

MECHANISM FOR FOLLOW-UP ON
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN
CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

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Third Meeting of the Conference of the States Parties
December 9-10, 2010
Brasilia, Brazil.

**MINUTES
OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTY TO THE MESICIC**

I. Background

Pursuant to provision 5 of the *Document of Buenos Aires* and the *Rules of Procedure* of the Conference, the Third Meeting of the Conference of States Parties to the Mechanism for Follow-up on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC) was held in Brasilia, Brazil, on December 9 and 10, 2010.

The Conference took into account the activities carried out and agreements adopted in the framework of the four preparatory meetings for the Third Meeting, which were held at OAS headquarters in accordance with Article 10 of the *Rules of Procedure*.

II. Opening session

In the opening session, remarks were made by the Secretary for Legal Affairs of the OAS, Jean Michel Arrighi, who read a message from the Secretary General of the OAS, José Miguel Insulza ([Appendix 1 Spanish](#)); and the Minister of State, Office of the Comptroller General of Brazil, Jorge Hage Sobrinho ([Appendix 2 Portuguese](#)).

After the opening session, two ceremonies were witnessed by the authorities in attendance. In the first, Haiti and Saint Kitts and Nevis became members of the MESICIC by signing the Declaration to this Mechanism. In the second, the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (GS/OAS) and the International Anti Corruption Academy (IACA) signed a memorandum of understanding.

III. Proceedings

The Chair of the Meeting, Luiz Navarro de Brito Filho, Executive Secretary of the Office of the Comptroller General of Brazil, called the meeting to order and submitted for the consideration of the Conference the draft agenda (MESICIC/CEP-III/doc.2/10) and draft schedule (MESICIC/CEP-III/doc.3/10), which were adopted by consensus ([Appendix 3](#) and [Appendix 4](#), respectively).

Pursuant to Article 5 of the *Rules of Procedure*, the Conference then elected its Chair. At the proposal of the delegation of Uruguay, seconded by the delegations of Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, and the United States, the delegation of Brazil was elected by acclamation.

Next the Conference elected its Vice Chair. At the proposal of the delegation of El Salvador, seconded by the delegation of Ecuador, the delegation of Costa Rica was elected Vice Chair by acclamation.

As per the next item on the agenda, the Director of the OAS Department of Legal Cooperation, Jorge García González, gave the first introductory presentation on the background and developments in the area of cooperation under the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, its Follow-Up Mechanism, and the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption ([Appendix 5 Spanish](#)).

Next, the representatives of the civil society organizations, Alejandro Salas, Regional Director for the Americas for “*Transparency International*,” Roberto A. Courtney Cerda, Executive Director of “*Grupo Cívico Ética y Transparencia*” of Nicaragua; and Luis Fernando Velásquez Leal, Executive Director of “*Corporación Acción Ciudadana Colombia*,” each gave a presentation on the subject of “Civil Society Organizations and Follow-up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.”

Then, the Chair of the MESICIC Committee of Experts and lead expert of Brazil, Vânia Lúcia Ribeiro Vieira, presented the Hemispheric Report on the Second Round of Review of the Committee of Experts of the MESICIC ([Appendix 6 Portuguese](#)).

There followed a dialogue of the heads of delegation. In this regard, remarks were offered by the heads of delegation of the following States Parties: Mexico, Uruguay, Guatemala, El Salvador, Peru, United States, Ecuador, Bolivia, Canada, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Chile, Haiti, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Colombia, Panama and Guyana. The texts of the comments of the delegations that were submitted in writing may be found in [Appendix 7](#) hereto.

At the end of the dialogue, the Chair of the Conference gave a summary of the points of consensus and underscored the following:

1. The importance of continuing to make known the work of the MESICIC Committee of Experts and the contents of the Convention in the countries.
2. The importance of continuing to strengthen the exchange of experiences and best practices in implementing the Convention.
3. The impact of MESICIC in supporting the fight against corruption.
4. The importance of tools of cooperation, such as plans of action in supporting implementation of the Convention and the recommendations of the MESICIC.
5. Maintaining the importance that the Mechanism has attained, strengthening it further, and keeping in mind its work for areas such as the UN Convention against Corruption.

6. The participation by civil society.
7. Training as an area that should be supported.
8. The importance of on-site visits and development of a procedure for their conduct.
9. Topics of collective interest, such as asset recovery and private-sector responsibility.

The Conference then turned to item 7 on the agenda concerning consideration and adoption of the recommendations of this Third Meeting of the Conference of the States Party to the MESICIC.

For this purpose, it used the draft negotiated and agreed during the preparatory meetings, in accordance with the terms provided in the respective draft.

After a number of delegations put forward observations with respect to their content and scope and a number of changes were agreed, the Conference adopted the recommendations, which are included as [Appendix 8](#) to these minutes.

As regards the item “other business”:

- a. Presentations were given by the representatives of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Dorothee Gottwald; GRECO (Council of Europe), Laura Sanz-Lavia; and the International Anti Corruption Academy (IACA), Martin Kreutner, who described developments in the framework of these organizations and possibilities for cooperation with MESICIC and its States Parties.
- b. It was announced that the representative of Antigua and Barbuda would sign the Declaration on the Mechanism at the end of the meeting, as indeed did happen.

Before concluding the meeting, the Secretariat read out these minutes, which were approved by consensus, along with all the appendices, which are an integral part thereof.