INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM (CICTE)

REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR
OF THE TWELFTH REGULAR SESSION
OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM

In my capacity as Rapporteur of the Twelfth Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), I have the honor to submit this report on the proceedings and decisions adopted at that session.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Twelfth Regular Session of the CICTE was held on March 7, 2012, at the headquarters of the Organization of American States, in Washington, D.C., attended by 27 delegations of the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS*)*. Special guests, permanent observers, representatives of international organizations, and representatives of civil society also participated.[1]

It is important to indicate that during the Eleventh Regular Session, held in Washington D.C., United States of America, on March 7, 8, and 9, 2011, CICTE agreed to hold its Twelfth Regular Session on March 7, 8, and 9, 2012, in Washington D.C. However, during the preparatory process, a consultation took place with the member states regarding the dates and structure of the meeting, and it was agreed that the Twelfth Regular Session would take place on one day (March 7) instead of the three days originally proposed.

The Draft Agenda[2] and the Draft Calendar[3] of the Twelfth Regular Session were both approved at the Second Preparatory Meeting, held on January 17, 2012.

II. PROCEEDINGS

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

The inaugural ceremony of the Twelfth Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) was held on March 7, 2012, in the Simón Bolívar Room, at the headquarters of the Organization of American States in Washington, D.C.

Remarks by the Chair of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism – *The Honorable Gillian M. S. Bristol, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Grenada to the Organization of American States*

The Honorable Gillian M.S. Bristol of Grenada presided over the inaugural ceremony and declared open the Twelfth Regular Session. In her remarks,[4] Ambassador Bristol thanked the CICTE

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1. CICTE/doc.10/12, List of participants
2. CICTE/doc.2/12, Agenda of the Twelfth Regular Session of CICTE (Approved at the Second Preparatory Meeting held on January 17, 2012)
3. CICTE/doc.3/12 corr. 1, Draft Calendar of the Twelfth Regular Session of CICTE (Approved at the Second Preparatory Meeting held on January 17, 2012)
4. CICTE/INF.2/12

Secretariat for its support in carrying out its mandates during the chairmanship of Grenada. Ambassador Bristol referred to the importance of the theme of the Twelfth Session: Strengthening cyber-security in the Americas. Because it is one of the new emerging threats in our Hemisphere, she indicated that it was essential to work together to address this danger.

She also encouraged the member states to continue to collaborate and cooperate on the many capacity-building initiatives offered by the CICTE Secretariat, and to find new ways to exchange best practices and information in order to strengthen their preparedness in counteracting the multifaceted threat of terrorism.

Remarks by the Secretary General of the Organization of American States – *His Excellency José Miguel Insulza*

The welcoming address was delivered by the Secretary General of the Organization of American States, His Excellency José Miguel Insulza, who echoed the Chair of CICTE, expressing the timeliness and relevance of the theme of the twelfth session: Strengthening cyber-security in the Americas.

He underscored the work of the CICTE within the Organization of American States, particularly in the area of critical infrastructure. He highlighted the opportunities afforded by technological progress, and also noted that it presents new dangers for border control, maritime protection, airport security, and our national security. He added that it was therefore important to cooperate at the national, regional, and international levels to strengthen capacities and tackle the threats to the technological integrity of our systems.

Mr. Insulza congratulated Grenada for its work during the chairmanship under the theme "to reaffirm the hemispheric commitment to prevent, combat, and eliminate terrorism and to strengthen member states' capacity and regional cooperation," and referred to the important initiatives undertaken by CICTE in regional cooperation. He commended the donors to the CICTE Secretariat for their contribution of financial and human resources, which are essential for fulfilling the mandates of the Committee.

Remarks by Special Guest Expert *Dr. Jamie Saunders, Director, International Cyber Policy, at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom*

The first address was delivered by the Director of International Cyber Policy of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom.

In his presentation, "Government and the private sector: Working together to strengthen cyber-security," Mr. Saunders reaffirmed the importance of cooperation among the private sector, the government, NGOs, and civil society. He noted that, although we tend to focus on the threats stemming from our dependence on technology and the development of cyberspace, it is important to highlight the benefits they afford for education, business, the economy, and access to ideas, among other things. Thus, it is important to develop a cyber-security strategy that protects networks and users while at the same time promoting technology and the use of cyberspace to further progress.

Mr. Saunders gave a summary of the United Kingdom's strategy and reaffirmed that cyber-security is a priority for his government. He noted that one way to address the emerging threats is to

sign an international agreement and attempt to regulate cyberspace at the global level. He pointed out that it is very difficult to define cyberspace and, thus, it is a responsibility shared by all and requires international cooperation. He added that establishing international agreements on this topic will take a long time. The priority, noted Mr. Saunders, should be to collaborate now, in forums such as this, in order to understand and address the new threats, with a view to creating a free and secure cyberspace.

FIRST PLENARY SESSION

The first plenary session commenced under the chairmanship of the Honorable Gillian M. S. Bristol, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Grenada to the Organization of American States.

1.   **Approval of the Draft Agenda and Draft Calendar of the Twelfth Regular Session**

        i.   Draft Agenda of the Twelfth Regular Session

The Draft Agenda was submitted for consideration and approved without amendment.[5/] The agenda included the central theme of the session: "Strengthening Cyber-Security in the Americas."

        ii.   Draft Calendar of the Twelfth Regular Session

The Draft Calendar was submitted for consideration and approved without amendment.[6/]

2.   **Report of the Chair of CICTE 2011-2012**

Ambassador Bristol delivered the Chair's Report for the period 2011-2012,[7/] summarizing the major achievements and activities in the nine program areas that CICTE executed through its Secretariat. She highlighted the efforts of the CICTE Secretariat to strengthen the capacity of the member states through the execution of more than 100 events, of different types, in the region, which provided training to thousands of nationals throughout the Hemisphere. She underscored CICTE's efforts to promote and strengthen hemispheric cooperation in order to jointly prevent, combat, and eliminate terrorism.

Ambassador Bristol noted that CICTE's work had grown and evolved over the past year as it continued to cooperate with governments, missions, and national points of contact. The scope of CICTE's efforts was not limited to the struggle against terrorism in the strict definition of the word and as it had been interpreted, but had expanded in practice to embrace several areas of the fight against crime. She indicated that the vulnerabilities often pinpointed as possible areas of exploitation by terrorist groups are the same as those for transnational organizations of organized crime.

In that context, the CICTE Executive Secretariat supports the states in strengthening port and airport security, controls along borders, cooperation and information exchange among security agencies, and in addressing other challenges.

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5. CICTE/doc.2/12, Agenda of the Twelfth Regular Session of CICTE (Approved at the first plenary session held on March 7, 2012).
6. CICTE/doc.3/12 corr. 1, Calendar of the Twelfth Regular Session of CICTE (Approved at the first plenary session held on March 7, 2012).
7. CICTE/doc.9/12.

Ambassador Bristol thanked the member states, the CICTE Secretariat, and all international collaborators for their support of the work of the Secretariat.

3.   Election of officers

a.   Chair of CICTE

The delegation of Mexico nominated Guatemala to the chairmanship of the Committee for the period 2012-2013. The nomination was seconded by the delegation of Grenada. Guatemala was so elected as the new Chair.

The Honorable Jorge Skinner-Klee, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the Organization of American States, thanked the delegations for their support of Guatemala to the chairmanship of CICTE and accepted the appointment on behalf of his government. He then assumed the Chair and began presiding the session.

b.   Vice-Chair of CICTE

The delegation of Canada nominated Colombia to the vice-chairmanship of the Committee for the period 2012–2013. The nomination was seconded by the delegation of The Bahamas. Colombia was elected by acclamation to serve in that position.

Mr. Carlos Iván Plazas, Minister Plenipotentiary of Colombia to the Organization of American States (OAS), accepted the nomination on behalf of his country and expressed his government's appreciation for the vote of confidence.

c.   Rapporteur of the Twelfth Regular Session of CICTE

The delegation of El Salvador nominated Mr. Juan Gabriel Morales Morales, Alternate Representative of Mexico to the OAS, as rapporteur of the Twelfth Regular Session of the Committee. The nominee was elected by acclamation.

4.   Remarks by the Chair of CICTE 2012-2013 – *Jorge Skinner-Klee, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the Organization of American States*

On the assumption of the chairmanship of CICTE in representation of the Government of Guatemala, the Honorable Jorge Skinner-Klee began his remarks[8] by thanking Grenada for its leadership role and focus on regional cooperation in the fight against terrorism during its chairmanship. He expressed Guatemala's satisfaction with the member states' support of the declaration agreed upon during the preparatory process.

The Honorable Ambassador Skinner-Klee noted that this day was both an arrival point for CICTE and a point of departure, as the focus was being brought to new threats posed by cyberspace and the development of technology. He indicated that the theme of the year recognized the new threats to the Hemisphere and reasserted the importance of continuing to move forward to strengthen cyber-security capabilities. The Honorable Ambassador Skinner-Klee reaffirmed the importance of

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8.   CICTE/INF.5/12.

international cooperation in the development of national Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs).

He concluded his remarks by reaffirming the need to continue participating actively in CICTE's programs, particularly with regard to the protection of critical infrastructure and cyber-security.

5.   **Report on the activities of the Secretariat of CICTE by *Secretary of CICTE, Mr. Gordon Duguid***

The Secretary of CICTE, Mr. Gordon Duguid, presented a summary of the Secretariat Report on its activities in 2011.[9] He informed the Committee that in 2011, the CICTE Secretariat had raised more specific funds that in any other year of its history. With these funds, the Secretariat held 117 training courses, technical assistance missions, subregional workshops on regulatory matters, simulation exercises, and other exercises for the member states, benefiting approximately 5,889 participants.

He mentioned new aspects of the Secretariat's programs, for example the risk of interruption of maritime commerce due to terrorist attacks. In this connection, he indicated that the workshops offered through the maritime security program provided training for officials on the renewal of maritime commerce and resilience strategies. In addition, the Secretariat organized, with the Council of Europe, an international congress on victims of terrorism for the member states of the two organizations. He announced new cooperation efforts with Israel through the airport security program, and a pilot project in Colombia and Mexico to address resolution 1540 of the United Nations Security Council. Mr. Duguid also reported that the Secretariat had greatly increased the number of subregional workshops and training initiatives offered.

Mr. Duguid noted that the CICTE Secretariat had received contributions in specific funds from Argentina, Canada, Chile, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States, as well as contributions in the form of human resources with seconded staff in The Bahamas, Brazil, Grenada, Mexico, the United States, and Uruguay. He stated that the Secretariat would continue to work in coordination with the corresponding OAS secretariats and departments to offer the member states the kind of support they needed to strengthen national and regional capacities to fight terrorism and other forms of transnational crime.

In conclusion Mr. Duguid reminded the member states that the contributions to specific funds comprise 96% of the financial resources available for implementing the CICTE Secretariat's Work Plan. He pointed out that the Secretariat of CICTE responds to the political will of its member states, and thanked them for their collaboration and technical assistance. He also commended the member states and other donors for their financial contributions, and invited them to continue supporting the Secretariat's work with funds and resources.

When the Executive Secretary concluded his report, the Chair opened the floor to the delegations for their comments or observations. The delegation of Mexico expressed its appreciation for the report and the work accomplished. The report was accepted.

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9.   CICTE/doc.8/12.

SECOND PLENARY SESSION

Dialogue of Heads of Delegation on the theme: "Strengthening Cyber-Security in the Americas"

- **Presentation by the guest speaker** *Ms. Cheri F. McGuire, Vice President for Global Government Affairs and Cyber Security Policy, Symantec Corporation*

In her presentation, Ms. Cheri McGuire spoke about technological change, global dependence on technology, and the rapid evolution of the techniques used by criminals. As a representative of a private company, Ms. McGuire underscored the importance of working with the private sector and civil society in addressing the challenges of cyber-security.

Ms. McGuire stated that although the private sector will always have a great influence on the development of cyberspace, the protection of information and users cannot be the sole responsibility of any single body, be it public or private. She underscored the importance of working together to find solutions that make it possible to develop new technologies and promote innovation while at the same time protecting established networks. Ms. McGuire noted that a new paradigm shift had occurred, and that we had moved from a policy of protecting equipment to a policy centered on protecting information, which will also influence the way we address new threats.

Ms. McGuire mentioned the different responsibilities of governments: to secure their own systems, work with the private sector, earmark resources for protecting critical infrastructure, prepare responses to emergencies, and develop a regulatory framework requiring compliance with the law and including penalties for offenders. She affirmed that governments, the private sector, and civil society could work together to develop an integrated approach to cyber-security. She concluded with the idea that the approach should change from a focus on solving cybercrime per se to a focus on managing risks associated with cybercrime.

- **Remarks by the member states**

The floor was opened to the delegations, who reaffirmed their countries' commitment to strengthening cyber-security in the region. The member states spoke of their countries' strategies and actions to fulfill this task, including progress made to establish national Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRT) and national strategies. They underscored the need to strengthen regional cooperation to ensure security for all users in the Hemisphere.

The member states expressed their gratitude to the outgoing Chair for her leadership the past year and congratulated the recently elected authorities of CICTE. The following delegations spoke: United States of America, Brazil, Argentina, Canada, El Salvador, and Trinidad and Tobago.

After the interventions of the member states, the Director of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime spoke about the challenges facing the countries in light of the new threats, such as crimes in cyberspace. She mentioned the importance of sharing best practices in order to learn from the experiences of others.

THIRD PLENARY SESSION

Dialogue of Heads of Delegation on the theme "*Strengthening cyber-security in the Americas*"

- Presentation by guest speaker *Mr. Christopher Painter, Coordinator for Cyber Issues, U.S. Department of State*

In his presentation, Mr. Christopher Painter underscored the importance of regional and international cooperation, indicating that we are stronger when we work together than when we work alone. Mr. Painter highlighted the success of the work and collaboration between the Department of State and the Secretariat of CICTE, adding that since 2004 the number of CSIRTs in the region had grown from 5 to 16, and that the cyber-security program of the Secretariat of CICTE had become the principal forum in the Americas for the discussion and exchange of ideas related to cyber-security.

Mr. Painter described his vision of a secure cyberspace available to all, coupled with the promotion of new ideas. To achieve that vision, it was necessary to pursue the principles that had brought us to this point: defend basic freedoms, preserve respect for property, uphold privacy, protect citizens from delinquency, and conserve our right to self-defense. He said that for cyberspace to be prosperous, the importance of the following principles of global cyberspace had to be recognized: global interoperability, network stability, reliable access, coordination among members and interested parties, and due diligence of national cyber-security. Although at present that vision was not shared universally, he hoped that this meeting would work toward that vision.

Mr. Painter concluded with a quote by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton: "We seek to maximize the internet's tremendous capacity to accelerate human progress, while sharpening our response and our tools to deal with the threats and the problems and the disputes that are part of cyberspace."

- **Remarks by the member states**

The floor was opened to the delegations. The member states that participated referred to institutional and legal strengthening, international cooperation, cyber-security training, among other things, as the core aspects of cyber-security. The delegations commended the Secretariat of CICTE and reaffirmed their commitment to cyber-security.

The member states described national strategies and actions adopted in their countries to contribute to a secure cyberspace. Several mentioned the legal framework, including Guatemala, which indicated that its draft legislation against cybercrime had moved successfully through its first legislative debate. The member states noted that the progress made to strengthen cyber-security had been made possible with the support of the Secretariat of CICTE.

After the remarks of Guatemala, Panama, Mexico, Colombia, Canada, Brazil, Paraguay, and Costa Rica, a representative of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation requested the floor. He referred to the importance of international cooperation, and identified the meeting as a first step in a collaborative relationship between the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and the Organization of American States.

FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

1. **Consideration and adoption of the draft CICTE Work Plan for 2012**

The Work Plan of the Secretariat of CICTE for 2012 was adopted as submitted, without observations from the participants.[10/]

2. **Consideration and adoption of the Draft Declaration "Strengthening Cyber- Security in the Americas"**

The Draft Declaration, as found in document CICTE/DEC. 1/12, was approved unanimously.[11/]

3. **Consideration of the venue and date of the Thirteenth Regular Session of CICTE**

The Delegation of Colombia proposed that the Thirteenth Regular Session of CICTE be held from March 6 to 8, 2013, in Washington D.C.; the motion was approved and reflected in a resolution.[12/]

4. **Reading out of the report by the Rapporteur of the Twelfth Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism**

Mr. Juan Gabriel Morales Morales, Alternate Representative of Mexico to the Organization of American States, read out a report summarizing the events of the Twelfth Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism.

CLOSING SESSION

Remarks by the Chair of CICTE, *the Honorable Jorge Skinner-Klee, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the Organization of American States*

The Chair of CICTE delivered the closing remarks, mentioning the success of the Twelfth Regular Session and thanking the delegates for their active participation in the discussions. He noted that the democratization of cyberspace, transparency, and freedom of access to technology should be the highest values that orient our work. He stated that it was important to understand that everyone had a role to play in their country's security, but that we should agree on the strategy and collaborate together in implementing it. He also expressed his enthusiasm to work with the Vice-Chair and the member states in 2012-2013 to strengthen cyber-security in the Americas.

The meeting of the Twelfth Regular Session was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Juan Gabriel Morales Morales
Alternate Representative of Mexico to the Organization of American States

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10. CICTE/doc. 5/12.
11. CICTE/DEC.1/12, Declaration on the Strengthening of Cyber-Security in the Americas (Adopted at the fourth plenary session on March 7, 2012).
12. CICTE/RES.7/12.