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 COMMITTEE ON HEMISPHERIC SECURITY Original: English

Third Meeting of National Authorities on

Transnational Organized Crime (RANDOT III)

June 23-24, 2021

Virtual

OAS GUIDELINES FOR THE DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES
AND NATIONAL POINTS OF CONTACT ON TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

(Adopted by RANDOT III on June 24, 2021)

In 2013, through resolution AG/RES. 2809 (XLIII-O/13) “Advancing Hemispheric Security: A Multidimensional Approach”, the General Assembly convened the first meeting of national authorities on transnational organized crime to address execution of the Hemispheric Plan of Action against Transnational Organized Crime and effective cooperation among member States.

Since then, the General Assembly convened the Second Meeting of National Authorities in 2019, and has convened the Third Meeting to take place in 2021.

Furthermore, the General Assembly, in its resolution AG/RES. 2189 (XXXVI-O/06) authorized the Permanent Council to adopt the Hemispheric Plan of Action against Transnational Organized Crime, which calls on each member state designate a point of contact to coordinate and facilitate at the national level follow-up to said Hemispheric Plan of Action.

In response, the following guidelines are offered for the nomination of National Authorities and National Points of Contact on Transnational organized crime, as well as for the maintenance of the respective lists by the OAS General Secretariat.

1. National Authorities on Transnational Organized Crime

 Designated National Authorities will be the principal representatives of the Member State with the authority to make recommendations to the OAS General Assembly regarding hemispheric policy and positions in the fight against transnational organized crime (TOC). Designated National Authorities should:

* Hold a position of responsibility for the development of national policy to combat TOC.
* Participate in meetings of OAS National Authorities on Transnational Organized Crime and contribute to the joint formulation of Hemispheric policy and recommendations to the General Assembly on matters related the fight against transnational organized crime.
1. National Points of Contact on Transnational Organized Crime

 Designated National Points of Contact will be the representatives of the Member State with the responsibility to follow up on the implementation of the recommendations made by the National Authorities on Transnational Organized Crime and approved by the OAS General Assembly regarding hemispheric policy and positions in the fight against transnational organized crime (TOC). Designated National Points of Contact should:

* Hold a position of responsibility for the implementation of national policy to combat TOC and/or international coordination on matters related to the combat of TOC.
* Attend the biennial Meetings of National Points of Contact on Transnational Organized Crime to follow up on the recommendations of the National Authorities on Transnational Organized Crime.
* Be the primary liaison between the OAS Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTOC) and the Member State government.
* Help communications from the DTOC to reach the appropriate government authorities.
* Facilitate response to queries for information from other National Points of Contact and the OAS General Secretariat with regard to the implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action and the Hemispheric Strategy against Transnational Organized Crime.
* Help to coordinate/facilitate any seminars, workshops, conferences, etc., which the Member State government agrees to host on behalf of DTOC, or provide to the Secretariat contact information for the government office selected to do so.
* Coordinate/facilitate the recommendations of candidates for inclusion in DTOC-sponsored training or technical assistance programs.
* Proactively inform the DTOC of significant developments within their own countries with regard to the fight against TOC. These may include, but are not limited to, new legislation, ratification of relevant treaties, announcements of training opportunities offered by the host government, and development of “Best Practices” for inclusion in the OAS database.
1. Member States will designate their National Authority and National Point of Contact, notifying DTOC in writing. In order to maintain an accurate list of National Points of Contact and National Authorities, Member States will notify the DTOC of any changes of their designees.
2. For the purposes of the effective implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action against Transnational Organized Crime, the DTOC will maintain the lists of National Authorities and National Points of Contact, based on information provided by member states, and will make these lists accessible by the member states.

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