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SIXTH REGULAR SESSION
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**RAPPORTEUR'S REPORT
ON THE SIXTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM**

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In my capacity as Rapporteur of the Sixth Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, I hereby submit this report to the plenary on the topics considered during the Sixth Regular Session of CICTE.

I. BACKGROUND

At its Fifth Regular Session, held in Trinidad and Tobago in February 2005, CICTE accepted Colombia's offer to host the Sixth Regular Session. Subsequently, during the preparatory meetings for that regular session, which were chaired by Trinidad and Tobago, the dates of March 22 to 24, 2006, were set for the meeting, and the Draft Agenda and Draft Calendar were approved.

II. PROCEEDINGS

OPENING CEREMONY

In accordance with the Draft Calendar,^{1/} the opening ceremony of the Sixth Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) began at 3:00 p.m. in the Salón Rojo 1 of the Tequendama Hotel in Bogotá, Colombia,

The first speaker, Ms. Carolina Barco, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, welcomed the delegates to Bogotá. She affirmed that no democratic state could remain indifferent to the clear threat that terrorism posed to institutions, democratic freedoms, and human rights. She acknowledged that the challenge of terrorism should encourage member states to strengthen joint multilateral cooperation and that CICTE was called to contribute to that end.^{2/}

Senator The Honorable Martin Joseph, Chair of CICTE, then gave an account of his one-year term as chair, which he described "as both challenging and rewarding," because of what had been accomplished during that time. He highlighted CICTE's commitment to urge the member states to conduct their antiterrorist practices and policies in a context of respect for human rights. He said that, at the national level, CICTE encouraged the OAS member states to implement the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism through the adoption of appropriate national legislation. He concluded his remarks by calling on member states to increase their direct support for CICTE, which could take the form of financial contributions or budgetary support for the personnel of the CICTE Secretariat, or both.^{3/}

The next speaker was His Excellency Dr. Álvaro Uribe Vélez, President of the Republic of Colombia, who began by saying that the holding of the Sixth Regular Session of CICTE in Bogotá was not only an expression of solidarity with Colombia in its fight against terrorism, but also "one

1. CICTE/doc.5/06.

2. This speech has been published as document CICTE/INF.2/06.

3. This speech has been published as document CICTE/INF.3/06.

more sign that the region wants to rid itself once and for all of this terrible scourge.” He also emphasized that terrorism “prevents, curtails, and foils social politics.” In this respect, he noted that “we cannot confuse the social problem that terrorism helped to create with the conflict that exists with terrorist groups.” Referring to the way in which that scourge has been fought, he stated that achievements have been made through “a proposal and an initiative for Democratic Security.” President Uribe underscored that terrorist groups were financed by drug trafficking, and emphasized that “it is impossible to draw a line between terrorism and illicit drugs.” Finally, he noted that “security is a source of resources; it guarantees international investment,” which makes it possible to achieve the economic and social development that is the hope of our peoples.^{4/}

Both Minister of Foreign Affairs Barco and President Uribe condemned the bombing in La Paz, Bolivia, on Wednesday, March 22, expressed their solidarity with the Government and people of that nation, and offered their support and assistance. These expressions of support were acknowledged by the delegate of Bolivia.

FIRST PLENARY SESSION

The First Plenary Session was called to order by the Chair immediately after the opening session. The following topics were considered:

1. Adoption of the Draft Agenda

The Draft Agenda (document CICTE/doc.4/06) was submitted to the plenary for consideration.

Based on the results of consultations conducted by the CICTE Chair during the preparatory process for the Sixth Regular Session, the Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago proposed that the topic for the Dialogue of Heads of Delegation be “Hemispheric Cooperation for Comprehensive Action to Fight Terrorism.”

Likewise, the Delegation of Colombia proposed that, in accordance with the agreement reached in the informal negotiations during the preparatory process for the Sixth Regular Session, the title of the Draft Declaration of San Carlos should be: “Draft Declaration of San Carlos on Hemispheric Cooperation for Comprehensive Action to Fight Terrorism.”

The Delegation of Venezuela reported that it was engaged in consultations with the Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago on the topic “Inter-American Program for the Security of Tourism and Recreational Facilities.”

The Agenda was adopted, with the amendments proposed by Colombia and Trinidad and Tobago (document CICTE/doc.4/06 rev. 1).

4. This speech has been published as document CICTE/INF.4/06.

2. Adoption of the Draft Calendar

The Draft Calendar was submitted to the plenary for consideration (document CICTE/doc.5/06).

The Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago asked that the topic for the Dialogue of Heads of Delegation that was agreed to for the Agenda be included in the Calendar. That Delegation also suggested that the Report on the Activities of the Secretariat be presented during the First Plenary Session.

Similarly, the Delegation of Colombia reiterated its amendment to the title of the Draft Declaration of San Carlos. In addition, that Delegation proposed that a working group be set up to consider the Draft Declaration of San Carlos on Hemispheric Cooperation for Comprehensive Action to Fight Terrorism. It also reported that the topic of the presentation by the Director of the Administrative Department of Security of Colombia, scheduled for the Fourth Plenary Session, would be "Terrorism and Transnational Crime: Their Links and How to Respond."

The Calendar was adopted, with the amendments proposed by Colombia and Trinidad and Tobago (document CICTE/doc.5/06 rev. 1).

3. Suspension of Article 18 of the CICTE Rules of Procedure

The Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago suggested that Article 18 of the CICTE Rules of Procedure, which refers to the Order of Precedence, be suspended, in accordance with the agreement reached at the Fifth Regular Session. The Delegation recalled that it had been deemed advisable to suspend that procedural provision in order to achieve a more fluid exchange during the Dialogue of Heads of Delegation, and that the same decision had been adopted for the same reason at the Fourth and the Fifth Regular Sessions of CICTE.

Accordingly, it was decided to suspend Article 18 of the CICTE Rules of Procedure for the Sixth Regular Session (document CICTE/doc.10/06 rev. 1).

4. Report by the Chair of CICTE 2005-2006^{5/}

In his presentation, Senator The Honorable Martin Joseph, Chair of CICTE for 2005-2006, recalled the strategic priorities of his chairmanship and evaluated the progress made toward achieving them. These priorities were the following: the implementation of a pilot project in five countries of the Caribbean subregion to establish an Inter-American Program for the Security of Tourism and Recreational Facilities; the organization of a conference on intelligence, which was held in July 2005; the reformatting of the structure of the Dialogue of Heads of Delegation, with more open and informal participation by the member states recommended, in order to generate a free-flowing exchange of views; increased cooperation on cross-border management, including projects with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and INTERPOL; cybersecurity capacity-building among the member states, with the future establishment of a Network of National Cyber Incident

5. Report by the Chair published as CICTE/doc.11/06.

Response Centers; promotion of the work of CICTE in order to increase awareness of the Committee and its policies and measures, and improved access to sources of technical and financial assistance. In that connection, he noted that valuable additional support had been received for execution of the Committee's Work Plan^{6/} from the Governments of Colombia and Brazil.

5. Election of officers

i. Chair of CICTE^{7/}

The Delegation of Argentina nominated Colombia to serve as Chair of CICTE for 2006-2007. The Delegation of the United States seconded the nomination and proposed that the election be by acclamation. Colombia was elected Chair of CICTE for said period, by acclamation.

Speaking on behalf of his government, Ambassador Alejandro Borda Rojas, Vice-Minister of Multilateral Affairs of Colombia, accepted the position of Chair of CICTE.

ii. Vice Chair of CICTE^{8/}

The Delegation of Brazil nominated Panama to serve as Vice-Chair of CICTE for 2006-2007. The nomination was seconded by the Delegation of Canada, which also proposed that the election be by acclamation. Panama was elected Vice-Chair of CICTE for said period, by acclamation.

Taking the floor on behalf of his government, Ambassador Arístides Royo, Permanent Representative of Panama to the OAS, accepted the position of Vice-Chair of CICTE.

iii. Rapporteur of the Sixth Regular Session of CICTE

The Delegation of Guatemala nominated the undersigned as Rapporteur of the Sixth Regular Session of CICTE. The Delegation of the Dominican Republic seconded this nomination and proposed that the election be by acclamation. The Rapporteur was elected by acclamation.

6. Remarks of the Chair of CICTE 2006-2007

In his first remarks as Chair of the Committee,^{9/} Ambassador Alejandro Borda Rojas, Vice-Minister of Multilateral Affairs of Colombia, welcomed the Delegations to Bogotá, and thanked Trinidad and Tobago for its commendable work as Chair of CICTE. He said that, as Chair, Colombia would strive to promote an increase in assistance programs. Among the priorities set for his term of office, Ambassador Borda mentioned improvements in the quality and security aspects of travel documents; assistance for the creation and operation of cybersecurity incident response teams in

6. Work Plan of CICTE 2005-2006, document CICTE/doc.5/05 rev. 1.

7. Statute of CICTE, Chapter IV, Article 7: "CICTE shall have a chair and a vice chair, elected from among the member states. Their mandates shall last one year from the time they assume their functions until the date their elected replacements take up their duties."

8. *Ibid.*

9. Statute of CICTE, Chapter IV, Article 10: "The member state elected chair or vice chair shall appoint an official to serve in this capacity... ."

those countries where they do not yet exist, and strengthening of programs related to terrorist financing. He also called for greater cooperation between CICTE and OAS bodies, in order to avoid duplication of efforts.

7. Establishment of the Working Group on the Draft Declaration of San Carlos on Hemispheric Cooperation for Comprehensive Action to Fight Terrorism

The Delegation of Mexico nominated Ms. María Clara Isaza Merchán, Minister Plenipotentiary and Alternate Representative of Colombia to the OAS, for the position of Chair of the Working Group. The Delegation of Chile seconded the nomination and proposed that the election be by acclamation. Mrs. Isaza Merchán was elected Chair of the Working Group, by acclamation.

The Delegation of Panama nominated Mr. Luis Fernando Carranza Cifuentes, Assistant Director of Multilateral Policy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, for the position of Vice-Chair of the Working Group. The Delegation of Barbados seconded the nomination and proposed that the election be by acclamation. Mr. Carranza was elected Vice-Chair of the Working Group, by acclamation.

8. Report on the Activities of the CICTE Secretariat

Mr. Steven Monblatt, Secretary of CICTE, acknowledged that the technical assistance and training program had become fully operational in 2005, during which time its activities had increased substantially. Likewise, he highlighted the work carried out in coordination with other entities, which had resulted in higher quality training programs. He referred to ongoing CICTE programs, *inter alia*, port security, airport security, customs and border security, legislation and legal assistance, and cybersecurity. He also reported on Spain's incorporation as a new associate of the Committee's programs. In addition, Mr. Monblatt underscored the importance of maintaining good coordination and communication among CICTE, entities, and governments, and the need for the Secretariat to be informed in advance of the plans and projects of member states, in order to avoid duplication of efforts. That is why, he said, the CICTE National Points of Contact were a key element in achieving that objective. Finally, Mr. Monblatt said that CICTE should receive adequate financing, as did the other technical bodies of the OAS.

9. Report on the Second Meeting of Government Cybersecurity Experts

Mr. André Machado Caricatti, Federal Criminal Expert of the Institutional Security Cabinet of the Office of the President of Brazil, reported on the Second Meeting of Government Cybersecurity Experts, held in São Paulo, Brazil, from September 14 to 16, 2005.

In his presentation, Mr. Machado Caricatti recalled that the meeting had been held to follow-up on the first meeting, held in Ottawa in March 2004, for the purpose of creating a hemispheric network of computer security incident response teams (CSIRTs) in each member state, and

identifying the National Points of Contact. He also reported that the experts had agreed on a series of recommendations in that area.^{10/}

10. Report on the filing of reports by Member States on their counterterrorism activities

Mr. Steven Monblatt, Secretary of CICTE, informed the audience that national reports had been received thus far from the three following countries and would be distributed: Trinidad and Tobago, Colombia, and Nicaragua.^{11/}

SECOND PLENARY SESSION

During the Second Plenary Session, on Thursday, March 23rd, presentations were made by a panel of experts on the topic of the Dialogue of Heads of Delegation: “Hemispheric Cooperation for Comprehensive Action to Fight Terrorism,” and were commented on by the Heads of Delegation.

Presentations

The first panelist was Mr. Roberto Maroto-García, of INTERPOL. He addressed the connections between organized crime and terrorism, and noted that they had been the subject of debate, although they were difficult to determine. Mr. Maroto-García maintained that an integrated analysis was therefore necessary, along with changes in investigation techniques and methods for exchanging information. In that context, he remarked that in addition to INTERPOL’s instruments for cooperation among police forces, it had a database (ICIS) and useful tools for establishing the possible existence of ties between the two forms of crime.

The second panelist was Dr. Mario Iguarán, Attorney General of Colombia. He pointed out that the adversarial system was an appropriate judicial mechanism for fighting terrorism. In addition, he explained how the Law on Justice and Peace, whose purpose was to help dismantle and demobilize terrorist groups, operated. He noted that the law entailed not only a reduction in sentences but also a total commitment to assist in the effective dismantling of those groups. He went on, in that connection, to point out that not all individuals who could have been benefitted had accepted that status. He reiterated that, in his country, the fight against terrorism was waged within a framework of respect for fundamental rights and the right to legal counsel.

10. Recommendations of the Second CICTE Cybersecurity Practitioners’ Workshop on the OAS Integral Cybersecurity Strategy: Advancing the Inter-American Cyber Incident Response Network, document CICTE/REGSC-II/doc.1/05 Corr.1.

11. These reports have been published as: CICTE/INF.1/06 (Trinidad and Tobago), CICTE/INF.1/06 add. 1 (Colombia), and CICTE/INF.1/06 add. 2 (Nicaragua). Since then, other states have submitted their reports, which have been published as follows: CICTE/INF.1/06 add. 3 (Suriname), CICTE/INF.1/06 add. 4 (Peru), CICTE/INF.1/06 add. 5 (Chile), CICTE/INF.1/06 add. 6 (Paraguay), y CICTE/INF.1/06 add. 7 (Argentina).

Dialogue of Heads of Delegation

The statements made by the Heads of Delegation gave rise to a rich debate, in which Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States, and Venezuela addressed the following matters:

- The need for joint legal measures to standardize legislation in order to facilitate cooperation.
- The concern about the criminal activities of juvenile groups known as “*maras*” or gangs, which operate in Central America.
- The need to strengthen mechanisms for domestic and international cooperation through a rapid exchange of information and intelligence in the fight against terrorism. In that respect, it was suggested that a recommendation should be issued by that meeting.
- The link between terrorism and transnational organized crime. In this regard, there were two positions: some delegations, while acknowledging that there might be ties between the two criminal activities, held that such ties had not been clearly determined and should be examined on a case-by-case basis. In turn, other delegations thought that those connections were tangible.
- The need to analyze, from a regional standpoint, the motives and causes of terrorism.
- There was a consensus that the struggle against terrorism should be carried out with full respect for fundamental rights.

Attorney General Iguarán, in response to some of the concerns voiced, said that legislative actions should be standardized, but that that was not currently the case for definitions of criminal offenses, judicial cooperation mechanisms, or procedures and strategies.

As a way of making up for that deficiency, the Delegation of Argentina, taking GAFISUD as a model, proposed that a document on best practices be drawn up to examine the definition of the crime of terrorist financing and that CICTE develop a horizontal training program.

In response to questions, Mr. Maroto-García said that the problem of the “*maras*” was very serious because of possible links between those gangs and terrorist groups, or because terrorists might make use of the gangs. Regarding the exchange of information, he remarked that questionnaires had been sent to the countries for the purpose of compiling data and preparing a written analysis on that topic.

THIRD PLENARY SESSION

The Third Plenary Session, held on the afternoon of March 23rd, was devoted to the Dialogue of Heads of Delegation on the topic of “Hemispheric Cooperation for Comprehensive Action to Fight Terrorism,” and other topics related to counterterrorism.

The Heads of the following Delegations took the floor: Argentina, The Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Suriname, the United States, and Venezuela.

The following ideas emerged from the statements made:

- Terrorism is a threat to the stability and democracy of nations.
- There is a need to strengthen mechanisms for bilateral and multilateral cooperation and for cooperation with CICTE, and to forge links of confidence and interdependence.
- The components of training, institutional strengthening, and technical assistance were reiterated, and the valuable contribution to the development of many member states was recognized.
- The states that have not signed, ratified, or implemented the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism and the international conventions related to that subject were urged to do so.
- There was a call to strengthen judicial cooperation, which was an essential part of CICTE, and it was underscored that, in the area of extradition, said cooperation played a key role in fighting crime.
- The idea that the fight against terrorism was a global threat and must be addressed by means of a multidimensional approach was reaffirmed.
- It was agreed that the work of CICTE must be supported, as it reinforced the hemispheric political will to fight terrorism.
- It was repeatedly emphasized that the fight against terrorism should be conducted within a framework of respect for human rights, international humanitarian law, and refugee law.
- It was necessary for CICTE to look into the development of plans for “education for peace”; to that end a Forum of Ministers of Education against violence was proposed.

The Delegation of the United States reported on its contribution in the areas of port and airport security, travel documents, and customs.

The Delegation of Canada reported that it was financing legislative training workshops in the Americas, as well as the Inter-American Program for the Security of Tourism and Recreational Facilities.

It is noteworthy that, despite the decision reached on having a more open and free-flowing exchange of views during this dialogue, and on submitting in writing the national reports on activities against terrorism, several delegations commented on their national experiences rather than on the designated topic.

Support for the Government and people of Bolivia

The Delegation of Brazil proposed and submitted to the plenary for consideration a Draft Declaration of Solidarity with the Government and People of Bolivia, on the bombing that occurred in La Paz, which was adopted (document CICTE/RES. 2/06).

FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

The Fourth Plenary Session was held on the morning of Friday, March 24th. The following matters were addressed:

1. Consideration of the Draft Work Plan of CICTE for 2006-2007

The Draft Work Plan of CICTE for 2006-2007 was discussed (document CICTE/doc.7/06).

The Delegation of Venezuela expressed its reservations concerning all references in the Draft Work Plan to United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).

The debate centered mainly on two articles: C.5 and B.11. The proposal on item C.5, made by the Delegation of Colombia, was examined, and as a result of the deliberations a new paragraph C.5 was adopted, with amendments made by Brazil, Chile, and Guatemala. Regarding item B.11, Brazil's proposal to delete the second paragraph thereof was accepted.

It was agreed to forward the Draft Work Plan, as amended, to the Fifth Plenary Session for adoption.

2. Consideration of the Proposed Revised Terms of Reference for National Points of Contact to the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism

The Proposed Revised Terms of Reference for National Points of Contact to the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism were submitted to the plenary for consideration (document CICTE/doc.8/06).

The bracketed sentence in the first paragraph of the document, presented by the CICTE Secretariat, was discussed. The Secretary of CICTE, Mr. Steven Monblatt, explained the reasoning

behind that paragraph. The proposed amendment was supported by the Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago.

That paragraph was approved with the amendments proposed by the Delegations of Argentina, Chile, and El Salvador.

Amendments proposed by the United States and Venezuela regarding the “Responsibilities of the National Point of Contact” were accepted.

It was agreed to forward the Proposed Revised Terms of Reference for National Points of Contact, as amended, to the Fifth Plenary Session for formal adoption.

3. Guest speaker presentation

Mr. Andrés Peñate Giraldo, Director of the Administrative Department of Security of Colombia, was invited to make his presentation on “Terrorism and Transnational Crime: The Links between Them and How to Respond.”

In his address, Mr. Peñate Giraldo said that there was no point in drawing a distinction between domestic and international terrorism, because the motive of the heads of terrorist organizations was the immense financial gain obtained from international criminal activities. In that respect, he urged the audience to recognize that it was the transnational nature of terrorism that linked it to transnational crime. He also recommended the development of a “zero tolerance” policy for terrorists; the strengthening of multilateral mechanisms, such as INTERPOL; and efforts to make bilateral cooperation less formal and more operational, especially with respect to the exchange of intelligence. All the foregoing should be viewed in the context of the shared responsibility of the international community in the struggle against terrorism in Colombia. He also mentioned that the FARC was the main cocaine cartel in the world, and gave several examples of that terrorist group’s involvement in the international sale of cocaine.

4. Consideration of the Draft Declaration of San Carlos on Hemispheric Cooperation for Comprehensive Action to Fight Terrorism

Ms. María Clara Isaza, in discharging the mandate assigned to the working group and as its Chair, described the work done and reported that, following the deliberations of the meeting, consensus had been achieved on the Draft Declaration of San Carlos on Hemispheric Cooperation for Comprehensive Action to Fight Terrorism. She noted that the Draft Declaration had two footnotes that referred to an appendix listing 13 international conventions and protocols on counterterrorism, as well as three other footnotes indicating the reservations of the Delegation of Venezuela to the seventh preambular paragraph and declarative paragraphs 4.a and 4.f.

Likewise, the Delegations of Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Canada, Chile, and Mexico requested that their position on the seventh and eighth preambular paragraphs, and declarative paragraph 3.c, which referred to the topic of links and transnational organized crime, be recorded in that report, since it was their view that criminal matters were not within the competence of CICTE and should therefore be addressed in the corresponding committees.

The Delegation of Venezuela clarified some points in that regard and made the following declaration:

“With regard to the ‘General Principles’: The section titled ‘General Principles’ is not legally rigorous and, as Venezuela sees it, the phrase in question should be interpreted as referring merely to ‘general approaches.’”

The Delegation of Panama, speaking on behalf of the group of Central American countries, expressed its support for the Draft Declaration.

The Draft Declaration was approved without amendment, and it was agreed to forward it to the Fifth Plenary Session for formal adoption.

5. Consideration of the draft resolution on the Inter-American Program for the Security of Tourism and Recreational Facilities

The draft resolution proposed by the Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago (document CICTE/doc.9/06) was placed before the meeting for consideration. The Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago said that amendments had been made to the text as a result of consultations with the other delegations and taking into account the Draft Work Plan of CICTE for 2006-2007 and the Draft Declaration of San Carlos on Hemispheric Cooperation for Comprehensive Action to Fight Terrorism. It requested that consideration be given to the document as amended.

The Delegations of Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela expressed their full support for the amended draft resolution and the initiative it contained.

The Delegations of Brazil and Venezuela proposed amendments to operative paragraphs 2 and 3, respectively.

It was agreed to forward the draft resolution as amended to the Fifth Plenary Session for formal adoption.

6. Report of the Fourth Meeting of National Points of Contact to CICTE^{12/}

The Chair of the Fourth Meeting of National Points of Contact to CICTE, Ms. Antoinette Lucas-Andrews, Senior Specialist at the Ministry of National Security of Trinidad and Tobago, reported to the plenary on the matters considered by that meeting, held on March 22, 2006, at the Tequendama Hotel in Bogotá, Colombia, and on its results.

12. This report has been published as document CICTE/INF.7/06.

Ms. Lucas-Andrews reported on the four items on the agenda:

1. Program evaluation;
2. Improvement of cooperation among organizations;
3. Cooperation between CICTE and the UN; and
4. Security in sporting events.

FIFTH PLENARY SESSION

The last plenary session was held on Friday, March 24, in the afternoon, to consider the following items:

1. Presentation by the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)

At the beginning of the Fifth Plenary Session, the Chair invited Mr. Weixiong Chen, Division Chief of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) to make his presentation. Mr. Chen provided information about the activities and decisions of the UN Security Council and the Counter-Terrorism Committee, and recalled the international instruments adopted to fight terrorism.^{13/}

The plenary took note of Mr. Chen's presentation and expressed appreciation for CTED's ongoing cooperation with CICTE.

2. Adoption of documents and agreements:

- i. **Draft Work Plan of CICTE for 2006-2007**

The Draft CICTE Work Plan for 2006-2007 (document CICTE/doc.7/06 rev. 1) was considered, with the changes decided on during the Fourth Plenary Session. There were no comments. The Work Plan was adopted by consensus.

- ii. **Proposed Revised Terms of Reference for the National Points of Contact to the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism**

The Proposed Revised Terms of Reference for National Points of Contact to CICTE (document CICTE/doc.8/06 rev. 1), including the amendments agreed to during the Fourth Plenary Session, were considered. There were no comments. The Revised Terms of Reference for National Points of Contact to the CICTE were adopted by consensus.

13. This presentation has been published as document CICTE/INF.9/06.

iii. Place and date of the Seventh Regular Session of CICTE

The Delegation of Panama offered to host the Seventh Regular Session of CICTE and proposed that it be held during the first quarter of 2007. In that regard, it presented a draft resolution to the plenary for consideration (document CICTE/doc.14/06).

Bearing in mind that Article 17 of the CICTE Statute provides that there should be at least one session each year, the plenary accepted that offer of a venue and agreed to hold the meeting at the suggested time.

The resolution was adopted by acclamation and has been published as resolution CICTE/RES. 2/06.

iv. Draft Declaration of San Carlos on Hemispheric Cooperation for Comprehensive Action to Fight Terrorism

The Draft Declaration of San Carlos on Hemispheric Cooperation for Comprehensive Action to Fight Terrorism (document CICTE/doc.6/06 rev. 2) was put to the plenary for consideration.

The Declaration of San Carlos was adopted by acclamation.

The following countries made statements on the seventh and eighth preambular paragraphs, and on declarative paragraph 3.c of the Declaration of San Carlos, indicating that there was insufficient evidence on the existence of “automatic connections” between terrorism and transnational organized crime: Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Mexico, Paraguay, the United States, and Uruguay. At the request of the delegations, their verbatim statements are included herein, in the order in which they were made. In addition, at the request of the Delegation of Colombia, its declaration on “shared responsibility” is also included.

The Delegation of Brazil:

“In the interest of a consensus on the seventh preambular paragraph, the Delegation of Brazil accepted the wording proposed by the Chair for the Declaration we have just adopted. Nonetheless, the Delegation of Brazil would like it to be noted in the Rapporteur’s Report for this session that the inclusion of this paragraph in the Declaration of San Carlos, as well as of the eighth preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 3.c, does not constitute an acknowledgement by Brazil of the competence of the CICTE to deal with matters related to transnational organized crime--a topic that is within the purview of other specialized multilateral and regional forums.”

The Delegation of Argentina:

“In a similar vein and also with a view to expediting a consensus, the Argentine Delegation has accepted the wording of the seventh preambular paragraph. However, the Argentine Republic is of the view, as it has asserted in the Working Group meetings, that, although it acknowledges the possibility of connections between terrorism and other transnational crimes, these connections are not automatic and do not necessarily exist or occur in all cases.”

The Delegation of Canada:

“Like my colleagues from Brazil and Argentina, Canada supported the seventh preambular paragraph of the Declaration in the interest of a consensus. We would point out that all Member States of this Organization, after lengthy negotiations, accepted this same language last year in the Declaration of Port-of-Spain. This said, Canada acknowledges that links between terrorism and international organized crime do exist in certain instances. We are of the view that such links do not always exist, nor are they automatic. In Canada’s view, CICTE’S priority must remain the fight against terrorism. Issues relating primarily to transnational organized crime are better dealt with in other OAS forums and multilateral forums that are responsible for the topic.”

The Delegation of Mexico:

“Like the distinguished Heads of Delegation who spoke before me, the Delegation of Mexico wishes to associate itself with the statements made by Brazil, Argentina, and Canada. In the interest of a consensus we supported the wording of the seventh preambular paragraph, but we would like it to be placed on record that the Delegation of Mexico does not consider there to be an automatic connection between transnational organized crime and terrorism.”

The Delegation of Uruguay:

“In reference to the seventh and eighth preambular paragraphs, Uruguay shares and supports the position that has been amply explained by the Delegations of Brazil, Argentina, Canada and Mexico, emphasizing the need to clearly distinguish between crimes per se and those that are related to terrorism.”

The Delegation of Chile:

“My Delegation, like those that preceded me, wishes ... to fully endorse the statements that have just been made regarding the seventh preambular paragraph.”

The Delegation of Colombia:

“In the interest of a consensus, Colombia was willing to withdraw its proposal for the inclusion, in the section on cooperation of the Declaration of San Carlos that we have just adopted, of a reference to the spirit of shared responsibility in the fight against terrorism, which has already been recognized by the United Nations. For Colombia, the principle of shared responsibility comes into play when, as democratic states, we cooperate with one another and act together in a concerted manner to address the terrorist threat. As common measures to further this cooperation the following should be identified:

- 1. Adaptation of the domestic legislation of states to international instruments;*
- 2. Effective application of the body of universal and regional legal instruments--not only those that address the different aspects of terrorism but also related ones, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;*

3. *The activation of mechanisms allowing for effective international coordination and strengthening of the capacity to collect intelligence data, both to prevent terrorist acts and to break up terrorist networks and their support structures;*
4. *Denial to terrorists of the means to commit their attacks, including access to small arms and light weapons and to weapons of mass destruction;*
5. *Denial of safe havens to terrorists;*
6. *The development of states' capacity to effectively prevent terrorism.*

For Colombia, Mr. Chair, delegates, these are the implications of common, shared responsibility.”

The Delegation of Barbados:

“Barbados wishes to associate itself with the remarks of the distinguished delegations that spoke before me on the wording of the seventh preambular paragraph. While Barbados recognizes that there is no automatic or permanent connection between terrorism and transnational organized crime, it recognizes that these links exist from time to time and remains of the view that they should be judged on a case-by-case basis.”

The Delegation of Paraguay:

“In the same spirit, as concerns the seventh preambular paragraph, I wish to say on behalf of my Delegation that we fully agree with the statements of the Delegations of Brazil, Argentina, Canada, and the other delegations that there is no automatic connection, but that, in the interest of a consensus, we supported the preamble of the present text.”

The Delegation of The Bahamas:

“The Bahamas would like to support the comments made by the previous delegations regarding the relationship between terrorism and transnational crime. We do not consider that there is a direct link. The Bahamas therefore supports the positions expressed by the other delegations.”

v. Draft resolution on the security of tourism and recreational facilities

The plenary considered the draft resolution “Cooperation Initiatives for the Security of Tourism and Recreational Facilities in the Americas,” as amended at the Fourth Plenary Session (document CICTE/doc.9/06 rev. 1), and adopted it by consensus.

vi. Vote of thanks to the people and Government of Colombia

The Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago took the floor to express appreciation, on behalf of all delegations, for the hospitality extended by the people and Government of Colombia to the participants in the Sixth Regular Session of CICTE, and to congratulate them for its success. Congratulations were also expressed to Ambassador Borda Rojas for his excellent handling of the debates. The Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago proposed that that expression of gratitude take the

form of a formal CICTE decision and, to that end, proposed a draft resolution to the plenary for consideration.

A resolution entitled “Vote of Thanks to the People and Government of Colombia” (document CICTE/RES.3/06) was adopted by acclamation.

3. Rapporteur’s Report

The Rapporteur read out a summary of his report, outlining the matters considered, the presentations made, and the decisions adopted by CICTE during the Sixth Regular Session.

CLOSING SESSION

The Closing Session was held on Friday, March 24th, and consisted of the following statements:

1. Statement by the Secretary General of the Organization of American States

The Chair informed the plenary that the OAS Secretary General, Dr. José Miguel Insulza, was unable, for reasons beyond his control, to be present as originally planned, and invited the Secretary of the CICTE to deliver the Secretary-General’s message.

The Secretary of the CICTE, Mr. Steven Monblatt, presented excuses on behalf of the Secretary General, and read his remarks.^{14/}

2. Statement by the Chair of CICTE

In his closing remarks, the Chair referred to the meeting’s success, reflected in the renewed commitment and unwavering resolve of all the states of the Americas to cooperate in pursuing the common goal of eradicating terrorism from the Hemisphere. He underscored, *inter alia*, the need to strengthen measures to prevent, control, and punish terrorist financing; to comply with the recommendations of the FATF; to establish the CSIRTs; to improve security measures for tourism; and to prevent terrorist groups from acquiring chemical, biological, and nuclear materials. He highlighted as a priority the completion of the activities of the current Work Plan before the adoption of a new work plan or the inclusion of new areas of work. Ambassador Borda Rojas reaffirmed the will and determination of Colombia, as Chair, to further promote execution of the proposed activities on CICTE’s broad agenda.^{15/}

At 6:05 p.m., having concluded his remarks, the Chair adjourned the Sixth Regular Session of CICTE.

14. This speech has been published as CICTE/INF.10/06.

15. This speech has been published as CICTE/INF.6/06.

For the record, I wish to express my gratitude to all those who provided assistance and support in the preparation of this report. I would like to mention the personnel of the CICTE Secretariat--Ms. Johanna Salah, Ms. Fernanda Lombardi, and Mr. Sheridan Hill--and, in particular, Ms. Gillian Bristol, Committee Secretary, whose contributions and suggestions were extremely valuable.

Francisco Javier Bernales Errázuriz
Counselor, Alternate Representative of Chile to the OAS
Rapporteur of the Sixth Regular Session