



MECHANISM FOR FOLLOW-UP ON
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN
CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION
Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Committee of Experts
September 13 – 16, 2021
Washington, D.C.

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MINUTES
OF THE THIRTY-SIXTH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE
MECHANISM FOR FOLLOW-UP ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN
CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

I. BACKGROUND

In keeping with the schedule for the Sixth Round of Review agreed upon by the Committee of Experts of the Mechanism for Follow-up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC), the Committee's Thirty-Sixth Meeting was held—in virtual format, on account of the COVID-19 pandemic—from September 13 to 16, 2021.

This meeting was attended by the following representatives of the States Parties: Vanessa Moe (Antigua and Barbuda); Luis Villanueva, Déborah Hafford, Omar Sosa, Yanina Ariotti (Argentina); Henry Charles Usher, Rolando Zetina (Belize); Julia Susana Ríos Laguna, Bayardo Martínez Villarroel, José Mauricio Chani Rojas (Bolivia); Elizabeth Cristina Marques Cosmo, Mônica Bulhões e Silva, Leandro Antunes Mariosi, Socorro Janaína Maximiano Leonardo, Sílvia Amélia Fonseca de Oliveira, Fabiano Emidio de Lucena Martins, Anamara Osório Silva, Marcelo Ribeiro de Oliveira, Pedro da Silveira Montenegro, Henry Pfeiffer, Carlos Guilherme Sampaio Fernandes (Brazil); Erin Cassidy, Marie-Josée Gingras (Canada); Eugenio Rebolledo Suazo, Valentina Acharán Jacou, Yelica Lusic Nadal, Mayra Johana Zambrano, Julio Torres Gonzalez, Lya Cabello Abdala, Jorge Norambuena Carrillo, Roberto Villegas, Nayareth Calfulaf Barrueto, Daniela Santana Silva (Chile); Camilo Jaimes Poveda, María Paula Vargas (Colombia); Miguel H. Cortés Chaves, Lissy Dorado Vargas, Kimberly Sánchez Carrillo (Costa Rica); Berenice Barinas Urbina, Edison Pena, Rosa Elba Cordero, (Dominican Republic); José Leonardo Yunes Cottallat, Patricio Lloret Cordero, Sandra Belén Sisalema Villalba, (Ecuador); Karina Guadalupe Burgos De Olivares, Gerardo Arístides Márquez Reyes, Elmer Humberto Castro Hernández (El Salvador); Robert Branch (Grenada); Oscar Miguel Dávila Mejicanos, Jeimy Nairobi Gómez Córdova, (Guatemala); Gail Teixeira (Guyana); Hans Jacques Ludwig Joseph, Yvlore Pigeot (Haiti); Roy Pineda Castro, Jorge Medina, Melissa Paz (Honduras); Marlene Malahoo Forte, Marlene Aldred, Michelle Walker, Shelly-Ann Thompson (Jamaica); Dálida C. Acosta Pimentel, Luis Enrique Pereda Trejo, Embajadora Luz Elena Baños Rivas, Valentina Valdez Jasso, Ricardo Salgado Perrilliat, Martha C. Vázquez Vázquez, Martín Muñoz-Ledo, Arturo Bernardino Toxqui, Claudia Aquino Carrillo, Ana del Carmen Félix Medina, Pamela Terrazas Fuentes, Cecilia Ocampo Mingueta, Illeana Lizbeth Muñoz Solis, María Fernanda Pérez Galindo, Alethia Pichardo Estrada, Ana Karen Aguilar Zárata (Mexico); Hernaldo José Chamorro Díaz, (Nicaragua); Elsa Fernández Aguilar, Tania Vasquez, Harry Pinto (Panama); María

Soledad Machuca Vidal, René Fernández Bobadilla, Miguel Ángel Romero, Desiree Montero, Doris Ojeda de Ynfran (Paraguay); Eloy Alberto Munive Pariona, Carlos Villena Changanahui, Yuriko Aguirre Chaupin, Virna Ruiz (Peru); Julian Alfred, Kozel Creese (Saint Lucia); Kezron J.S. Walters (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines); Sieglen Aviankoi, Rashna Babolall Inno, Juanita Cleopatra Santusha Lont (Suriname); Ian Rampersad (Trinidad and Tobago); Kellen McClure, Teddi Shihadeh-Bouffard, Nikhita Godbole, Margaret Ramsey, April Snedeker, Michael Wolf, Giovanni Snidle, Amanda Hickman, Hermes Grullon (United States of America); María Susana Signorino Barbat (Uruguay); José Ignacio Hernández, Neiza Pineda (Venezuela).

II. PROCEEDINGS

Mr. Jean Michel Arrighi, OAS Secretary for Legal Affairs, gave an opening address at the meeting's inaugural session.

Pursuant to the first item on the agenda and schedule for this meeting (Annexes I and II), the Technical Secretariat presented a report on the agenda and on work of the MESICIC.

Under agenda item 2, the Committee considered, in order, the preliminary draft country reports for Costa Rica and Mexico.

The Committee proceeded to review the preliminary draft country reports in accordance with Article 25 of the Rules of Procedure. Thus, in each case, the review subgroup presented the content and scope of its preliminary draft report; then, the State Party under review made a brief statement in regard to the draft report; and, finally, the Committee examined the corresponding draft report, with the experts offering observations and comments on the chapters and sections in order

For each draft report it reviewed, the Committee agreed on modifications, and provided instructions for the corresponding changes to be made and for the revised versions to be submitted to the plenary for consideration and final approval.

Then, in compliance with agenda item 3, voluntary presentations on best practices to prevent and combat corruption were given by the representatives of those States that had previously submitted the standard forms with the relevant information to the MESICIC Technical Secretariat, in keeping with the methodology for the presentation of best practices adopted by the Committee. Best practices were shared by Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Trinidad and Tobago.

In order to maximize the dissemination of the best practices presented, new information and communication technologies were used to broadcast the session by webcast over the official OAS Facebook and YouTube accounts and the official MESICIC Twitter account.

The electronic versions of the forms that were previously sent to the MESICIC Technical Secretariat on the best practices presented at this meeting, together with their annexes and the PowerPoint presentations used, will be published on the [Mechanism's web page](#), in accordance with the methodology adopted by the Committee. Although Haiti was unable to present its form during this session, but which the Technical Secretariat of the MESICIC received prior to the meeting, it will be posted on the Mechanism's web page, as well as the PowerPoint presentation that was to be used during the session.

Subsequently, as set out in Item 5 on the agenda, a Special Session was held on “Experiences, Achievements, and/or Lessons Learned in the use of New Information and Communication Technologies for Preventing and Combating Corruption.” During this session, representatives of States that had previously sent the Technical Secretariat the form in the annex to the methodology for the special session, described their experiences, achievements, and lessons learned on the topic. On account of its importance, the special session was transmitted by webcast over the official OAS Facebook and YouTube accounts and the official MESICIC Twitter account.

Presentations were given at this special session by: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay.

The electronic versions of the forms annexed to the methodology submitted by these States, together with the PowerPoint presentations used during the special session, will be posted on the [Mechanism’s web page](#) to ensure their continued dissemination. In addition, although Haiti was unable to present its form during this special session, but which the Technical Secretariat of the MESICIC received prior to the meeting, it will be posted on the Mechanism’s web page, as well as the PowerPoint presentation that was to be used during the special session.

Item 4 of the agenda was then considered. In this respect, the Technical Secretariat presented the “*Proposed Indicators to Prevent, Detect, and Eradicate Impunity for Acts of Corruption with regard to Results in their Investigation, Prosecution, Adjudication, and Sentencing*” (Annex III), which was prepared in accordance with what was agreed in the Thirty-Fifth Committee of Expert Meeting held March 2021. Immediately after the presentation by the Technical Secretariat, a review of the document began. For these purposes, the notes that included the observations and proposals for changes sent in advance by delegations were considered, in order, and decisions adopted.

Thus, the Committee considered and adopted decisions on the content and wording of the document up to the end of section a., “Indicators to determine the results of actions in relation to the performance of functions in connection to the criminal investigation and prosecution of acts of corruption.”

Bearing that in mind, the Committee agreed:

1. To give the countries that had formulated proposals on the second part of the document a period of three weeks to decide whether to withdraw their proposals or observations that they had previously submitted, should they deem it appropriate to do so in light of the considerations made and agreements reached with respect to the first part of the document at this meeting.
2. That the Technical Secretariat would prepare a revised version of the document that includes:
 - a. The agreed upon text for section a., "Indicators to determine the results of actions in relation to the performance of functions in connection to the criminal investigation and prosecution of acts of corruption."
 - b. The remaining text pending consideration by the Committee, with the respective notes on observations and proposals received from the delegations and not withdrawn within the aforementioned three-week period, along with suggestions from the Technical Secretariat on alternative texts or possible actions to be taken by

the Committee, taking into account the agreements reached with respect to the text considered and adopted at this meeting.

3. The Technical Secretariat will send the new revised version sufficiently in advance to the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Committee; and
4. The agenda for the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Committee will include consideration of the revised version of the proposed indicators as described above.





The Committee then proceeded to a final review of the draft country reports for Costa Rica, and Mexico, which, following their consideration, were approved by consensus. The approved texts of those country reports are appended as annexes hereto (Annexes IV and V).

Finally, under “other business:”

- The Committee considered the circumstances that had prevented Trinidad and Tobago from responding to its questionnaire in the scheduled timeframe and decided that this State would be reviewed with the last group of countries for the Sixth Round.
In addition, the Committee authorized the Technical Secretariat to make the corresponding changes resulting from that decision to both the order and the schedule adopted for the Sixth Round, and to prepare and distribute a revised version of both documents.
- The delegations of Chile and Argentina mentioned that they believed that, upon returning to in person meetings, it would be beneficial to consider the virtual remote participation of country experts who are unable to travel to OAS headquarters.
- The lead expert from Guyana stressed the importance of face-to-face meetings and the importance of personal contact between experts, once conditions surrounding the pandemic are overcome.
- The Chair of the Committee and the lead expert from the United States also supported the desire to return to in person meetings and stressed the importance and usefulness of the personal contact that takes place at such meetings between the experts from the member states.
- The lead expert of the United States also noted that the United States has officially announced its candidacy to host the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to be held in 2023.

Before ending the meeting, the Technical Secretariat read out these minutes, which were then unanimously approved by the plenary of the Committee, together with all the annexes that form an integral part thereof.

Washington, D.C., September 16, 2021

ANNEXES		
No.	Title	Link
I	Agenda for the Meeting	
II	Schedule for the Meeting	
III	Proposed indicators for preventing, detecting, and eliminating impunity surrounding acts of corruption based on the results of actions undertaken to investigate and prosecute such acts	
IV	Costa Rica Report	
V	Mexico Report	