

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

Forty-Fourth Meeting of the Committee of Experts

September 8-11, 2025

Washington D.C.

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MINUTES

OF THE FORTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE MECHANISM FOR FOLLOWING UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

I. BACKGROUND

In accordance with the Schedule for the Sixth Round of Review agreed upon by the Committee of Experts of the Follow-Up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC), the Forty-Fourth Meeting of the Committee was held from September 8 to 11, 2025.

This meeting was held in person at the OAS headquarters in Washington, D.C., United States. This meeting was attended by the following representatives of the States Parties: Vanessa Moe (Antigua and Barbuda); Alejo Perie (Argentina); Ambassador Héctor Arce Zaconeta, Maysa Ureña (Bolivia); Cesar E. Ross, Alexya Perez (Belize); Rafael Luz, Ricardo A. Saani, Carlos Rosa da Silveira (Brazil); Erin Cassidy (Canada); Eugenio Campos, Carla Troncoso, Macarena Morales, José Henríquez, Catalina Vera (Chile); Andrea Alarcón (Colombia); Ambassador Alejandra Solano Cabalceta, Lissy Dorado Vargas, Paola Madriz Pérez (Costa Rica); Berenice Barinas Ubiñas, Madiusca Batista, Alice Guerra (**Dominican Republic**); Esteban Vivero, Xavier Muñoz (**Ecuador**); Ambassador Wendy Acevedo Castillo, Kennedy Reyes Lazo (El Salvador); Julio Flores, Carlos B. Muñoz, Álvaro Montenegro (Guatemala); Hans Jacques Ludwig Joseph, Delva Dimanche (Haiti); Melissa Sue Paz (Honduras); Sherise Gayle (Jamaica); Ambassador Luz Elena Baños Rivas, Mónica Montano (Mexico); Ambassador Ana Irene Delgado, Sheyla Castillo de Arias, Carlos Ibarra, Osiris Vanega (Panama); Ambassador Raúl Florentín Antola, Carla Aquino Biscotti, Luis Jeronimo Sann (Paraguay); José Roberto Rodríguez Bustamante (Peru); Abdullah Skerritt (Saint Kitts and Nevis); Dalia Clement (Saint Lucia); Kenrah Newry (The Bahamas); Kele-Ann Bourne Jessen (Trinidad and Tobago); Kellen McClure, Jeffrey Presnell (United States); María Beatriz Fernández y Gabriela Mendiguibel (Uruguay).

II. PROCEEDINGS

To commence the meeting, the OAS Secretary for Legal Affairs, Jean Michel Arrighi, and the Chair of the Committee, Berenice Barinas Ubiñas, gave opening remarks and welcomed the participants. In accordance with the first item on the Agenda and the Schedule for this meeting (Annexes I and II), the Technical Secretariat, under the responsibility of the Department of Legal Cooperation of the OAS Secretariat for Legal Affairs, through its Director, Jorge García González, presented a report referring to the items on the meeting Agenda.

Under the second item on the Agenda, the Committee considered, in order, the draft preliminary country reports for Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Kitts and Nevis.

These draft preliminary country reports were considered in accordance with the provisions of 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 statement on the draft report; and the Committee then considered the respective draft report, for which the observations and comments of the experts were presented in the order of the chapters and sections.

With regard to each of the draft reports considered, the Committee agreed on amendments and requested that the respective changes be made and the revised versions be submitted to the plenary for consideration and final approval of the corresponding reports.

Subsequently, in accordance with item 3 of the Agenda, consideration began on the revised version of the "Proposal of Indicators to Determine the Factors Influencing the Investigation, Prosecution, Adjudication and Sentencing of Acts of Corruption," prepared by the Technical Secretariat. In accordance with the agreement reached at the Forty-Third Meeting of the Committee of Experts held in March 2025, the revised version of the aforementioned proposal for indicators included all the proposals and observations received from the States, which were compiled in a total of 130 notes from the Technical Secretariat.

For these purposes, the Committee first addressed the general comments that had been included in Secretariat Note #1. The Committee then decided that the comments received regarding the introduction to the document would be considered at the end of the comprehensive review of the document. Subsequently, the Committee agreed to consider, in order and in accordance with the number of the respective Technical Secretariat notes, the proposals and comments sent in advance in writing by the States regarding the text of the proposed indicators set out in the document.

In accordance with this methodology, the Committee proceeded to consider Technical Secretariat Note #17. In this regard, it was agreed that the Technical Secretariat would prepare a revised version reflecting the adjustments agreed upon in the document thus far and that the Committee would continue to consider this new revised version starting with the note equivalent to number 18 in the version reviewed at this meeting.

Furthermore, in response to the comments made at this meeting, the Chilean delegation offered to send the Technical Secretariat a proposal for possible indicators regarding the investigation of the assets of individuals accused of acts of corruption, which it was agreed that the delegation would send within the next two months.

Next, in accordance with item 4 on the Agenda, the "Special Session: Use of Artificial Intelligence to Prevent and Combat Corruption" was held. This special session consisted of two parts. During the first part, presentations were made by representatives of the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF), Transparency International, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and the World Bank. Electronic copies of these presentations, which were delivered to the MESICIC Technical Secretariat, will be published on the Mechanism's website to ensure their continued dissemination.

During the second part of this special session, representatives of the States that had previously expressed their intention to make presentations on their developments in this area did so. These States were: Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Uruguay. The electronic versions of the PowerPoint presentations used during the special session will be published on the Mechanism's website to ensure their continued dissemination.

Then, in accordance with item 5 of the Agenda, presentations on best practices were made by representatives of the States that had previously sent the standard form with the relevant information to the Technical Secretariat of MESICIC, in accordance with the methodology for the presentation of best practices adopted by the Committee. The States that shared best practices were the following: Bolivia, Belize, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

The electronic versions of the forms that were previously sent to the MESICIC Technical Secretariat and their annexes, on the best practices presented at this meeting, as well as the PowerPoint presentations used, will be published on the Mechanism's website, in accordance with the methodology adopted by the Committee.

In accordance with item 6, the Committee addressed the final review of the draft country reports for Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Kitts and Nevis, which were approved by consensus. The approved texts of these country reports are included as annexes to these minutes (**Annexes III and IV**) and will be published on the MESICIC website.

Regarding item 7 on the Agenda, "Other matters":

1. The expert from Costa Rica, in relation to the revised version of the "Proposal of Indicators to Determine the Factors Influencing the Investigation, Prosecution, Adjudication and Sentencing of Acts of Corruption" that was considered at this meeting, proposed that the States that made observations or proposals in a form that does not impact all States inform the Technical Secretariat within two months if they withdraw any of those proposals. To this end, the

- Technical Secretariat will send a communication to all delegations, together with the version of the document with the notes of the Technical Secretariat.
- 2. At the proposal of the expert from Costa Rica, it was agreed that the Technical Secretariat will send the list with the contact details of those who participated on behalf of the States at this meeting.

Before closing the meeting, the Technical Secretariat read these minutes, which were approved by the Committee as a whole by consensus, together with all its annexes, which form an integral part thereof.

Washington, D.C., September 11, 2025

ANNEXES	
No.	Documents
I	Agenda (<u>English</u>)
II	Schedule (English)
III	Report on Antigua and Barbuda (English)
IV	Report on Saint Kitts and Nevis (English)