



**OAS** | More rights  
for more people

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

**XLVI MEETING OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS  
FOR THE CONTROL OF MONEY LAUNDERING  
MEETING OF THE SUBWORKING GROUPS  
June 4-5, 2019  
Washington, D.C., USA**

**OEA/Ser.L/XIV. 4.46  
DDOT/LAVEX/INF2/19  
April 12, 2019  
Textual**

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Working Groups:**

Group of Experts for the Control of Money Laundering (GELAVEX)  
Sub-Working Group on International Cooperation and Forfeiture; and  
Sub-Working Group on Financial Intelligence Units and Law Enforcement Agencies

**Source of the Terms of Reference:**

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS), Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTC).

**Organization:**

Organization of American States (OAS)

---

**According to:**

- The recommendations of the Group of Experts in its meeting held on October 4 and 5, 2018 in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia (LAVEX XLV); and
- The Work Plan 2018-2019 approved by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CIDAD) in its Sixty-fourth regular session, held in Washington D.C., United States, in December 2018.

**Considering that:**

- As a working basis for the Group of Experts for the Control of Money Laundering (GELAVEX), the areas of action identified by the GELAVEX at its XXIV plenary session held in Santiago, Chile November 7-9, 2007, are as follows: forfeiture, *In-Rem* forfeiture, Asset Recovery Agencies, coordination and integration between Financial Intelligence Units (FIU) and Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA), and terrorism financing;
- GELAVEX will hold two annual meetings, depending on the availability of resources; one during the first half of the year, exclusively for the Sub Working Groups; and the second during the second half of the year, which will feature a plenary session as well as an additional meeting for the Sub Working Groups;

- The Plenary of the Group of Experts recommended in its meeting held in Asuncion, Paraguay, on September 25 to 26, 2017 (LAVEX XLIV) the approval of the lines of action proposed for a new GELAVEX's Strategic Plan for 2018-2020. This proposal was approved by CICAD in its Sixty-second regular session, held in Washington D.C., United States, in December 2017.
- According to the approved Working Plan 2018-2019, the Sub-Working Group on International Cooperation and Forfeiture will work on the following line of action: a) to develop a study on the self-sustainability of seized assets, within the framework of the functions of the specialized offices for asset management; and b) to develop a study on the forfeiture of assets of equivalent value and mixed assets, with the aim of identifying countries with developed legislation on the subject or the need to incorporate these elements into their legal frameworks. Likewise, according to the Work Plan approved by CICAD, the Sub-Working Group of Financial Intelligence Units and Law Enforcement Agencies will develop: a) a case study on money laundering linked to trafficking in persons and illegal trafficking of migrants in the region; b) to conduct a study of comparative legislation and technical guidelines of international organizations regarding the evidentiary value of intelligence reports in the region, and; c) to develop a good practices guide on expert reports in cases of money laundering. Additionally, the participation of Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru as co-coordinators of the Subgroup to develop the proposed studies was confirmed, and an invitation was issued to other delegations wanting to contribute in the elaboration of these tasks.
- The Group decided that the delegations of Costa Rica and Chile will coordinate the sub-working groups along with the delegations of Bolivia, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru.

**Profile of the delegates to the Group of Experts:**

1. Be a representative of an OAS Member State.
2. Desirable qualifications of the delegates: experts in criminal law, international cooperation, asset administration agencies and/or financial intelligence.
3. The following countries, international organizations and/or entities participate as observers: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Global Program for Money Laundering (GPML/UN), Council of Europe, Spain, Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF), Financial Action Task Force of Latin America (GAFILAT), Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE – OAS), Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), The World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), Egmont Group and Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network of the Caribbean (ARIN-Carib) and the International Union of Notaries (UINL).

In the interest of maintaining the work continuity of the GELAVEX, the Technical Secretariat kindly requests, if possible, that countries participating in subgroups try to retain and send the delegates who have attended previous meetings. Consecutively, for better results at the working sessions, the Technical Secretariat suggests to those countries participating in more than one subgroup, according to its possibilities, designate an expert for each subgroup.

**Structure and Working Methodology:**

The Technical Secretariat will provide administrative and professional support in the design and development of the final report and other documents, as well as to facilitate the subgroups discussions, providing technical support as requested. Once they are agreed upon, these documents will be submitted to Member States for their review and comments, which should be verified within the following 30 days. Once this deadline is met, the Secretariat will circulate, in no longer than 15 days, the final document.

**Financial Support:**

According to article 22, paragraph 2 of the regulation of CICAD, “the expert groups and their members shall be responsible for the expenses they incur for their meetings unless other funds are available for this purpose”. In this regard, please note that **due to a lack of funds, the Technical Secretariat will not be able to provide financial assistance to member states attending this meeting.**