PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE OEA/Ser.G

 ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES CP/CSH-2208/23

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 COMMITTEE ON HEMISPHERIC SECURITY Original: English

Statutes of the RANDOT Process

(Agreed upon by the Committee on May 25, 2023)

1. PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT
2. Purpose of the Document. This Document (hereinafter, the “Document”) shall govern the process of Meetings of National Authorities on Transnational Organized Crime (RANDOT process).

The RANDOT process will perform its functions in the framework of the purposes, principles, and other pertinent provisions of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS).

II. COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE RANDOT PROCESS

1. Composition of the RANDOT process. The RANDOT process shall draw participation from the National Authorities of all member states of the OAS with responsibilities in the area of combating Transnational Organized Crime (TOC).

The RANDOT process shall comprise the following:

* 1. Meeting of National Authorities on Transnational Organized Crime (RANDOT)
	2. Subsidiary bodies

i. Meeting of National Points of Contact on Transnational Organized Crime (PCN-DOT)

ii. Meeting of the Group of Experts on Money Laundering Control (GELAVEX)

iii. Meetings of the Subsidiary Technical Working Groups.

The governments of the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) may accredit delegations to the RANDOT process. The delegations shall comprise the heads of delegation, alternate delegates, and advisers accredited by the governments.

Member states, through their permanent missions to the OAS, shall apprise the Technical Secretariat in writing of the composition of their respective delegations.

III. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF THE RANDOT

1. Functions of the RANDOT. The functions of the RANDOT process shall be as follows:
	* + 1. Act as a hemispheric forum for information and experience sharing, and for consolidating and strengthening cooperation in areas relating to combating transnational organized crime (TOC).
			2. Fulfill mandates it receives from the General Assembly of the OAS.
			3. Follow up on their recommendations and, to that end and as necessary, assign specific mandates to subsidiary technical working groups, including their timeframes.
			4. Provide the OAS member states with recommendations on cooperation in combating transnational organized crime.
			5. Promote the strengthening of coordination and cooperation between RANDOT and other OAS organs, agencies, entities, as well as other international cooperation processes in areas related to TOC.
2. Frequency, venue, and convocation. The RANDOT shall be held biannually.

The venue of each RANDOT shall be determined based on offers made by member states.

Member states may offer to host by means of a written communication addressed to the Secretary General of the OAS, who, through the Technical Secretariat, would inform all of the member states through their permanent missions to the Organization.

If no offer to host a RANDOT is forthcoming, or if for any reason the meeting is unable to be held at the appointed place, it shall be held at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the OAS.

The General Assembly or, failing that, the Permanent Council of the OAS, shall, by resolution, formally convene each RANDOT and shall set the date and venue. Once this has been done, the Chair of the RANDOT process shall convene the preparatory meetings referred to in provision 7 of this document.

The RANDOT and its preparatory meetings may be held in face-to-face, virtual, or hybrid format, which shall be stated in the resolution convening them. In principle, these meetings shall be open but may be closed if deemed appropriate by the membership.

1. Chair and Vice Chair. Once a RANDOT has been formally convened, the member state that is to host the meeting shall take up the Chair of the RANDOT process.

In the event that a RANDOT is to be held at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the OAS, the member state that is the incumbent Chair shall remain as such and shall convene the preparatory meetings referred to in provision 7 of this document.

The Chair and Vice Chair of this process shall be elected at the end of each RANDOT. The main responsibility of the Vice Chair shall be to replace the Chair in the event of any impediment thereto.

1. Functions of the Chair. The functions of the Chair are as follows:
	* + 1. Represent the RANDOT process before the organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS, as well as at meetings, acts, or ceremonies to which they are invited in that capacity.
			2. Coordinate the preparation, proceedings, and follow up of the RANDOT of the Meeting of National Points of Contact with the Technical Secretariat.
			3. Convene preparatory meetings and present to said meetings for consideration the draft agenda and documents of the RANDOT, with support provided by the Technical Secretariat.
			4. Call sessions to order, adjourn sessions, and chair the proceedings.
			5. Submit to the membership for consideration the items on the approved agenda.
			6. Rule on points of order that may be raised in the course of the proceedings.
			7. Submit for consideration any items under discussion that require a decision, in accordance with provision 9 of this document, and announce the results.
			8. Such other functions as this document may confer on the Chair and those related to serving as chair, as established in the Rules of Procedure of the Permanent Council of the Organization in keeping with the nature of his or her responsibilities.
2. Preparatory Meetings. In keeping with provision 5 herein, preparatory meetings shall be called sufficiently in advance of the date each RANDOT is to be held.

Preparatory meetings shall consider and prepare the draft agenda, draft schedule and final document of the RANDOT. To that end, the deadlines for member states, through their permanent missions to the OAS, to submit written proposals with respect to these documents will be adopted at the preparatory meetings.

For the adoption of decisions at preparatory meetings, where pertinent, provisions 8 and 9 of this Document shall apply.

1. Quorum. The presence of one third of the member states of the Organization shall constitute the quorum necessary for meetings of the RANDOT process.

The presence of an absolute majority of the representatives of the OAS member states shall constitute the quorum necessary for the agreements referred to in the following provision.

1. Agreements. Agreements arrived at by the RANDOT shall be termed “recommendations” and their nature will be as such.

As a general rule, recommendations and other documents considered at meetings shall be adopted by consensus. Should discrepancy arise on a given matter, the Chair shall interpose its good offices and take all the measures in its power to attain consensus. If no consensus is reached and the Chair considers that this stage has been exhausted, the matter may be put to a vote. In the latter case, each delegation shall be entitled to one vote and the resulting decision shall be adopted by a simple majority.

All recommendations by the RANDOT will be considered by the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CSH) and referred to the OAS General Assembly for adoption in the relevant omnibus resolution.

The implementation of any recommendations that may involve expenses for the OAS shall be subject to the consideration of those expenses by the competent bodies, in accordance with the provisions and procedures established to that end.

1. Participation of Permanent Observer States. Permanent observer states to the OAS may participate in that capacity in meetings of the RANDOT process, for which purpose they shall provide information on the composition of their respective delegation in a written communication transmitted through the Technical Secretariat.
2. Participation of OAS organs, agencies, entities, mechanisms and working groups. Any OAS organs, agencies, entities, mechanisms and working groups may participate, as observers, in meetings of the RANDOT.
3. Participation of other international agencies. The relevant provisions contained in the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly of the OAS shall apply to the participation of other international agencies in meetings of the RANDOT process.
4. Participation of civil society organizations. Civil society organizations that are duly accredited to the OAS pursuant to the “Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities” [CP/RES. 759 (1217/99)] and the “Strategies for Increasing and Strengthening Participation by Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities” [CP/RES. 840 (1361/03)], may participate, as observers, in regular open meetings of the RANDOT process, at the invitation of the member states.

IV. RANDOT SUBSIDIARY BODIES

1. National Points of Contact on Combating Transnational Organized Crime (PCN-DOT)

Member states will designate their National Point of Contact, notifying the OAS Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTOC) in writing. Member states will notify DTOC of any changes of their designees.

1. The main functions of the National Points of Contact are to:
2. Serve as the representatives of their member state with the responsibility to follow up on the implementation of the recommendations made by RANDOT process and approved by the OAS General Assembly regarding hemispheric policy and positions in the fight against transnational organized crime (TOC).
3. Serve as the primary liaison between DTOC and the member state government.
4. Facilitate response to queries for information from other National Points of Contact and the OAS General Secretariat on matters relating to the implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action and the Hemispheric Strategy against Transnational Organized Crime.
5. Proactively inform the DTOC of significant developments within their own countries regarding the fight against TOC. These may include, but are not limited to, new legislation, ratification of relevant treaties, announcements of training opportunities, and development of “Best Practices.”

The National Points of Contact shall meet biennially, alternating with the RANDOT, at the headquarters of the Organization of American States, or in the state that holds the chairmanship of the RANDOT process.

1. Group of Experts on Money Laundering Control (GELAVEX)

GELAVEX is the principal forum of the Organization of American States (OAS) to discuss and propose lines of action to prevent and counter money laundering in the Americas. GELAVEX shall hold regular meetings during the second and fourth quarters each year, pursuant to its Rules of Procedure.

17. The main objectives of GELAVEX are:

1. To discuss and propose lines of action to prevent and counteract money laundering.
2. To conduct studies and develop model rules, guidelines, best practices, and methodological tools to serve as a frame of reference for OAS member states to harmonize procedures and standards to control, investigate, and punish money laundering.
3. To promote and seek training and technical assistance project proposals and programs, as well as other hemispheric initiatives to strengthen regional efforts to combat money laundering.
4. To report periodically to the Committee on Hemispheric Security and to the RANDOT process on its activities during their regular meetings.
5. Subsidiary Technical Working Groups. The RANDOT may set up subsidiary technical working groups to follow up on its recommendations.

The RANDOT will assign specific mandates and timeframes to the subsidiary technical working groups, and should report to each meeting on the results achieved.

The mandate of each subsidiary technical working group shall expire at the end of the time allotted by the National Authorities responsible on transnational organized crime. Where no such time allotted is specified, the mandate shall expire when, in the opinion of the ministers, it has fulfilled its purpose or whenever the ministers deem it appropriate.

1. Subsidiary technical working groups shall have the following functions:
	* 1. To implement the mandates that they receive from the RANDOT in their areas of competence.
		2. To report at the RANDOT, or whenever else they might be requested to do so, on progress in implementing the mandates or functions assigned to them.
		3. Any other functions that the RANDOT assigns to them in accordance with their areas of competence.
2. Frequency, venue and convocation of meetings of subsidiary technical working groups

 Unless otherwise directed by National Authorities, subsidiary technical working groups may meet on at least one occasion within the timeframe allotted to their existence.

Meetings of subsidiary technical working groups shall be held at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the OAS, unless a member state offers to host a particular meeting.

The Chair of the subsidiary technical working group shall formally convene the meetings.

1. Chair and Vice Chair of subsidiary technical working groups

The RANDOT shall elect the chair and vice chair of the subsidiary technical working groups at the session in which the respective working group is established. The Chair and the Vice Chair shall have the functions corresponding to them, as outlined in paragraph 6 of this document.

In the event that the meeting of a subsidiary technical working group is to be held away from the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the OAS, the Chair of the group shall coordinate the preparations for the meeting with the support of the Technical Secretariat.

1. Preparations for meetings of subsidiary technical working groups.

The Secretariat shall assist the Chair in preparing a preliminary draft agenda and, in keeping with the instructions of the latter, distribute it to the other delegations at least one month in advance, stating the time limit for member states to submit any observations or proposals that they may have in relation thereto. A revised version of the draft agenda that takes into account observations or proposals received in due time shall be prepared and presented for consideration at the beginning of the meeting.

Once the observations and proposals have been received, the Chair may call a preparatory meeting should it be necessary, in the opinion of the Chair, to hold one.

In matters for which no provision is made in this chapter, subsidiary technical working groups shall adhere, as appropriate, to all provisions established in this document, as well as to the Rules of Procedure of the OAS Permanent Council.

V. RELATIONS WITH OAS ORGANS, AGENCIES, AND ENTITIES

1. The RANDOT shall consider and formulate such recommendations as it deem appropriate to consolidate and strengthen coordination, information exchange, and cooperation between itself and OAS organs, agencies, and entities, in areas of common interest, striving to avoid duplication of efforts in connection with those areas.

VI. RELATIONS WITH OTHER COOPERATION PROCESSES

1. The RANDOT shall formulate such recommendations as it deems appropriate to consolidate and strengthen coordination, information exchange, and cooperation on matters of their concern among member states and other cooperation processes.

VII. TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

1. The General Secretariat of the OAS shall provide administrative and technical secretariat services to the RANDOT process, through the Department against Transnational Organized Crime.
2. The Technical Secretariat, DTOC, shall have the following functions:
	* + 1. Provide technical secretariat services to the RANDOT process, assist it in the preparation and consideration of the respective draft recommendations, and classify, translate, distribute to the delegations, and, as appropriate, disseminate via the Internet and by any other means, the official texts of documents submitted, considered, and adopted in the framework of RANDOT.
			2. Coordinate the organizational and administrative aspects related to meetings held under the RANDOT process. When a member state offers to host any of these meetings, the Secretariat shall enter into an agreement with it, the negotiation and signing of which shall be coordinated through the state’s permanent mission to the OAS.
			3. Prepare summary reports on meetings held as part of the RANDOT process, distribute them to the delegations, and maintain the record of all the documents connected with such meetings.
			4. Act as the central coordination and contact point for transmission and receipt of documents and communications among the authorities that take part in the RANDOT process, with respect to all matters relating to their structure, responsibilities, and implementation of their respective recommendations.
			5. In keeping with the recommendations of the RANDOT, promote, organize, and coordinate programs, projects, and activities to facilitate and strengthen information exchange, training, and technical cooperation. For that purpose, in permanent communication with member states, it shall sign the relevant agreements with states, international organizations, and agencies that contribute to their financing, and with the states where they would be carried out, in accordance with the provisions in force on such matters in the framework of the OAS.
			6. Manage and maintain any information sharing networks established in connection with the RANDOT process, in coordination with the organs and subsidiary technical working groups, and in constant communication with member states, in their various components, for dissemination and exchange of information on issues of combating transnational organized crime, and supply training and technical assistance services in order to facilitate the participation of authorities in said networks, to which end, the necessary agreements would be signed with states or institutions thereof. The Secretariat shall also act as the central coordination and contact point for transmission and receipt of documents and communications among the authorities that are part of the aforesaid networks, with respect to all matters relating to their structure, maintenance, and responsibilities.
			7. Keep a register of authorities or national contact points that participate in the RANDOT.
			8. In keeping with the recommendations of the RANDOT, prepare documents or studies to support follow-up or implementation of the recommendations of the RANDOT process, to which end member states shall supply the information necessary.
			9. In keeping with the recommendations of the RANDOT, promote and take the steps necessary to institute or strengthen coordination and collaboration with secretariats of other international cooperation agencies, entities, or mechanisms in areas that concern the RANDOT process.

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* + - 1. Submit such reports as may be required by the OAS General Assembly, the Permanent Council, or its committees, in the framework of its functions as technical and administrative secretariat of the RANDOT process.
			2. In keeping with the recommendations of the RANDOT meetings, take steps to secure internal and external financial resources to fund the activities of the RANDOT process.
			3. Any other appropriate functions as technical and administrative secretariat of the RANDOT process and information networks, in order to enable them to function adequately.
1. Communication and coordination between Member States and the Technical Secretariat. Communications and coordination between the Technical Secretariat and member state authorities in connection with all matters concerning the preparation, proceedings, and follow up of the RANDOT process, as well as matters that pertain to implementation of their recommendations, information networks, and training and technical cooperation programs, projects, and activities, shall be channeled through the permanent missions to the OAS.

VIII. FINAL PROVISIONS

1. Amendment of this document. These Statutes may only be amended by the OAS General Assembly, upon its own initiative, or upon the recommendation of the OAS Permanent Council.
2. Rules of Procedure The meetings of the RANDOT process shall be governed by the provisions contained in this document, as well as by such other rules of procedure as they may approve for their own operations and, additionally, by the Rules of Procedure of the Permanent Council.
3. Distribution and publication. The Technical Secretariat shall distribute this document to all the delegations and shall publish Spanish, English, French, and Portuguese versions thereof on its website.



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