

AGENDA

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON JURIDICAL AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS
ON ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION
[AG/RES. 2418 (XXXVIII-O/08)]

(Presented by the Chair)

Date: 15 December 2008
Washington, D.C.

General Assembly Resolution AG/RES. 2418 (XXXVIII-O/08) "Access to Public Information: Strengthening Democracy" instructs the Permanent Council, within the framework of its Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs, to convene this special session on Access to Public Information during the second half of 2008, with the participation of the member states, the General Secretariat, and representatives of civil society, to examine the recommendations on Access to Public Information contained in the Study on Access to Information organized by the Department of International Law (document CP/CAJP-2599/08) and presented to the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs on April 24. In addition, this session will provide input for the Department of International Law on the preparation of a Study with Recommendations on Protecting Personal Data, pursuant to resolution 2418.

The special session will be held on December 15, 2008, within the framework of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs of the Permanent Council, in accordance with the following agenda items:

I. Opening Session:

- 9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.
 - Ambassador María del Luján Flores, Chair of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs
Permanent Representative of Uruguay to the OAS

II. Human Rights Aspects of Access to Information

- 9:45 – 10:15 a.m.
 - Catalina Botero, Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
 - Dialogue with the States (10:15 – 10:30 a.m.)

III. Democracy and Governance Aspects of Access to Information

- 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.
 - Pablo Zuñiga, Director, OAS Department for State Modernization and Governance
 - Jacqueline Peschard Mariscal, Commissioner, Mexican Federal Institute on Access to Information
 - Dialogue with the States (11:00 – 11:15 a.m.)

IV. Juridical Aspects of Access to Information

- 11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
 - John Wilson, Senior Legal Advisor, Department of International Law
 - Dialogue with the States (11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

V. Recommendations on Data Protection:

- 12:00 p.m. – 12:20 p.m.
 - Considerations for a Study with Recommendations
 - Hugh Stevenson, Deputy Director for International Consumer Protection, U.S. Federal Trade Commission
 - Dialogue with the States (12:20 – 12:30 p.m.)

VI. Conclusions and Recommendations:

- 12:30 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.
 - Conclusions and Recommendations on next steps to take regarding Access to Public Information within the inter-American system
 - Laura Neuman, Associate Director Americas Program – Project Manager, Access to Information, Carter Center*
 - Dialogue with the States (12:45 – 1:00 p.m.)

* Por Confirmar - Video Conferencia