



OEA | MESICIC

MECHANISM FOR FOLLOW-UP ON
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN
CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION
Forty-Third Meeting of the Committee of Experts
March 10-13, 2025
Washington, D.C.

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**MINUTE OF THE FORTY-THIRD MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS
OF THE MECHANISM FOR FOLLOW-UP ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-
AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION**

I. BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the Schedule for the Sixth Round of Review agreed upon by the Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC), the 43rd Meeting of the Committee was held from March 10 to 13, 2025.

This in-person meeting was held at the OAS headquarters in Washington DC, United States.

This meeting was attended by the following representatives of the States Parties: Deborah Hafford, Yanina Ariotti y Alejo Perie (**Argentina**); Kenrah Newry (**Bahamas**); Julia Ríos, Jorge Alejandro Quiroga y Maysa Ureña (**Bolivia**); Ambassador Beroni Belli, Eveline Martins Brito, Luiz Henrique Pandolfi Miranda, Rafael Ramos da Luz, Eveline Martins Brito, Luiz Henrique Pandolfi Miranda, Rafael Ramos da Luz, Gerson D'Agord Schaan, Ricardo Andrade Saadi, Natalia Camba Martins, Rodrigo Moraes Abreu y Vinicius Marcelus R. Nunes (**Brazil**); Maude Kostine (**Canada**); Jorge Norambuena Carrillo, Manuel Sáez Flores, Macarena Martinez, Maria Pia Morales y Catalina Vera (**Chile**); Roberto Andrés Idárraga Franco, Embajador Luis Ernesto Vargas Silva, Iveth Lorena Solano Quintero, Macarena Martinez, Andrea Alarcón y Diana Marcela Prado Sandoval Primera (**Colombia**); Lissy Dorado y Alejandra Solano, Samy Araya (**Corta Rica**); Berenice Barinas, Madiusca Batista (**Dominican Republic**); Alisva Beatriz Coronel Vázquez y Esteban Vivero (**Ecuador**); Ambassador Wendy Acevedo Castillo, Carla Rivera Sánchez (**El Salvador**); Rae Thomas (**Grenada**); Álvaro Montenegro (**Guatemala**); Joann Bond (**Guyana**); Joseph Hans Jaques, Gabriel Winnie Hugot y Dimanche Delva (**Haiti**); Melissa Paz y Brandon Yassir Castillo (**Honduras**); Mónica Montano Bermúdez, Alejandro Alcalde Méndez (**Mexico**); Carlos Ibarra (**Panama**); Clara Aquino, Luis Jeronimo Sann Irun (**Paraguay**); José Roberto Rodríguez Bustamante (**Peru**); Abdullah Skerritt, Adelcia Connor (**Saint Kitts and Nevis**); Rosilda Jeroe,

Reiolie Lietaram (**Suriname**); Ian Rampersad, Joshua Singh (**Trinidad and Tobago**); Nico Montelongo y Lucero Gómez (**United States**); Ana Ferraris y Marcello Posada (**Uruguay**).

II. PROCEEDINGS

During the morning of the first day, the meeting was chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Committee and Principal Expert from Trinidad and Tobago, Ian Rampersad.

To commence the meeting, the Director of the Department of Legal Cooperation of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs of the OAS, Jorge García González, delivered a welcoming address.

In the development of the first item on the agenda and the calendar of this meeting (Annexes I and II), the Technical Secretariat presented a report addressing the topics included in the meeting agenda.

Regarding the second item on the agenda, the Technical Secretariat informed the Committee of Experts that, prior to the start of the meeting, it had received and distributed to all delegations a verbal note from the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic (SG/MESICIC/doc.675/25), presenting the candidacy of the Principal Expert of said State, Berenice Barinas Ubiñas, for re-election as President of the Committee of Experts. Likewise, the Technical Secretariat reported the nomination of the Principal Expert from Trinidad and Tobago, Ian Rampersad, for re-election as Vice-President of the Committee. The Chair also established a deadline until the end of Tuesday, March 11, for the submission of new candidacies for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair.

In the development of agenda item 3, the Committee considered, in order, the draft preliminary country reports for Suriname, Brazil, and Belize.

For the consideration of the draft preliminary country reports, the procedure set forth in Article 25 of the Rules of Procedure was followed. Thus, in each case, the analysis subgroup presented the content and scope of its draft preliminary report; subsequently, the analyzed State Party made an intervention regarding the draft report; and then the Committee considered the respective draft report, presenting the observations and comments of the experts, following the order of chapters and sections.

Regarding each of the draft reports considered, the Committee agreed on modifications and assigned tasks for making the respective changes and presenting the revised versions to the plenary for final consideration and approval of the corresponding reports.

Then, in accordance with agenda item 4 and pursuant to Article 31 of the Rules of Procedure, the representatives of the States Parties verbally reported on the measures their respective States had adopted between the Forty-First Meeting and the present one, in relation to the recommendations

made by the Committee, as well as other advances related to the implementation of the Convention during that period. The electronic copies of these reports, received by the Technical Secretariat and drafted in the standard format approved by the Committee, will be published on the Mechanism's website.

Regarding agenda item 5, the "Special Session: Open Data to Prevent and Combat Corruption" was held. This special session had two parts. During the first part, representatives of the Department for Effective Public Management of the OAS General Secretariat, the World Bank, the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Group of States against Corruption of the Council of Europe, and Transparency International shared developments in open data as a tool to prevent and combat corruption. Electronic copies of these presentations, submitted to the MESICIC Technical Secretariat, will be published on the [Mechanism's website](#).

During the second part of this special session, representatives of the States that had previously expressed their intention to present their developments in this field did so. These States were: Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay. The electronic versions of the PowerPoint presentations used during the special session will be published on the [Mechanism's website](#) to ensure their continuous dissemination.

Subsequently, in compliance with agenda item 6, presentations on best practices were made by representatives of the States that had previously submitted to the MESICIC Technical Secretariat the standard form with the relevant information, in accordance with the methodology for presenting best practices adopted by the Committee. The States that shared best practices were: Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Panama, the Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay.

The electronic versions of the forms previously submitted to the MESICIC Technical Secretariat, along with their annexes and the PowerPoint presentations used, will be published on the [Mechanism's website](#), in accordance with the methodology adopted by the Committee.

Thereafter, in the development of agenda item 7, the MESICIC Technical Secretariat presented a report addressing, among other matters, the impact on the financing of the Mechanism due to decisions made by its main donor, as well as an invitation to other States Parties of MESICIC to consider making voluntary contributions to ensure the sustainability of the financing of this important Mechanism. In this regard, the Technical Secretariat offered to send a communication to all MESICIC States Parties through their Permanent Missions and expressed its availability for any information or coordination required by the States in this matter.

Next, in the development of agenda item 8.1, the revised version of the "Proposal of Indicators to Prevent, Detect, and Combat Impunity Related to Outcomes on the Protection of Whistleblowers and Witnesses of Acts of Corruption in Criminal Matters" was discussed. This version incorporated all agreed changes from the Forty-Second Meeting of the Committee, where all



pending matters were considered and resolved. Considering the above, the Committee, after making final changes to the text, adopted this proposal of indicators. The approved text is included as an annex to this record and will be disseminated on the [Mechanism's website](#).

Subsequently, under agenda item 8.2 and in accordance with what was agreed upon in the previous Committee meeting, the Technical Secretariat presented an initial proposal of indicators concerning matters covered by the methodology adopted by the Committee for the third phase of the indicator development process. These indicators aim to assist States in determining factors affecting the outcomes of the investigation, prosecution, trial, and criminal sanctioning of acts of corruption.

In this regard, it was agreed that, following the established methodology for considering proposals related to indicator matters addressed in the first two phases, the experts from the States will submit written comments and proposals for modifications or specific additions regarding the proposed indicators no later than May 30, 2025, so that the Technical Secretariat can incorporate them into a revised version to be prepared and distributed in advance of the next Committee meeting for its consideration.

Subsequently, the Committee conducted the final review of the draft country reports for Suriname, Brazil, and Belize, which, after considerations made regarding each, were approved by consensus. The approved texts of these country reports are included as annexes to this record (Annexes III, IV and V).

Next, the Committee addressed agenda item 9. Pursuant to Article 4 of the Rules of Procedure, the Committee elected by consensus and acclamation the Principal Expert of the Dominican Republic, Berenice Barinas Ubiñas, as Chair, and the Principal Expert of Trinidad and Tobago, Ian Rampersad, as Vice-Chair.

Regarding agenda item 9, "Other Matters":

1. The Technical Secretariat informed that, through the Lead Expert of Haiti, it had received a request for the postponement of the analysis of this State. Considering this request, the Committee decided that Haiti would be analyzed as part of the last group of States in this Sixth Round. In this regard, the Committee authorized the Technical Secretariat to make the necessary modifications to both the sequence and the schedule adopted for the Sixth Round in order to reflect this decision, as well as to prepare and disseminate a revised version of both documents.
2. The expert from Costa Rica proposed that the presentations made during the sessions on matters of collective interest and best practices be shared; that best practice presentations continue to be conducted via video; that the guide for new experts be updated and made



more accessible; that the list of experts be shared; and that options be considered to make future rounds shorter.

3. The expert from Ecuador suggested that future sessions featuring best practices include a space for questions about them.
4. The expert from Argentina proposed that, regarding presentations in the sessions on matters of collective interest and best practices, experts consider the scope of what they intend to present, as well as the possibility of limiting the number of presentations in such sessions and expert training, subject to resource availability for this purpose.
5. The expert from Belize took the floor to express gratitude for the consideration of the report related to his country in this Committee meeting.

Before concluding the meeting, the Technical Secretariat read this record, which was approved in full by the Committee by consensus, along with all its annexes, which form an integral part of it.

Washington, D.C., March 13, 2025.

ANNEXES	
No.	Document
I	Meeting agenda (English)
II	Meeting calendar (English)
III	Suriname Report (English)
IV	Belize Report (English)
V	Brazil Report (English) – (Portuguese)



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VI	Proposal of Indicators to Prevent, Detect, and Reduce Impunity Related to the Outcomes on the Protection of Whistleblowers and Witnesses of Corruption in Criminal Matters (English)
VII	Proposal of indicators to determine the factors influencing the investigation, prosecution, adjudication and sentencing of acts of corruption. (English)