perspectives**

The segment on regional perspectives included presentations by the following speakers:

* Mr. Rafael Guarín, Presidential Advisor for National Security, Colombia
* Mr. Edgar Rolando Benítez González, Chief Commissioner and Head of the Secretariat for the Prevention and Investigation of Terrorism, Paraguay. The presentation was distributed to the delegations as informative document [CICTE/INF.4/21.](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_21/CICTE01444T03.docx)
* Ms. Tonya T. Ayow, Director (Ag.), Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (CARICOM IMPACS). The presentation was distributed to the delegations as informative document [CICTE/INF.5/21](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_21/CICTE01445T03.docx).

**Presentation by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)**

UNICRI made a presentation on the nexus between transnational organized crime and terrorism and on the *Policy Toolkit on the Hague Good Practices on the Nexus between Transnational Organized Crime and Terrorism.*

The presentation was given by Ms. Chiara Bologna, UNICRI Associate Program Officer, and Mr. Christian Vianna de Azevedo, Undersecretary of Justice and Public Security for Intelligence and Integration of Minas Gerais, Brazil.

The presentation was distributed to the delegations as informative document [CICTE/INF.6/21.](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_21/CICTE01446T03.docx)

**Statements by member states**

The delegations of Argentina, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, and the United States addressed the main topic of the session and the importance of strengthening hemispheric cooperation. The statements of the United States, Costa Rica, and Chile were distributed as informative documents [CICTE/INF.9/21](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_21/CICTE01449T03.docx), [CICTE/INF.11/21](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_21/CICTE01451T03.docx), and [CICTE/INF.13/21](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_21/CICTE01453T03.docx), respectively, and are also available on the website with the meeting documents.

**Contributions from international and regional organizations, permanent observers, and other invited guests**

The Chair of the UN 1540 Committee and Permanent Representative of Mexico to the UN, Ambassador Juan Manuel de la Fuente, delivered a video message in which he urged the continuation of CICTE’s important work to support the implementation of resolution 1540 in the region. This segment also included statements by the delegation of the European Union and Russia. Russia’s statement was distributed as informative document [CICTE/INF.10/21](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_21/CICTE01450T03.docx) and is also available on the website with the meeting documents.

**Third plenary session**

The third plenary session was held on October 8. During the session, the delegations considered the following item:

1. **Remarks by member states on preventing and combating terrorism, including current and emerging trends, challenges, and opportunities**

The delegations of Argentina, Canada, Colombia, the United States, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, and Trinidad and Tobago commented on the importance of preventing and combating terrorism and on their efforts in this area, as well as on current and emerging trends, challenges, and opportunities.

Panama’s remarks were distributed as informative document [CICTE/INF.12/21](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_21/CICTE01452T03.docx), which is also available on the website with the meeting documents.

**Fourth plenary session**

The fourth plenary session was held on October 8. During the session, the delegations considered the following items:

1. **Report of the CICTE Secretariat on activities carried out during 2020-2021**

The Executive Secretary of CICTE, Ms. Alison August Treppel, provided the member states with a summary of the main achievements of the past year and the priorities for the coming year.

Ms. Treppel’s presentation was distributed as informative document [CICTE/INF.7/21](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_21/CICTE01447T03.docx). The Annual Report of the CICTE Secretariat was distributed as document [CICTE/doc.7/21 rev. 1](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_21/CICTE01441E03.docx).

The delegations of Ecuador and Mexico also took the floor during this segment and thanked the CICTE Secretariat for its support.

1. **Consideration and adoption of the CICTE Work Plan for 2021-2022**

The delegations considered and adopted the 2021-2022 Work Plan proposed by the CICTE Secretariat. The work plan was distributed as document [CICTE/doc.8/21 rev. 1](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_21/CICTE01439E03.docx).

1. **Presentation of the report of the Third Meeting of the Working Group on Cooperation and Confidence-Building Measures in Cyberspace**

The delegation of Chile, as Chair of the Third Meeting of the Working Group on Cooperation and Confidence-Building Measures in Cyberspace, presented the meeting report. The report was distributed as document [CICTE/GT/MFCC-23/21](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_21/CICTE01414E03.docx). The delegation of Mexico, as Chair of the Working Group, reaffirmed its commitment to continue the work of this body.

The Committee took note of the report presented by the Working Group and requested that the CICTE Secretariat continue to provide the necessary support for its work.

1. **Consideration and approval of language to be considered for the omnibus resolution for the fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly**

The Chair of CICTE presented for consideration and approval by the member states the proposed text to be sent to the Committee on Hemispheric Security for inclusion in the omnibus resolution on multidimensional security.

The delegations approved the proposed text and agreed to forward it to the Committee on Hemispheric Security for inclusion in the draft omnibus resolution to be considered by the OAS General Assembly at its next regular session. The CICTE proposal for the omnibus resolution was distributed as document [CICTE/doc.10/21 rev. 1.](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_21/CICTE01440E03.docx)

1. **Date and venue for the Twenty-second Regular Session**

The delegations agreed that the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the committee, should make the necessary arrangements to determine the date and place of the next session so it can be convened during the first half of 2022 or well before the regular session of the OAS General Assembly of that year.

1. **Other business**

The Chair asked if there were any other matters for consideration during the session. There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the fourth plenary session and closed the Twenty-first Regular Session of CICTE.

**Closing session**

The closing session of the Twenty-first Regular Session of CICTE was held on October 8.

The session was attended by Mr. James Singh, Head of Guyana’s Anti-Narcotics Unit, in his capacity as Chair of CICTE, and Mr. Arthur Weintraub, Secretary for Multidimensional Security of the OAS.

Secretary Weintraub’s remarks were distributed as informative document [CICTE/INF.8/21.](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_21/CICTE01448T03.docx)

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