**MEETING OF CONSULTATION OF STATES PARTIES**

**TO THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST TERRORISM**

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FINAL REPORT

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(Prepared by the CICTE Secretariat)

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**Opening Session**

The Meeting of Consultation of States Party to the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism was convened by the Secretary General of the Organization of American States, Luis Almagro, on March 17, 2022 at the request of the Government of Peru. Subsequently, and in accordance with Permanent Council resolution CP/RES. 1200 (2384/22), the meeting took place in a virtual format (KUDO platform) on September 12, 2022 beginning at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).

With the majority of States Parties present,[[1]](#footnote-1) the meeting was opened by the Under-Secretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, Martha Delgado Peralta, in her capacity as Chair of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE).

Under-Secretary Delgado initiated the meeting with a moment of silence in honor of the victims of terrorism. She then went on to underscore the significance of the twentieth anniversary of the signing of the Convention, the challenges that terrorism and violent extremism -- particularly ethnically or racially motivated terrorism -- continue to pose for international peace and security, and the importance of coordination and cooperation to prevent and counter terrorism, including through the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism ([RCEPTER/INF.4/22](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_22/CICTE01538T03.docx)) .

**Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

The Under-Secretary continued the session by proposing that, in view of the formal expressions of interest made by the delegations of Peru and of the United States in acting as Chair and Vice Chair of the meeting, respectively, their elections be approved by acclamation. The motion was approved.

Ms. Ana Cecilia Gervasi Díaz, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru, accepted the nomination on behalf of the Government of Peru ([RCEPTER/INF.5/22](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_22/CICTE01539T03.docx)). The Vice Minister recognized the historical significance of the date of the meeting, considering that September 12 marks the 30th anniversary of the capture of the main terrorist leader in Peru and the beginning of the return to a peaceful life without fear; and also that September 11 marked the 21st anniversary of the attacks against the United States, an event that proved that terrorism knows no borders and that no country is immune to its impact.

She then went on to signal the importance of the first Meeting of Consultation of States Party to the Convention as an opportunity to look back on its implementation over the past two decades and also to discuss the new challenges facing the region, including violent extremism and the malicious use of information and communication technologies (ICTs). She also underscored the importance of providing continued support to the victims of terrorism. In this regard she called on international, regional, national and private sector and civil society organizations to continue working together in a coordinated fashion.

Mr. Anthony Blinken, Secretary of State of the United States, accepted the nomination of Vice Chair of the Meeting of Consultation on behalf of the United States ([RCEPTER/INF.13](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_22/CICTE01549T03.docx)). He began by noting the 21st anniversary of the 9/11 events and said those attacks had galvanized efforts in Western Hemisphere to prevent and counter terrorism, under the leadership of CICTE. He noted the Convention had provided a framework for implementing those efforts and highlighted among other successes, an increase in information sharing among border officials and other governmental entities. These efforts, he emphasized, responded to the region’s democratic values and took account human rights considerations.

Secretary Blinken further noted that despite significant progress in addressing terrorism by OAS member states, including through enactment of national legislation and implementation of international standards, terrorists were employing new ways to pursue their objectives. In particular, he noted that terrorists are seeking novel ways to cross borders; to obtain funds to finance their activities; and to disrupt supply chains and critical infrastructure, including by exploiting cyber vulnerabilities. He concluded his remarks by noting that the Convention had facilitated the ongoing cooperation among OAS member states that is essential for addressing these security threats.

**Approval of Agenda, Schedule and Rules of Procedure**

At the conclusion of the Vice-Chair’s remarks, Mr. Paul Fernando Duclos Parodi, Director General of Multilateral and Global Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, assumed leadership of the meeting on behalf of the Government of Peru. He reminded delegations that all meeting documents had been considered and agreed to during an informal meeting held on August 31, 2022, and again during a preparatory meeting held on September 7, 2022, both of which were held virtually.

With that, the Chair presented for States Parties’ consideration the agenda ([RCEPTER/doc.3 rev 4](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_22/CICTE01533E03.docx)), the schedule ([RCEPTER/doc.4/rev.5)](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_22/CICTE01534E03.docx) and the rules of procedure ([RCEPTER/doc.7 rev.2),](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_22/CICTE01535E03.docx) all of which were all approved without modification.

**Keynote Remarks**

The Chair then offered the floor to Mr. Raffi Gregorian, Deputy to the Under-Secretary General and Director of the United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism (UNOCT), who offered a keynote address. ([RCEPTER/INF.6/22](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_22/CICTE01540T03.docx))

Mr. Gregorian assessed the current global terrorist threat landscape and provided insights on how the United Nations facilitates regional and international cooperation to prevent and counter terrorism, within the framework of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

He highlighted in particular the Da’esh’s crimes in Iraq and Syria; the increasing terrorist threat in parts of Africa; the growing, transnational terrorist threat from small groups and lone actors motivated by xenophobia, racism, and other forms of intolerance; the need for increased attention to human rights and the rule of law, including respect for gender equality and the rights of the child, upholding the rights and needs of victims of terrorism; and the need to strengthen technological awareness, capabilities, and preparedness to counter terrorism in the age of transformative technologies.

He concluded by underscoring the key role of regional organizations in countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism and recalled that the UN Security Council called on regional organizations “to develop their capacity to help Member States in their efforts to tackle the threats to international peace and security posed by acts of terrorism.”

**Ministerial Dialogue**

The keynote address was followed by a high-level ministerial dialogue intended to offer a critical and constructive look at the relevance of the Convention and its implementation over the past twenty years, while also reflecting on new and emerging terrorist challenges and opportunities for cooperation. The Chair first offered the floor to the Secretary General of the OAS, Luis Almagro.

Secretary General Almagro reflected on how, twenty years after its approval, the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism has become a key instrument for global efforts to prevent and counter terrorism by promoting synergies between the United Nations system and the inter-American system and by facilitating hemispheric cooperation and information exchange at all levels. He also recognized the role of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism in this regard.

In addition, the Secretary General called on the 10 signatory states which have not yet ratified the Convention to consider doing so and invited all States Parties to define concrete steps to continue implementing the provisions of the Convention and to renew their commitment to preventing and countering all forms of terrorism in the region. ([RECEPTER/INF. 7/22](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_22/CICTE01541T03.docx)).

The Chair then opened the floor for interventions by States Parties to the Convention. The Delegations of Guyana, Canada, Trinidad and Tobago ([RCEPTER/INF. 12/22](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_22/CICTE01547T03.docx)), Argentina, Brazil ([RCEPTER/INF. 8/22](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_22/CICTE01542T03.docx)),, Panama ([RCEPTER/INF. 9/22](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_22/CICTE01543T03.docx)), Chile ([RCEPTER/INF. 11/22](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_22/CICTE01546T03.docx)), Guatemala, Mexico ([RCEPTER/INF. 14/22](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_22/CICTE01550T03.docx)), El Salvador ([RCEPTER/INF. 10/ 22),](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_22/CICTE01544T03.docx) Dominican Republic, Paraguay, Costa Rica and Colombia spoke on behalf of their respective governments. No other delegation requested the floor.

**Approval of Declaration and Recommendations**

The Chair then presented the draft Recommendations ([RCEPTER/doc.5/rev.6](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_22/CICTE01536E03.docx)) and draft Declaration ([RCEPTER/DEC. 1/22](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_22/CICTE01537E03.docx)) of the Meeting of Consultation for consideration by the States Parties, both of which were approved without modification.

Before concluding the meeting, the Chair recalled that, as set forth in the recently approved Declaration, the next Meeting of Consultation of States Parties to the Convention shall take place in 2027.

There being no other matters raised, the virtual meeting was concluded at 12:10 p.m. (EDT).

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1. The list of participants was distributed as [RCEPTER/doc.10/rev.1/22](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_22/CICTE01548T02.docx) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)