**MEETING OF CONSULTATION OF THE states parties TO the**

**INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST Terrorism**

MEETING OF CONSULTATION OF THE STATES PARTIES OEA/Ser.K/L.1

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RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATES PARTIES

TO THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST TERRORISM

(Approved during the meeting held on September 12, 2022)

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The States Parties to the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism:

RECALLING that June 3, 2022, marks the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism at the thirty-second regular session of the OAS General Assembly, held in Bridgetown, Barbados, which entered into force on July 10, 2003;

RECOGNIZING the growing threat posed by malicious cyber activities to the security of States Parties, including by terrorists or terrorist groups, and those targeted at critical infrastructure, and to highlight the importance of hemispheric cooperation and action to increase national capacities and resilience against such threats;

CONSIDERING Declaration OEA/Ser.L/X.2.12, “Strengthening Cybersecurity in the Americas,” adopted on March 7, 2012, at the Twelfth Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism;

CONSIDERING the work of the OAS Working Group on Cooperation and Confidence-Building Measures in Cyberspace to study ways to enhance the implementation of norms for responsible state behavior in cyberspace and the UN General Assembly-affirmed final reports of the UN Group of Governmental Experts on advancing responsible state behavior in cyberspace and the UNOpen-ended Working Group on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security 2019–2021, which recognizes that the malicious use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) by state and non-state actors, including terrorist groups, is a worrying trend;

RECOGNIZING the immense benefits that information and communication technologies (ICTs) bring to society, while acknowledging that the use of ICTs for violent extremist and terrorist purposes remains a significant threat to the security of each state in the region and the well-being of our people;

REITERATING the urgent need to adopt measures that reduce the impact of all forms of terrorism and violent extremism on the security of States Parties and the well-being of our citizens;

NOTING United Nations General Assembly resolution 60/147 of December 16, 2005, which recognizes the right to a remedy and reparation for victims of gross violations of international human rights law and serious violations of international humanitarian law;

RECOMMEND:

***Measures to implement the Convention***

1. To strengthen hemispheric cooperation among States Parties, to build capacity to prevent, counter, punish and eliminate all forms of terrorism and violent extremism, and continue adoption of measures to strengthen cooperation among State Parties, consistent with the Convention and applicable international law, within the framework of the rule of law and national legislation, and with respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.
2. To call upon States Parties to enhance coordination of efforts at all levels in order to strengthen a regional response to linkages between terrorism and organized crime, whether domestic or transnational, which constitute a serious challenge and a threat to hemispheric security.
3. To adopt and effectively implement measures consistent with the Convention by developing strategies, programs and action plans to fully implement it.
4. To commit to adopting measures to effectively promote law enforcement and judicial cooperation at the international level in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism.
5. To call upon States Parties to continue to conduct research and collect information to enhance knowledge of and better understand the nature and scope of the linkages that may exist between terrorism and transnational organized crime in the region.
6. To invite States Parties to intensify and accelerate the timely exchange of relevant operational information and financial intelligence regarding actions, movements, and patterns of movements of terrorists or terrorist networks, including foreign terrorist fighters, consistent with domestic and international law.
7. To promote information sharing with a view to dismantling support networks for violent extremist groups and those who help finance terrorist organizations.
8. To encourage States Parties to institute and further strengthen the legal and regulatory national measures to prevent, counter and eradicate the financing of terrorism, and deepen their cooperation with other States Parties, as well as with specialized and standard-setting international and regional entities, in particular the Financial Action Task Force, the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force, the Financial Action Task Force of Latin America, the Egmont Group, and the OAS GELAVEX/Money Laundering Experts’ Group.
9. To encourage States Parties, consistent with its domestic law, to continue to take measures to seize and confiscate funds and other assets used to facilitate terrorism and to combat the sources of terrorism financing, including those derived from licit and illicit means, and money laundering.
10. To urge States Parties to share their experiences regarding the seizure and confiscation of funds and other assets used to finance terrorism in order to promote the exchange of good practices in this area.
11. To continue efforts promoting cooperation and the exchange of information, consistent with national law, in order to improve border and customs control measures to detect and prevent the international movement of terrorists and the trafficking in arms or other materials intended to support terrorist and violent extremist activities.
12. To fully utilize the Inter-American Counter Terrorism Network to facilitate operational information sharing in real time to prevent and counter terrorism in the region.
13. To reaffirm articles 12, 13 and 14 of the Convention, relating to denial of refugee status, denial of asylum and nondiscrimination.

***Fight against terrorism and violent extremism online***

1. To recognize the promotion of cybersecurity as a measure to be taken into account in the fight against terrorism and terrorist groups’ new methods of propaganda, recruitment, training, financing, coordination, planning, and execution of their attacks.
2. To increase efforts to build capacity, forge resilience and increase cybersecurity preparedness, as well as to strengthen the national counterterrorism laws and investigation and prosecutorial systems of States Parties in order to prevent and mitigate the impact of any terrorist incident, including through the establishment of public-private partnerships, where appropriate.
3. To continue to support and participate in initiatives of the Organization of American States related to cybersecurity capacity building, workforce development, and public-awareness campaigns to strengthen the security and resilience of the regional cybersecurity landscape, including against cyber incidents carried out by terrorists.
4. To protect all critical infrastructure—including information infrastructure—that may be breached by malicious cyber activities and cyber incidents carried out by terrorists for their own purposes and to the detriment of essential services for the civilian population.
5. To encourage regional actions in response to significant malicious cyber activities, including by terrorists or terrorist groups, that threaten the national security of States Parties and our common vision of an open, accessible, interoperable, reliable, and secure Internet.
6. To encourage States Parties to launch public-awareness campaigns, including civil society and the business sector, on Internet use, digital rights, and access to information to promote good practices to prevent terrorism and violent extremism throughout the Hemisphere.
7. To identify and confront Internet activities that serve to facilitate propaganda, recruitment, training, financing, coordination, planning, and execution of their terrorist attacks.

***Preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism***

1. To effectively use all the counterterrorism tools available to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism, including appropriate sanctions, consistent with national and international legal frameworks.
2. To promote information sharing among States Parties on border security measures from a comprehensive approach.
3. To encourage counter-messaging and build long-term resilience to terrorist and violent extremist narratives in vulnerable communities and the public by advancing critical thinking skills, digital literacy, and public safety awareness through education at all levels, with the participation of women and youth, including through partnerships with civil society, academia, and the private sector.
4. To foster alliances to increase the capacity of States Parties to detect and prevent terrorist and violent extremist attacks, including on crowded spaces, major events, and other vulnerable targets.
5. To increase States Parties’ information, tools and technical capabilities to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism, both online and offline.
6. To encourage private sector technology companies and States Parties to develop more innovative and collaborative approaches to identify and address all forms of violent extremist and terrorist content online, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression.

***Support for victims of terrorism***

1. To underscore the need to continue supporting victims of terrorism and their family members, expressing solidarity with them, as well as the importance of providing appropriate assistance, consistent with States Parties’ domestic legal frameworks.
2. To emphasize the importance of preserving historical memory through educational and commemorative initiatives that sensitize and facilitate understanding of terrorism and violent extremism in new generations, in order to prevent future acts of terrorism.
3. To promote the adoption of appropriate measures to protect the safety and physical and psychological well-being of victims of terrorism and witnesses who provide information related to terrorist activities.
4. To encourage States Parties to incorporate mechanisms to ensure that victims of terrorism are treated with compassion and respect for their dignity and have their right to access to fully respected justice and redress mechanisms.
5. To promote greater recognition of the critical role that victims and communities play in countering terrorist and violent extremist narratives.
6. To urge States Parties to continue making the necessary efforts to alleviate the suffering, anxiety and uncertainty experienced by family members of disappeared persons as a result of terrorism, to respond to their diverse needs, satisfy their right to the truth and justice, and, as appropriate, reparation for harm caused.

***Voluntary contributions and follow-up***

1. To invite States Parties to consider providing financial resources to CICTE on a voluntary basis to provide the necessary technical assistance to the States Parties and allow for effective implementation of the Convention.
2. To establish and encourage States Parties, international, regional and subregional organizations, the international community, and the private sector to consider making voluntary contributions to the voluntary trust fund dedicated to improving the operations and functioning of Convention.
3. To invite States Parties to consider reporting on progress of these recommendations at the CICTE plenary each year until the next Meeting of Consultation of States Parties.

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