



**Mechanism for Follow-up on the Implementation of
the Inter-American Convention against Corruption**

M E S I C I C

HEMISPHERIC REPORT

Fourth Round of Review

C O M M I T T E E O F E X P E R T S

MECHANISM FOR FOLLOW-UP ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN
CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION
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HEMISPHERIC REPORT
ON THE FOURTH ROUND OF REVIEW OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE
MECHANISM FOR FOLLOW-UP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN
CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

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INTRODUCTION

Article 30 of the Rules of Procedure and Other Provisions of the Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC) requires the Committee to adopt a Hemispheric Report at the end of each round of review of the implementation of the Convention provisions selected for that round. It also stipulates that the Hemispheric Report is made up of two parts:

A) A general, comprehensive review that includes, among other things, the conclusions arrived at in the country reports and the recommendations of a collective nature, both as regards following up on the results of said reports and regarding the recommended actions for consolidating or strengthening hemispheric cooperation on the issues addressed in the provisions under consideration in each round or closely related to them; and,

B) A summary of progress made by the countries overall in implementing the recommendations made by the Committee in previous rounds.

In accordance with that requirement, the Committee has previously adopted hemispheric reports for the first three review rounds: the first in 2006,¹ the second in 2008,² and the third in 2011.³

Following the conclusion of the Fourth Review Round, the Committee will set out in this Report the results of that round in the fashion proscribed in the regulations cited above. This Hemispheric Report will cover the following topics:

- Chapter I highlights the importance that the OAS has placed on the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (IACAC) as a pioneering international legal instrument in its field. It also describes the comprehensive approach to the corruption problem on which the Convention's provisions are based; the commitments for public institutions, the private sector, and civil society arising from those provisions; and the call it makes for inter-American cooperation in addressing the problem effectively.

- In Chapters II, III, and IV, the report offers a description of the MESICIC as an intergovernmental instrument for horizontal cooperation among its States Parties that also allows broad participation by civil society, and it showcases the role of its Committee of Experts: the Mechanism's technical organ, designed to assist those States in fully implementing the IACAC in order to meet their commitments arising from it.

- Chapter V covers the Fourth Round of Review and notes the importance of the IACAC provision that the Committee selected for review in that round (Article III, paragraph 9), in light of which the Committee conducted a comprehensive review of the main oversight bodies in the Member States.

1. Available at: http://www.oas.org/juridico/english/mec_rou1_inf_hemis_en.pdf.
2. Available at: http://www.oas.org/juridico/english/mec_rou2_inf_hemis.pdf.
3. Available at: http://www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/IIIinf_hemis_en.pdf.

This chapter also deals with the follow-up of the recommendations that the Committee formulated to the countries during the First Round, and with the special treatment given to the last three States to join the MESICIC, in the case of which the review addressed the implementation of the provisions examined in that round.

Finally, it sets out the stages in the review process, the activities undertaken to conduct the review, and the Committee's main activities during the Fourth Round, including the adoption of the country reports, the characteristics and general contents of which are described.

- Chapter VI covers the on-site visits. As can be seen, these visits represent both an innovation and a qualitative leap forward in the review process undertaken by the Committee in the Fourth Round, yielding the positive results described in that chapter.

- Chapter VII provides a general and specific analysis of the country reports, as referred to in Article 30(a) of the Rules of Procedure, focusing on the review of the recommendations contained in those reports regarding the implementation of the IACAC provision selected by the Committee for the Fourth Round (oversight bodies) and on the best practices reported by the countries in connection with those bodies.

- Chapter VIII gives a summary of the progress made by the countries overall in implementing the recommendations formulated by the Committee referred to in Article 30(b) of its Rules of Procedure, focusing on those formulated to the countries in the First Round that, as already noted, were followed up in the Fourth Round.

- Chapter IX summarizes the numerous different steps taken by the countries that the Committee has identified as representing progress with the implementation of the recommendations formulated in the First Round, which are identified in Annex III of this report. This is an innovation that serves to showcase the countries' efforts in their fight against corruption, in the shape of specific actions.

- Chapter X sets out references to the usefulness of the IACAC and of the MESICIC contained both in express statements and in the actions that the countries have undertaken in accordance with the terms of the Convention and with the recommendations formulated to them for its implementation by the MESICIC Committee of Experts.

- Chapter XI contains the collective recommendations referred to in Article 30(a) of the Committee's Rules of Procedure: first of all, those dealing with follow-up on the results of the reports, which are intended for the States to undertake the actions necessary for the implementation of the recommendations they contain; and, second, those dealing with the type of actions recommended for consolidating or strengthening hemispheric cooperation in connection with the Convention provision examined during the Fourth Round (oversight bodies) and that are closely related to them.

- Chapter XII describes a variety of activities carried out under the aegis of the MESICIC in addition to those addressed in Chapter V; while not carried out directly by the Committee of Experts, they are closely related to its work.

This report was adopted by the MESICIC Committee of Experts based on the draft prepared by its Technical Secretariat in compliance with the terms of Article 9(f) of the Committee's Rules of Procedure.

I. THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

1.1. A pioneering international legal instrument in its field

The Inter-American Convention against Corruption⁴ (IACAC) was the first international legal instrument in its field. It was adopted in 1996 at a Specialized Conference held under the aegis of the OAS in Caracas, and it set the precedent for later developments in this area that took place within the OECD, the Council of Europe, the African Union, and the United Nations.

The adoption of the IACAC was a pioneering step that recognized the international scope of corruption and was the result of the high priority our countries had in regard to this problem when, at the First Summit of the Americas, held in Miami in 1994, they agreed to negotiate a hemispheric agreement on the topic within the OAS.

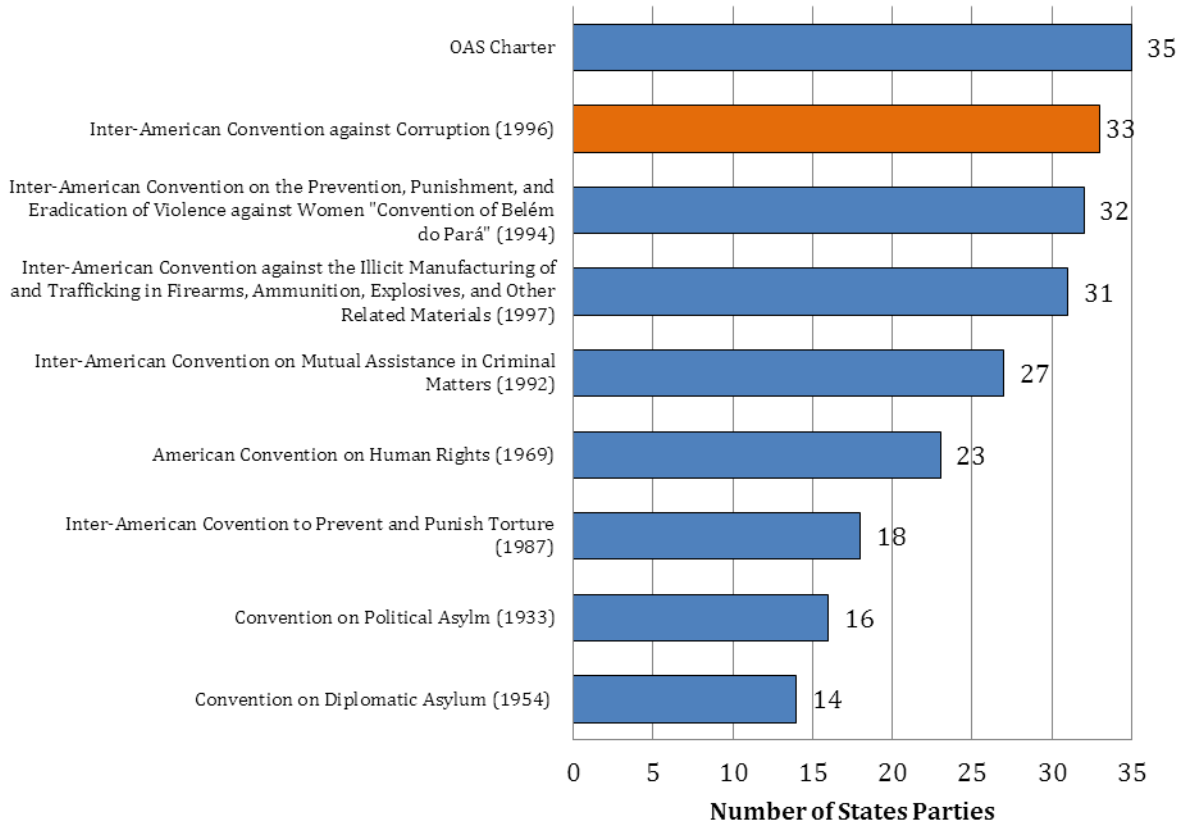
1.2. A Convention with the broadest acceptance by the American States

The IACAC also responds to the OAS Charter, which states that “representative democracy is an indispensable condition for the stability, peace, and development of the region,” in that with this instrument, the Member States have recognized that corruption is one of the most serious threats faced by democracies.

This can be seen in the broad acceptance of the IACAC among the States of the Americas, making it one of the most ratified inter-American treaties compared to both the OAS Charter itself and other treaties of equal importance, as can be seen on the following graphic.

4. The text of the Convention is available at: www.oas.org/juridico/english/Treaties/b-58.html.

Graphic comparing the IACAC and other Inter-American Treaties by number of States Parties




1.3. A comprehensive approach to the problem of corruption

The IACAC adopts a comprehensive approach to the problem of corruption and, accordingly, it contains measures for the prevention, detection, and investigation of acts of corruption, for punishing those who commit them, and for enabling States to recover the assets lost through those acts.

Article III of the IACAC sets out measures intended to prevent corruption, such as standards for the prevention of conflicts of interest and the conservation of public resources; the understanding of those standards by public servants and the recognition of a public servant's right to equitable compensation; the hiring of public servants in accordance with the principles of openness, equity, and efficiency, and the procurement of goods, services, and works by the State in accordance with those same principles.

That article of the IACAC also establishes important measures for detecting acts of corruption, such as those that require public servants to report the perpetrators of such acts and that extend protection to whistleblowers, and those that establish systems requiring persons who perform public functions to register their incomes, assets, and liabilities, which can be of great use in detecting possible conflicts of interest and cases of illicit enrichment.

	State Parties		IACAC	MESICIC
1		Antigua and Barbuda	✓	✓
2		Argentina	✓	✓
3		Barbados	-	-
4		Belize	✓	✓
5		Bolivia	✓	✓
6		Brazil	✓	✓
7		Canada	✓	✓
8		Chile	✓	✓
9		Colombia	✓	✓
10		Costa Rica	✓	✓
11		Dominica	✓	-
12		Dominican Republic	✓	✓
13		Ecuador	✓	✓
14		El Salvador	✓	✓
15		Grenada	✓	✓
16		Guatemala	✓	✓
17		Guyana	✓	✓
18		Haiti	✓	✓
19		Honduras	✓	✓
20		Jamaica	✓	✓
21		Mexico	✓	✓
22		Nicaragua	✓	✓
23		Panama	✓	✓
24		Paraguay	✓	✓
25		Peru	✓	✓
26		Saint Kitts and Nevis	✓	✓
27		Saint Lucia	✓	-
28		St. Vincent and the Grenadines	✓	✓
29		Suriname	✓	✓
30		The Bahamas	✓	✓
31		Trinidad and Tobago	✓	✓
32		United States	✓	✓
33		Uruguay	✓	✓
34		Venezuela	✓	✓

With respect to the investigation of acts of corruption and recognizing the multilateral nature of the corruption problem, Article XIV of the IACAC establishes measures to enable its States Parties to provide the broadest possible mutual assistance for the investigation and prosecution of those acts, in order to secure the evidence and pursue the formalities that such undertakings require.

The IACAC also sets out a series of measures to prevent impunity for those who commit acts of corruption, such as the adequate criminalization for these acts in the criminal legislation of States Parties (Articles VI, VII, and XI), as well as that of transnational bribery (Article VIII), and illicit enrichment (Article IX). In addition, Article XIII sets out provisions for streamlining the extradition of persons who have committed acts of corruption, and Article XVII provides rules for preventing asylum mechanisms from being abused to evade justice in such cases.

To enable States to recover property or proceeds obtained through acts of corruption, Article XV of the IACAC sets out measures for the identification, tracing, freezing, seizure, and forfeiture of property or proceeds obtained, derived from, or used in the commission of corruption offenses.

1.4. Recognition of the need to include institutions, the private sector, and civil society in efforts to address corruption

The IACAC's comprehensive approach to fighting corruption is not limited to the establishment of legal provisions. Although it is of the utmost importance for States to have suitable legal frameworks, if they lack the appropriate institutions for enforcement, and if those institutions do not have the cooperation of civil society and the private

sector, they will be unable to tackle the problem effectively.

For that reason, Article III of the IACAC recognizes the key role that oversight bodies play in the prevention, detection, and punishment of corrupt acts and calls on the States to strengthen them, so they can develop modern mechanisms to pursue those goals.

The IACAC also cites the private sector in this article, by establishing measures to counter bribery: such as requiring that companies maintain books and records that accurately reflect the acquisition and disposition of assets, and have sufficient internal accounting controls to enable their officers to detect corrupt acts.

In addition, Article XVI contains rules to prevent bank secrecy from posing as an obstacle in proceedings in which acts of corruption are being investigated.

The IACAC also recognizes the role of civil society and nongovernmental organizations by calling, in Article III, for the creation of mechanisms to encourage their participation in anticorruption efforts.

1.5. A call for inter-American cooperation to fight corruption effectively

The logical consequence of the transnational nature of the corruption problem is the recognition that a States' isolated efforts alone are not enough for effectively tackling it. Therefore, although the IACAC's chief purpose is to promote the development, by each of its States Parties, of measures to prevent, detect, punish, and eradicate corruption, it enshrines as its secondary purpose, which is an indispensable complement to the first, the goal of promoting, facilitating, and regulating cooperation among States in order to ensure that those measures are effective.

In pursuit of this, Article XIV of the IACAC sets out measures whereby its States Parties can extend the broadest possible mutual assistance in the investigation and prosecution of acts of corruption and can render mutual technical cooperation on the best manner and methods to prevent, detect, investigate, and punish such actions, by encouraging exchanges of experiences in that area.

II. THE CONVENTION'S FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM OF THE CONVENTION (MESICIC)

2.1 An instrument for horizontal cooperation among States

The commitment of the American States toward jointly tackling the problem of corruption as set out in the IACAC received a further impetus at the Third Summit of the Americas, held in Québec City in April 2001, when the Heads of State and Government agreed to support the creation of a mechanism to follow up on its implementation.

That agreement was finalized on June 4, 2001, at the thirty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly, held in San José, Costa Rica, which approved the Mechanism for Follow-up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC) in the terms set out in the document known as the "Report of Buenos Aires on the Mechanism for Follow-up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption,"⁵ which arose from the Conference of States Parties of the IACAC held in the Argentine capital on May 2 to 4, 2001.

The MESICIC is an instrument for horizontal cooperation among its Member States, and accordingly its goal is to provide mutual assistance for the implementation of the IACAC; to follow up on the

5. The text of this document is available at: www.oas.org/juridico/english/doc_buenos_aires_en.pdf.

commitments made by the States Parties to the Convention and to study how they are being implemented; and to facilitate technical cooperation activities, the exchange of information, experiences, and best practices, and the harmonization of the legislation of the States Parties.

2.2 An intergovernmental mechanism in line with the purposes of the OAS

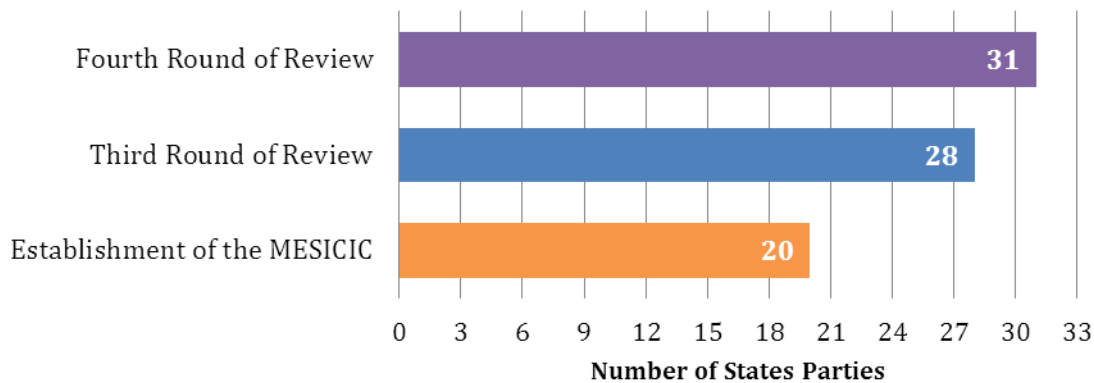
In addition, the MESICIC operates under the aegis of the goals and principles of the OAS Charter and it abides by principles such as sovereignty, nonintervention, and the juridical equality of States; similarly, although it is intergovernmental in nature, it allows for the opinions of civil society to be heard.

It is characterized by impartiality and objectivity in its operations and in the conclusions it reaches, and by the absence of sanctions. This serves to ensure its seriousness and underscores the fact that its goal is not to assess or classify the participating States, but to strengthen cooperation among them in their efforts against the common enemy of corruption.

2.3 An expanding mechanism

When the *Report of Buenos Aires* was adopted on June 4, 2001, 20 State Parties of the IACAC signed on to participate in the MESICIC. By the start of the Third Round of Review, this grew to 28 States Parties, and subsequently, for the Fourth Round, with Antigua and Barbuda, Haiti and Saint Kitts and Nevis participating, the Mechanism now counts on 31 countries, which demonstrates the growing enthusiasm by the States Parties to the IACAC to participate in this instrument of cooperation.

The following chart demonstrates the increase in participation by the States Parties of the IACAC to the Mechanism, from its creation to the Fourth Round of Review:



2.4 Composition

The MESICIC comprises of the Conference of the States Parties, which has general responsibility for implementing the mechanism, and the Committee of Experts, which is described in the following section of this report. Support for the MESICIC's activities is given, in accordance with the *Report of Buenos Aires*, by the OAS General Secretariat, which provides the Mechanism with technical secretariat services through the Department of Legal Cooperation of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs.

III. THE MESICIC COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

3.1 A technical body made up of experts to assist the States in implementing the Convention and following up on its commitments

The MESICIC Committee of Experts is the mechanism's technical body and is responsible for the technical review of how the States Parties implement the Convention's provisions.

The Committee is comprised of experts on fighting corruption, appointed by each of the Mechanism's States Parties. Their professional training, background and direct and practical understanding of the different topics covered by the Convention ensures a rigorous review and pertinent recommendations.

To take maximum advantage of the Committee's work, a set of Rules of Procedure adopted by its members govern the essential aspects of its organization and duties – such as its functions; the powers of its Chair, Vice Chair, and Technical Secretariat; the adoption of its decisions; the selection of the Convention provisions for review in each round and the procedure used for that review; and participation by civil society in its activities.⁶

For its technical review of how the MESICIC States Parties have implemented the provisions of the Convention, the Committee conducts a process of reciprocal or mutual evaluation among the States, in successive "rounds." During these rounds the States review the way in which they are implementing the IACAC provisions selected for review in each round and – in accordance with the Rules of Procedure, a methodology, a questionnaire, and a uniform structure – they adopt country reports in which each State receives specific recommendations for covering the regulatory shortcomings detected and for resolving any inadequacies found. The reports also contain indicators for the objective determination of results so the States can identify challenges and adopt the necessary corrective measures.

In addition to this, the Committee is responsible for the important task of reviewing the progress made by the MESICIC States Parties in implementing the recommendations formulated to them in earlier rounds.

3.2 A forum for promoting the exchange of good practices and technical cooperation among States

The Committee of Experts has consolidated its position as the ideal forum for pursuing the goals of the MESICIC of facilitating technical cooperation activities, exchanges of information, experiences, and that of best practices among its Member States. This has been carried out by including, among its activities, the examination of topics of collective interest that the States have been utilizing in order to share their best practices in the different areas addressed by the Convention.

It should be noted that under the Methodology for Conducting On-site Visits, adopted by the Committee of Experts at its Eighteenth Meeting in March 2011, since the start of the Fourth Round the countries have had new forums for exchanging best practices, as well as their difficulties and technical assistance needs, and for requesting or benefiting from technical cooperation, which is consistent with the MESICIC's purpose as an instrument for horizontal cooperation among its Member States.

6. The Rules of Procedure is available at: www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/mesicic4_rules_en.pdf.

IV. BROAD CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN THE MESICIC

As already noted, although the MESICIC is intergovernmental in nature, it is also empowered to hear the opinions of civil society. Thus, since its inception, the Committee of Experts has encouraged the participation of civil society organizations in its activities and, pursuant to Chapter V (Articles 33 to 36) of its Rules of Procedure, it has provided them with a forum for that participation.

Those provisions afford civil society with broad possibilities for participation. For example, they may present specific proposals to be considered in determining important matters such as the Convention articles to be reviewed in a given round, the methodology to be used for this review, and the questionnaire to be applied to gather the necessary information.

They can also submit specific and direct information on the questions contained in the questionnaire on the implementation by a given State Party of the provisions selected for review in a round, and on the implementation of recommendations formulated in previous rounds.

These documents, provided they are submitted in the timeframes and fashion indicated in the Rules of Procedure, can also be presented in person by the organizations at the informal meetings that the Committee of Experts holds prior to the commencement of its formal sessions.

During the Fourth Round, documents were received from various civil society organizations on the implementation of the Convention provision selected for that Round by a country and of the recommendations that were formulated to them in the First Round.⁷ Those organizations are listed in Annex I of this report.

The documents received within the timeframe and conditions imposed by the Rules of Procedure were distributed among the members of the corresponding preliminary review subgroups, the States Parties undergoing review, and all other members of the Committee. In addition, these organizations were able to make presentations before the Committee, upon acceptance of the Committee's invitation to do so, and were considered in the deliberations of the meetings. Moreover the comments contained in them deemed relevant by the Committee of Experts were incorporated into its reports.

It should be noted that at the Third Meeting of the Conference of States Parties of the MESICIC, held in Brasilia in December 2010, it was recommended that the Committee of Experts consider adopting measures to promote a broader and more diverse participation by civil society organizations in the activities of the MESICIC.

In line with that recommendation, the Methodology for Conducting On-site Visits provided new opportunities for participation by such organizations, including those from the private sector, professional associations, academics, and researchers. Very good use was made of those opportunities during the on-site visits made during the Fourth Round, as can be seen in the section of Chapter VI of this report that refers to those visits.

This gave a new impetus for civil society participation in the activities of the MESICIC Committee of Experts, reflecting its willingness to promote the use of an increasingly broad opportunity of participation made available to different social actors. On this point, it should be noted that an

7. These documents are available at: www.oas.org/juridico/english/follow_civ.htm.

analysis conducted by the U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre found that the MESICIC was the mechanism that “contains the strongest formal requirements on civil society participation.”

The opportunities for participation by civil society in the MESICIC are represented in the following graphic:



V. THE FOURTH ROUND OF REVIEW

5.1 The importance of the comprehensive review of oversight bodies with anticorruption responsibilities

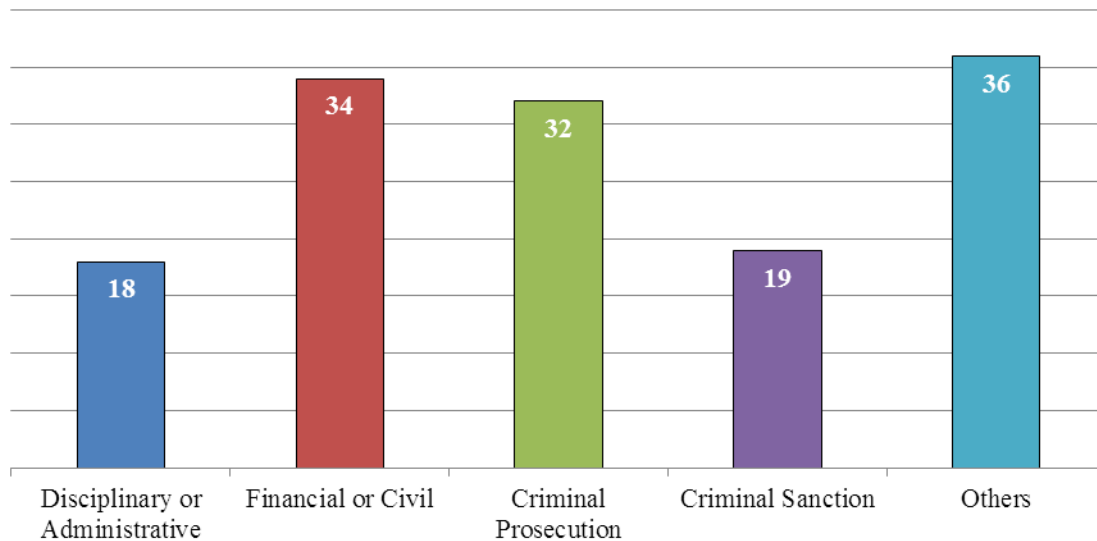
The Committee selected, as the Convention provision to be reviewed in the Fourth Round in terms of its implementation by the MESICIC Member States, that contained in Article III, paragraph 9, which deals with “oversight bodies, with a view to implementing modern mechanisms for preventing, detecting, punishing, and eradicating corrupt acts.”

To ensure that the comprehensive review of those bodies to be carried out by the Committee in this round focused on those that, by reason of their functions, have the greatest impact on anticorruption efforts, given that the MESICIC Member States have numerous oversight bodies charged with the duties set out in the aforesaid provision of the Convention, the methodology adopted for that review established that each country would select four or five such bodies, in consideration of their institutional importance and bearing in mind that their duties should cover one or more of the goals of preventing, detecting, punishing, and eradicating corrupt acts that trigger responsibilities of a disciplinary or administrative, financial or civil, or criminal nature.

This underscores the importance of the review of the implementation of the selected Convention provision carried out by the MESICIC Committee of Experts in this round, since it covers the main oversight bodies in the Mechanism’s Member States charged with preventing, detecting, punishing, and eradicating corrupt acts and the different kinds of responsibility that they trigger for the perpetrators, enforcement of which falls to those bodies.

The table below notes the large number of oversight bodies that were reviewed (139) as well as the total number for each group to where they belong, classified according to their main functions as regards the determination of the disciplinary or administrative, financial or civil, and criminal (prosecution and punishment) responsibility generated by corrupt acts (the category “other” is included for those bodies charged with duties such as preventing corruption).

Total number of oversight bodies reviewed according to their principal function



The following provides the number of oversight bodies reviewed in each State Party, as well as identifying them:

 **Antigua and Barbuda**

- Integrity Commission
- Office of the Attorney General
- Office of the Director of Audit
- Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
- Public Service Commission

 **Belize**

- Ministry of the Public Service
- Office of the Auditor General
- Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
- Office of the Services Commissions

 **Argentina**

- Office of the Auditor General
- Office of the Prosecutor for Administrative Investigations
- Anticorruption Office
- Judicial Branch of the Nation
- Office of the Inspector General of the Nation

 **Bolivia**

- Ministry for Institutional Transparency and Fight against Corruption
- Public Ministry
- Judicial Branch
- Prosecutor General Of the State
- Financial Investigations Unit

 **Brazil**

- Office of the Comptroller General of the Union
- Federal Police Department
- Federal Public Prosecutor's Office
- Supreme Federal Tribunal
- Federal Audit Court

 **Chile**

- Office of the Comptroller General
- Public Prosecution Service
- Judicial Branch
- Financial Analysis Unit

 **Costa Rica**

- Office of the Comptroller General
- Ombudsman
- Treasury and Civil Service Criminal Jurisdiction
- Public Prosecution Service
- Office Of Public Ethics

 **Ecuador**

- Citizen Participation and Social Oversight Council
- Office of the Comptroller General of the State
- State Prosecution Service
- Judicial Function

 **Grenada**

- Audit Department
- Integrity Commission
- Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
- Public Service Commission

 **Canada**

- Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs
- Public Prosecution Service
- Public Service Commission
- Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

 **Colombia**

- Judicature Council
- Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic
- Supreme Court of Justice
- Office of General Prosecutor
- Office of the Attorney General

 **Dominican Republic**

- Court of Accounts
- Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic
- Bureau Of Governmental Integrity and Ethics
- Judicial Branch
- Office of the Special Attorney to Prosecute Corruption in Public Administration

 **El Salvador**

- Court of Accounts
- Supreme Court of Justice
- Office Of the Attorney General
- Government Ethics Tribunal

 **Guatemala**

- Presidential Commission on Transparency and Electronic Government
- Comptroller General of Accounts
- Office Of the Attorney General
- Judicial Branch

 **Guyana**

- National Procurement and Tender Administration
- Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
- Judicial Service Commission
- Public Service Commission
- Audit Office of Guyana

 **Honduras**

- National Banking and Insurance Commission
- Public Prosecution Service
- Judicial Branch
- Office of the Attorney General of the Republic
- Superior Court of Accounts

 **Mexico**

- Office of the Senior Auditor of the Federation
- Federal Judicature Council
- Office of the Attorney General of the Republic
- Civil Service Secretariat

 **Panama**

- Office of the Comptroller general of the Republic
- Supreme Court of Justice
- Public Prosecution Service
- Court of Accounts

 **Peru**

- Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic
- Office of the Attorney General
- Judiciary
- Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office

 **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

 **Haiti**

- National Public Procurement Commission
- Superior Council of the Judicial Branch
- Superior Court of Accounts and of Administrative Disputes
- General Inspectorate of Finance
- Anti-Corruption Unit

 **Jamaica**

- Auditor General's Department
- Commission for the Prevention of Corruption
- Integrity Commission
- Office of the Contractor General

 **Nicaragua**

- Office of Comptroller General of the Republic
- Supreme Court Of Justice
- Public Prosecution Service
- National Police
- Office of the Attorney General of the Republic

 **Paraguay**

- Office of the Auditor General of the Executive Branch
- Office of the Comptroller General
- Supreme Court Of Justice
- Public Prosecution Service
- The Public Service Secretariat

 **Saint Kitts and Nevis**

- Magistrate's Department
- Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
- Royal Police Force
- The Ombudsman

 **Suriname**

-
- Director of Audit
 - Office of the Attorney General
 - Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
 - Service Commissions Department

 **The Bahamas**

-
- Public Disclosure Commission
 - Department of the Auditor General
 - Financial Intelligence Unit
 - Office of the Attorney General
 - Compliance Commission

 **United States**

-
- Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency
 - Office of Government Ethics
 - Office of Special Counsel
 - Public Integrity Section - US Department of Justice

 **Venezuela**

-
- Office of the Comptroller General
 - Ombudsperson's Office
 - Public Prosecution Service
 - National Superintendency of Internal Audits
 - Supreme Court of Justice

-
- The Central Government Auditing Bureau - CLAD
 - The High Court of Justice
 - The Ministry of Justice and Police
 - The Public Prosecutions Department

 **Trinidad and Tobago**

-
- Integrity Commission
 - Ministry of the Attorney General
 - Office of the Auditor General
 - Office of the Ombudsman
 - Service Commissions

 **Uruguay**

-
- Transparency and Public Ethics Board
 - Office of the Attorney General and Public Prosecutor
 - Supreme Court Of Justice
 - Court of Accounts

5.2 Approach used to follow up on the recommendations formulated during the First Round

Pursuant to recommendation 9(a) of the Third Meeting of the Conference of MESICIC States Parties, for the follow-up component of the Fourth Round of Review, the Committee of Experts focused exclusively on those formulated to the States during the First Round. This enabled it to review in depth all the information provided by the States and that gathered through other means, such as the on-site visits, and, on that basis, to determine whether they were still applicable, that is, whether they had been affected by circumstances such as changes in the legal and institutional framework of a State, and, if that was not the case, to examine whether the State had given them satisfactory consideration, whether they required additional attention, or whether they should be reformulated in light of changing circumstances.

The results of the follow-up efforts described in the previous paragraph can be seen in Chapter VIII of this report.

5.3 Special review given to the last three States to join the MESICIC

As already noted, three States joined the MESICIC at the start of the Fourth Round. In addition to being reviewed for their implementation of the Convention provision selected for that round, dealing with oversight bodies (Article III.9), they were also reviewed with respect to their implementation of the Convention provisions selected for the First Round, which examined standards of conduct and mechanisms for enforcing them (Article III, paragraphs 1 and 2); systems for registering income, assets, and liabilities (Article III.4); mechanisms to encourage participation by civil society and nongovernmental organizations in efforts to prevent corruption (Article III.11); assistance and cooperation (Article XIV); and central authorities (Article XVIII).

With this, the Committee complied with the terms of Article 28 of its Rules of Procedure, which requires that when new States join the Mechanism, they are to be reviewed with respect to the implementation of both the provisions examined in previous rounds and those that are being reviewed as part of the round currently underway at the time of their incorporation.






5.4 The review process

The review process conducted by the MESICIC Committee of Experts ensures impartiality and objectivity in its operations, characteristics conferred on it by the *Report of Buenos Aires*. It is regulated by the Rules of Procedure and is carried out in accordance with decisions previously adopted by the Committee to produce a thorough review and with results that are suited for the formulation of concrete recommendations that will be of use to the countries. Those decisions are reflected in a questionnaire designed to gather information from the States,⁸ a review methodology,⁹ the determination of the order in which the States are reviewed, and the composition of the review subgroups, using a method that ensures impartiality in the selection of the States that make up those subgroups. The sequence of review for the Fourth Round is found in the following table:

8. Available at: www.oas.org/juridico/docs/cuest_IVronda_en.doc.

9. Available at: www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/metod_IVronda_en.pdf.

States that VOLUNTEERED to be reviewed at the beginning of the round

1		Brazil	20 th Meeting	September 10 to 14, 2012
		El Salvador		
3		Mexico		
4		Bolivia		
5		Paraguay		

States in the CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER of their ratification of the Convention

6		Peru	04/04/1997	21 st Meeting	March 18 to 22, 2013
7		Costa Rica	09/05/1997		
8		Argentina	04/08/1997		
9		Trinidad and Tobago	15/04/1998		
10		Honduras	25/05/1998	22 nd Meeting	September 9 to 13, 2013
11		Panama	20/07/1998		
12		Chile	22/09/1998		
13		Uruguay	28/10/1998		
14		Colombia	25/05/1998		
15		Guatemala*	12/06/2001	23 rd Meeting	March 17 to 21, 2014
16		Nicaragua	17/03/1999		
17		Dominican Republic	02/06/1999		
18		Canada	01/06/2000		
19		Ecuador*	26/05/1997		
20		Guyana	11/12/2000	24 th Meeting	September 17 to 21, 2014
21		Jamaica	16/03/2001		
22		Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	28/05/2001		
23		Grenada	15/11/2001		
24		Suriname	27/03/2002		
25		Belize	06/09/2002		
26		Haiti**	14/04/2004	25 th Meeting	March 16 to 20, 2015
27		Venezuela**	22/05/1997		
28		The Bahamas†	09/03/2000		
29		United States*	15/09/2000		
30		Antigua and Barbuda**	13/01/2004		
31		Saint Kitts and Nevis	04/08/2004		

* In accordance with the decision adopted by the Committee at its 20th Meeting

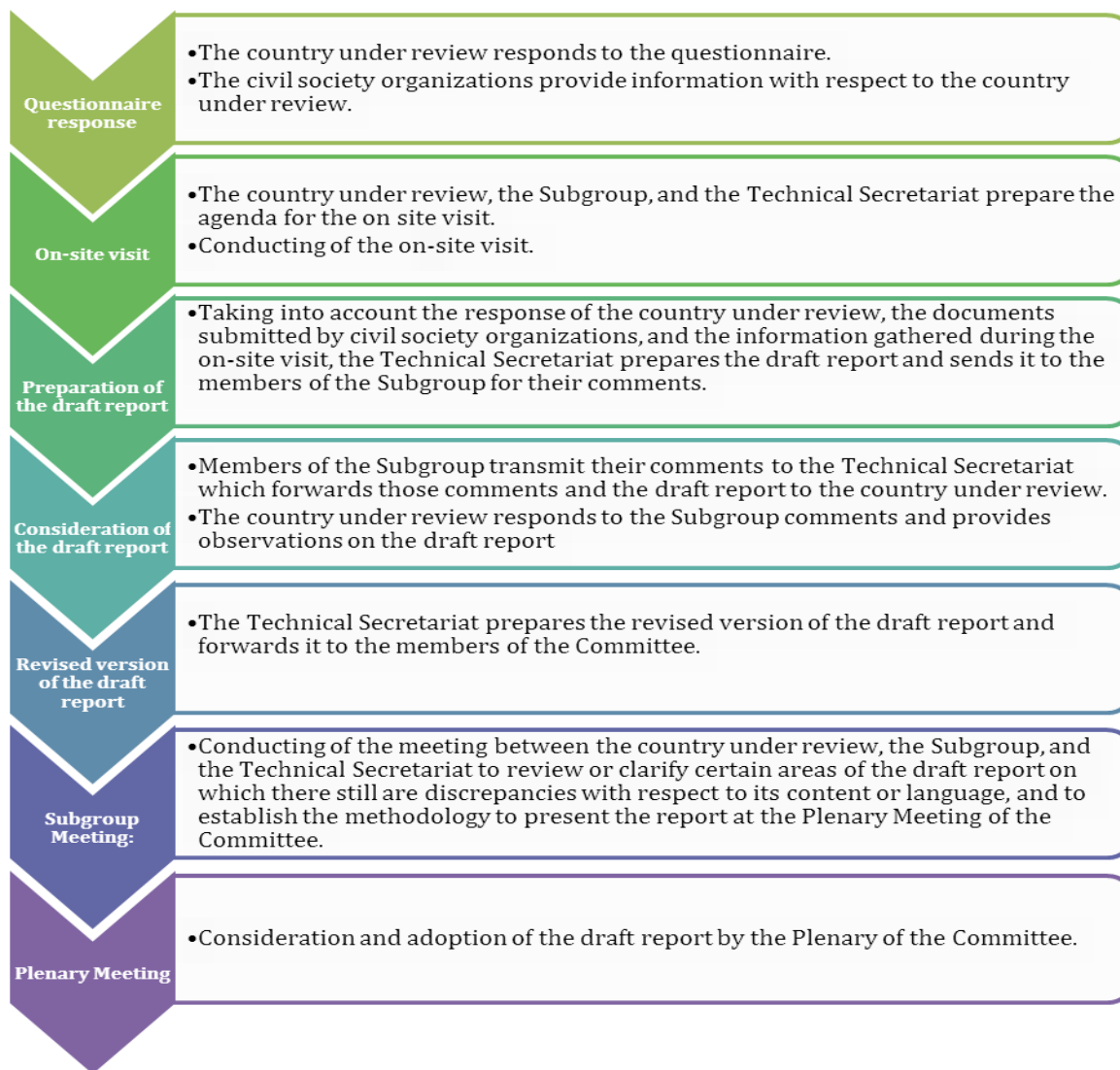
** In accordance with the decision adopted by the Committee at its 21st Meeting

† In accordance with the decision adopted by the Committee at its 22nd Meeting

The composition of the review subgroups were as follows:

Country under review		Member States of the Review Subgroup	
 Antigua and Barbuda	 The Bahamas	 Chile	
 Argentina	 Guatemala	 Suriname	
 Belize	 Canada	 Jamaica	
 Bolivia	 Ecuador	 United States	
 Brazil	 Dominican Republic	 Uruguay	
 Canada	 Bolivia	 St. Vincent and the Grenadines	
 Chile	 El Salvador	 Honduras	
 Colombia	 Costa Rica	 Guatemala	
 Costa Rica	 Grenada	 Dominican Republic	
 Dominican Republic	 Honduras	 Uruguay	
 Ecuador	 Chile	 Venezuela	
 El Salvador	 St. Vincent and the Grenadines	 Venezuela	
 Grenada	 Colombia	 United States	
 Guatemala	 Suriname	 Saint Kitts and Nevis	
 Guyana	 Haiti	 Trinidad and Tobago	
 Haiti	 Ecuador	 Panama	
 Honduras	 Nicaragua	 Paraguay	
 Jamaica	 El Salvador	 Grenada	
 Mexico	 Canada	 Peru	
 Nicaragua	 Jamaica	 Mexico	
 Panama	 Bolivia	 Trinidad and Tobago	
 Paraguay	 Belize	 Nicaragua	
 Peru	 The Bahamas	 Colombia	
 Saint Kitts and Nevis	 Mexico	 Trinidad and Tobago	
 St. Vincent and the Grenadines	 Panama	 Saint Kitts and Nevis	
 Suriname	 Brazil	 Paraguay	
 The Bahamas	 Costa Rica	 Guyana	
 Trinidad and Tobago	 Antigua and Barbuda	 Brazil	
 United States	 Argentina	 Belize	
 Uruguay	 Antigua and Barbuda	 Argentina	
 Venezuela	 Haiti	 Peru	

The review process can be fully appreciated in the following flowchart:



5.5 The innovative and qualitative contribution of the on-site visits to the review process

As will be explained in greater detail in Chapter VI of this report, during the Fourth Round the review process was enriched with the innovative and qualitative contribution made by on-site visits, which enabled the Committee to gather information directly, in each country, about the Convention provision selected for that round and on the implementation of the recommendations formulated in the First Round, thus equipping it with additional data on which to base its review and recommendations.

5.6 Activities undertaken to conduct the review

The review process entails activities that involve all the experts who sit on the Committee and who, in that capacity, make up the review subgroups established for each country. It also involves the Mechanism's Technical Secretariat, which provides support for those activities to take place.

The experts who represent each country on the Committee play a very important role: not only as regards the decisions they are called upon to adopt in that capacity for the development of each round of review, as described in section 5.4 of this report, but also in terms of their activities related to the preparation of their countries' responses to the questionnaire, their States' consent for on-site visits as well as the organization and support for those visits. Their important role also arises from their position as members of at least two review subgroups, such as approving the agenda for on-site visits and the draft preliminary reports on the countries examined by their subgroups, which are then referred to the Committee's plenary session, during which they participate actively, in conjunction with the other members of the Committee, in discussing and approving those reports.

In accordance with the Committee's Rules of Procedure, the Technical Secretariat is responsible for preparing and compiling the preliminary draft reports for each country. To carry out that task in connection with the preliminary draft reports from the Fourth Round, following the methodologies for the review process and for conducting on-site visits adopted by the Committee, the Technical Secretariat first reviewed the information provided in the responses to the questionnaire and in the comments submitted by civil society organizations, following the order determined by the Committee for reviewing the States, and then drew up the draft agendas for the on-site visits to those States that would be receiving visits, given that one of the purposes of that exercise is to obtain additional information.

It should be noted that these draft agendas, in addition to setting out in detail the topics to be addressed during the on-site visit, include provisions to ensure that the visit involves officials who, by reason of their direct and practical knowledge of those topics, are ideal for providing the information needed, and to ensure the active participation of representatives of civil society organizations and of the private sector, professional associations, academics, and researchers.

Second, the Technical Secretariat proceeded to review the information gathered through these methods,¹⁰ in consideration of the legal and institutional framework of each State, and to prepare the draft preliminary reports for each country.

These draft preliminary reports, covering each of the oversight bodies reviewed in the Fourth Round, offer a summarized description of their legal frameworks, a review of whether those legal frameworks were suited to the purposes of the Convention, and a determination of whether there had been objective results that would allow their effectiveness to be established. Finally, they draw conclusions and, where necessary, formulate specific recommendations to remedy the shortcomings or to adjust the inadequacies detected.

As regards follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations formulated to the countries in the First Round, the draft preliminary reports review the progress, information, and new developments reported by the countries in connection with those recommendations, and they make proposals regarding which of them the Committee can deem to have been satisfactorily addressed, which have seen progress but still require additional attention, which are no longer applicable as a

10. Because of the large number and variety of the oversight bodies reviewed in the Fourth Round, and because of the number and nature of the recommendations formulated in the First Round and reviewed during this round, an extensive volume of information was gathered, comprising numerous legal provisions of different kinds and documents with multidisciplinary contents. As a result, the Technical Secretariat spent an average of two months preparing the Draft Preliminary Reports following the corresponding on-site visits, the organization of which also required a considerable amount of time.

result of circumstances such as changes in a country's legal and institutional framework, and which should be restated or reformulated to bring them into line with the changes detected.

5.7 The main activities of the Committee during the Fourth Round

The main activities carried out by the Committee during the Fourth Round of Review can be summarized as follows:

a) Adoption of country reports for the 31 States Parties of the MESICIC

These reports were adopted by the Committee at its twice-yearly meetings held during the Fourth Round (a total of six meetings, numbered from the 20th to the 25th, counting from the start of the Committee's operations in 2002), following the previously established order for review: at the Twentieth Meeting (September 10 to 14, 2012), the reports on Brazil, El Salvador, Mexico, Bolivia, and Paraguay; at the Twenty-first meeting (March 18 to 22, 2013), the reports on Peru, Costa Rica, Argentina, Trinidad and Tobago, and Honduras; at the Twenty-second meeting (September 9 to 13, 2013), the reports on Panama, Chile, Uruguay, Colombia, and Guatemala; at the Twenty-third meeting (March 17 to 21, 2014), the reports on Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, Canada, Ecuador, and Guyana; at the Twenty-fourth meeting (September 8 to 12, 2014), the reports on Jamaica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, Suriname, Belize, and Haiti; and at the Twenty-fifth meeting (March 16 to 20, 2015), the reports on Venezuela, The Bahamas, the United States, Antigua and Barbuda, and Saint Kitts and Nevis.

A table in section 5.4 of this report indicates the sequence in which the countries were reviewed, as described in the previous paragraph.

b) Thirty on-site visits carried out to MESICIC States Parties

On-site visits, as will be described in greater detail in Chapter VI of this report, were carried out in the 30 MESICIC States Parties that granted their consent in accordance with Rule 5 of the Methodology for Conducting On-site Visits adopted by the Committee.¹¹

c) Topics of collective interest

During the Fourth Round of Review of the MESICIC, several important activities related to topics of collective interest took place within the framework of the MESICIC, as follows:

- Twentieth Meeting
- The delegations of the United States, Peru, and Colombia gave presentations on the "Responsibility of the private sector in preventing and combating corruption."
- In addition, the Technical Secretariat and the delegations of the United States, Brazil, Uruguay, and Mexico gave presentations on the "MESICIC and the Open Government Partnership (OGP)."
- Twenty-First Meeting
- The delegations of Colombia and the United States gave presentations "Private sector responsibility in preventing and combating corruption."

11. As indicated in the first section of the Committee's Fourth Round country report on Nicaragua, "Summary of Information Received," that State did not grant its consent for an on-site visit to be conducted in that round.

- The delegations of Ecuador and Peru gave presentations on the “Promotion of citizen participation in transparency and the fight against corruption.”

- Twenty-Second Meeting

- Representatives of the World Economic Forum, the OECD, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the World Bank gave presentations on the “Responsibility of the private sector in preventing and combating corruption.”

- The delegations of Brazil, Mexico, and Peru also gave presentations on relevant developments in their countries in this field.

- Twenty-Third Meeting

- Representatives of the International Chamber of Commerce, the Instituto ETHOS of Brazil, and Price Waterhouse Coopers Advisory LLC have presentations on the “Responsibility of the private sector in preventing and combating corruption”.

- Twenty-Fourth Meeting

- Representatives of CREATE, the Fairfax Group, and the International Bar Association gave presentations on the “Responsibility of the private sector in preventing and combating corruption”.

- A World Bank representative gave a presentation on “The Anti-Corruption Authorities (ACAs) Initiative”.

- The delegation of Brazil gave a presentation on “International Cooperation on Non-Criminal Matters in the Fight against Corruption”.

- The Committee Agreed to include the following as topics of collective interest in the Work Program for the year 2014-2015: “International Cooperation on Non-Criminal Matters in the Fight against Corruption” (proposed by the delegation of Brazil) and “Education for Values”.

- Twenty-Fifth Meeting

- The organizations “*Trace International*” and “*Open Contracting*” gave presentations on private sector responsibility in preventing and combating corruption and on ensuring transparency in government procurement, respectively.

- The delegation of Brazil gave a presentation on the topic of collective interest related to non-criminal international cooperation in combating corruption.

- The delegation of Colombia gave a presentation on progress made in that State with respect to the collective interest topic relating to private sector responsibility in preventing and combating corruption.

Electronic versions of these presentations may be found at the following link: http://www.oas.org/juridico/english/collective_int.htm.

d) Adoption of two model laws on Convention-related topics

At its Twenty-first Meeting, the Committee adopted two model laws on topics addressed in Article III, paragraphs 4 and 8, of the Convention: the “Model Law on the Declaration of Interests, Income, Assets, and Liabilities of Persons Performing Public Functions,” and the “Model Law to Facilitate

and Encourage the Reporting of Acts of Corruption and to Protect Whistleblowers and Witnesses.” These model laws, which were later formally adopted by the OAS General Assembly at its June 2013 regular session, are available at: http://www.oas.org/juridico/english/model_laws.htm.

e) Adoption of the Second Progress Report on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption

At its Twenty-second Meeting, the Committee adopted the Second Progress Report on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, in accordance with the terms of Article 32 of its Rules of Procedure. This report, which contains a compilation of the actions reported by the States in progressing with the implementation of the IACAC during the period it covers and a descriptive summary of those actions, is available at: http://www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/prog_rep2.pdf.

f) Adoption of the Hemispheric Report on the Fourth Round of Review

At its Twenty-fifth Meeting, the Committee adopted this Hemispheric Report on the Fourth Round of Review, as provided for in Article 29 of its Rules of Procedure.

g) Adoption of decisions necessary to begin the Fifth Round of Review

At its Twenty-fourth Meeting, the Committee selected the provisions of the Convention to be reviewed during the Fifth Round, and at its Twenty-fifth Meeting it took other decisions necessary for that round to begin, including the methodology to be used to review the implementation of those provisions, the questionnaire to be used to gather the data needed for the review, the structure of the country reports, an impartial method for setting the dates for reviewing the information for each State Party, and the establishment of the corresponding review subgroups.

h) Presentation of reports on progress with implementing the Convention and the recommendations of the MESICIC

Those reports, presented by the States Parties to the MESICIC at the Twenty-first, Twenty-third, and Twenty-fifth meetings, address the measures adopted by those States between the first meeting of the previous year and the first meeting of the following year in connection with the recommendations formulated by the Committee and other progress related to the implementation of the Convention, as established in the corresponding provision of the Rules of Procedure. The progress reports may be found at the following link: http://www.oas.org/juridico/english/mec_rep_progress.htm.

5.8 Country reports

a) Characteristics

The country reports adopted by the Committee in connection with the 28 States that joined the MESICIC at the start of its operation in 2002 present the following characteristics with respect to the sections dealing with the implementation of the Convention provision selected for review in the Fourth Round (oversight bodies) and with the follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations formulated to those same States in the First Round:

- Uniform structure: The Committee decided that all the reports must have the same structure, thereby upholding the principle of the juridical equality of states referred to in the *Report of Buenos Aires* and

the guideline of equal treatment stipulated by the review methodology. Consequently, they all follow the same order of chapters and sections and address the same topics, while not failing to take into account the particularities of the legal and institutional framework of the States and of the four or five oversight bodies selected for review for each of them.

- Sources of information: Based on the sources of information previously defined in the Rules of Procedure and the review methodology, comprising the responses given by the States Parties to the Committee's questionnaire, the comments from civil society organizations submitted in accordance with the established terms, the information obtained during the on-site visits, and other information gathered by the Technical Secretariat or by the members of the Committee.

- Deadlines for submitting information: Grounded on the information furnished prior to the deadline set by the Committee in timetables indicating the dates for countries to respond to the questionnaire and for civil society organizations to submit their observations, together with the information gathered by the Technical Secretariat and members of the Committee and that collected during the on-site visits, in the established terms.

- Terminology: Use of phrases in accordance with the scope of the commitments assumed by the States under the Convention provision being reviewed, and in accordance with the aims of the Follow-up Mechanism: the tone, style, and vocabulary used in the review of that provision's implementation, in the conclusions reached, and in the recommendations issued obey those commitments and aims, and the same applies as regards the follow-up of the recommendations formulated to the countries during the First Round.

Accordingly, as regards the scope of the commitments assumed by the States Parties in connection with the provision contained in Article III, paragraph 9, of the Convention that was reviewed in the Fourth Round (oversight bodies), the focus was placed on the States' commitment to consider the applicability of the related measures; thus, in the recommendations formulated to those bodies, an expression reflecting that commitment is used: for them to consider the aforesaid recommendations.

Consideration was also given to the fact that the Committee believes that the ultimate goal of the Mechanism is to facilitate cooperation among the States Parties to promote compliance with the Convention and to ensure that it is implemented and enforced. For that reason, the section on following up on the implementation of the recommendations formulated during the First Round uses wording that is in line with that goal, such as noting the satisfactory consideration of recommendations, identifying those where progress was made but that require additional attention, and, when applicable, those that are no longer current due to such circumstances as changes in the country's legal and institutional framework and those that required reformulation to bring them into line with the changes detected.

- Adoption by consensus: The Committee approved all its reports on a consensus basis, and so their contents reflect the results of the agreements reached by its members during the report discussions.

The country reports adopted by the Committee on the three States that joined the MESICIC during the Fourth Round have the same characteristics as those adopted on the other countries in the section dealing with the Convention provision selected for review in that round (oversight bodies). As regards the Convention provisions that were reviewed in the First Round, since those States were not members of the MESICIC at that time, what the reports contain is an review of their implementation, using the same criteria as were followed by the Committee in that round.

b) General content

1) Regarding the review of the implementation of the Convention provision selected for the Fourth Round

- The reports deal with, *inter alia*, the main legal provisions and measures governing the oversight bodies under review, together with the mechanisms available to them for: obtaining the resources needed for their operation; requesting support from the authorities and the public in pursuit of their goals; and reporting on how they discharge their duties.
- They describe the adequacy of the legal norms, measures, and mechanisms as regards their relevance to the Convention provision under review, and, when necessary, they indicate shortcomings or areas for correction, improvement, or expansion in order to attain those objectives.
- The reports set out the results obtained by the reviewed oversight bodies with their assigned functions in the prevention, detection, or punishment of corrupt acts, objectively determined through the information gathered from the established sources of information; and, if there is no information to enable those results to be objectively determined, they underscore the usefulness of the country under review developing indicators for that purpose.
- They offer concrete recommendations intended to complement, correct, or improve a States' norms governing the reviewed oversight bodies in order to attain the purposes of the Convention provision under review.
- They showcase the best practices that the States have identified in connection with the reviewed oversight bodies.

2) Regarding the follow-up of the implementation of the recommendations formulated during the First Round

- Following the order of the recommendations formulated to each of the 28 States that joined the MESICIC at the start of its operations in 2002, the reports examine whether they remain current: that is, that they have not been affected by circumstances such as changes in the legal and institutional framework of the corresponding State and, if they have, they proceed with their reformulation in accordance with the changes detected.
- They note the satisfactory consideration of the recommendations when the actions undertaken by the corresponding State for their implementation have been reported to the Committee, summarizing the information related to those actions.
- They also note, again following the order of the formulated recommendations, the steps reported by each State Party in progressing toward the implementation of those recommendations, indicating in this case the need for additional attention to be paid to them.
- When applicable, they also note the absence of information on the implementation process and the need for such details to be provided.
- They set out the difficulties encountered in the recommendation implementation process reported by the countries undergoing review, and they identify the domestic agencies involved in the

process, when the States provide that information in accordance with the provisions contained in Article 29 of the Committee's Rules of Procedure.

3) In the specific case of the last three States to join the MESICIC

- The general contents of the country reports adopted by the Committee for the three States that joined the MESICIC in the Fourth Round (Antigua and Barbuda, Haiti, and St. Kitts and Nevis) are, as regards the Convention provision selected for review in that round (oversight bodies), the same as those adopted for the other States. Obviously, as regards the Convention provisions that were reviewed in the First Round, since they were not members of the MESICIC at that time, what they contain is a review of their implementation in the following general terms:
- They identify the main legal norms and measures that the three States have for implementing the Convention provisions that were examined during the First Round, along with the mechanisms that exist for enforcing them.
- They describe the adequacy of the legal norms, measures, and mechanisms as regards their relevance to the goals of the Convention provisions examined and, when necessary, they indicate shortcomings or areas for correction, improvement, or expansion in order to attain those objectives.
- They identify the results yielded by these legal norms, measures, and mechanisms, based on the objective data gathered from the established sources of information and, should there be no such information for objectively establishing those results, they indicate that it would be useful for the countries to develop a system of indicators.
- They formulate recommendations intended to expand, rectify, or improve the reviewed countries' mechanisms for complying with the Convention provisions under review, indicating the steps they could take to implement those recommendations.

One noteworthy innovation in the country reports adopted in the Fourth Round for the 31 MESICIC States Parties is that each one offers a brief summary of its contents, which enable the most salient points to be seen at a glance. In addition, their annexes contain the agendas of the on-site visits conducted, showing the topics addressed on those occasions, the authorities who were visited, and the representatives of the civil society organizations, the private sector, professional associations, and academics and researchers who also participated.

VI. ON-SITE VISITS

The Committee took an important qualitative step forward in its review process by incorporating the organization of on-site visits into the Fourth Round of Review. These visits allow an "on the ground" appreciation of the actions with which the countries are implementing the Convention provisions and the recommendations of the MESICIC, by gathering information not only from the authorities of the States visited, but also from representatives of civil society organizations and from the private sector, professional associations, academics, and researchers, in the way provided for in the *Methodology for Conducting On-site Visits*¹² adopted by the Committee.

a) Objectives

12. The text of the Methodology is available at: http://www.oas.org/juridico/english/met_onsite.pdf.

Provision 3 of that Methodology establishes five objectives for on-site visits, in the following order of priorities:

- Refine, clarify, or complement the information provided by the country under review in its response to the questionnaire regarding the implementation of the Convention provisions selected for review in the corresponding round and of the recommendations that have been formulated to it by the Committee in the previous round(s) on which follow-up is being conducted.
- Ensure that the Committee has objective and complete information for the consideration and adoption of the corresponding country report and that those reports are appropriate and useful for the country under review and to contribute to the strengthening of cooperation against corruption within the framework of the Convention and the MESICIC.
- Reveal potential difficulties in the implementation of the Convention provisions under review and/or of the recommendations formulated to it by the Committee in the previous round(s) on which follow-up is being conducted, as well as areas in which the country under review may require or could benefit from technical cooperation.
- Facilitate the obtaining of information related to good practices that have been identified by the country under review in the topics under analysis, and the awareness of which could be of use to other States Parties, and thus contribute to strengthened cooperation and exchanges of information and experiences among the States Parties.
- Provide the country under review with the opportunity to benefit from or to request technical assistance, according to its needs, from either the OAS or other international agencies.

b) Consent

According to Provision 5 of the Methodology, an on-site visit requires the consent of the MESICIC State Party involved. Thus, **30** of the **31** States formally extended their consent for on-site visits during the Fourth Round.¹³

For those **30** States Parties, the on-site visits were one stage in the review process that the Committee conducted during the Fourth Round in connection with the Convention provision selected for that round (oversight bodies) and the implementation of the recommendations formulated to **27** of those States in connection with the provisions selected for the First Round (identified in Chapter VIII of this report). In the remaining **3** States, since they were not members of the MESICIC during the First Round, the review examined the implementation of those provisions since, obviously, there were no recommendations on which to follow up.

c) Bodies and authorities that participated in the on-site visits

On-site visits were made in connection with all the oversight bodies that were examined in the Fourth Round in the **30** States that granted consent, accounting for **134** of the total number of **139** bodies.¹⁴ As already noted in section 5.1 of this report, those bodies were of different kinds, depending on the

13. As indicated in the first section of the Committee's Fourth Round country report on Nicaragua, "Summary of Information Received," that State did not grant its consent for an on-site visit to be conducted in that round.

14. No on-site visit was conducted with respect to the five bodies from Nicaragua that were reviewed in the Fourth Round because, as already noted, that State did not grant its consent.

functions of preventing, detecting, and/or punishing corrupt acts assigned to them and to the disciplinary, financial, or criminal responsibility they are empowered to determine in the exercise of their powers.

In addition, however, since the on-site visits did not only gather information from the oversight bodies under review but also from other agencies in a position to provide complementary details about those bodies and about the implementation of the First Round recommendations, officials from another **41** bodies were also interviewed, with which the total number of bodies that participated in the on-site visits to the **30** States that granted consent rose to **180**.

The **134** oversight bodies reviewed in the Fourth Round and with respect to which on-site visits were conducted are listed in section 5.1 of this report. The **41** bodies referred to in the previous paragraph are identified below:

 **Antigua and Barbuda**

- Office of the Commissioner of Information

 **Bolivia**

- Office of the Comptroller

 **Canada**

- Department of Justice

 **Colombia**

- Ministry of the Interior
- Ministry of Information and Communication Technologies
- Secretariat of Transparency of the Office of the President of the Republic

 **El Salvador**

- Subsecretariat for Transparency and Anti-Corruption of the Presidency
- Economic and Social Council

 **Guyana**

 **Argentina**

- Legislative Branch

 **Brazil**

- Office of the Chief of the Staff of the President of the Republic
- National Council of Justice
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Planning, Budget, and Management

 **Chile**

- Government General Internal Audit Council
- Transparency Council
- Public Prosecution Service
- Ministry and General Secretariat of Government
- Ministry and General Secretariat of the Presidency

 **Ecuador**

- National Assembly
- Office of the People's Defender
- Ministry of Labor Relations
- Secretariat for Management Transparency

 **Grenada**

- Ministry of Legal Affairs

 **Haiti**

-
- Integrity Commission
 - Office of the Commissioner of Information

 **Honduras**

- National Office for the Integral Development of Integral Oversight
- Public Information

 **Panama**

- National Council of Transparency against Corruption

 **Peru**

- High-Level Anticorruption Commission
- Secretariat for Public Management

 **The Bahamas**

- Committee of the Public Accounts
- Royal Bahamas Police Force

 **Uruguay**

- National Director for Customs
- Legislative Branch

-
- Ministry of Justice
 - Office of Management and Human Resources

 **Jamaica**

- Access of the Services Commission
- Office of Service Commission

 **Paraguay**

- Legislative Branch

 **Suriname**

- National Assembly

 **United States**

- Office of Management and Budget

In total, **856** officials were interviewed at the **180** agencies that participated in the on-site visits, including such high-level authorities as chief justices and supreme court justices, comptrollers general and deputy comptrollers, auditors general, members of courts of accounts, legislators, ministers of justice, attorneys general and prosecutors, specialized prosecutors for anticorruption and public ethics matters, members of integrity commissions, members of public service commissions, transparency secretaries and directors of commissions for the prevention of corruption, ombudsmen and heads of access to information agencies, along with other officials with direct and practical knowledge of the topics identified for consideration at each of the meetings.

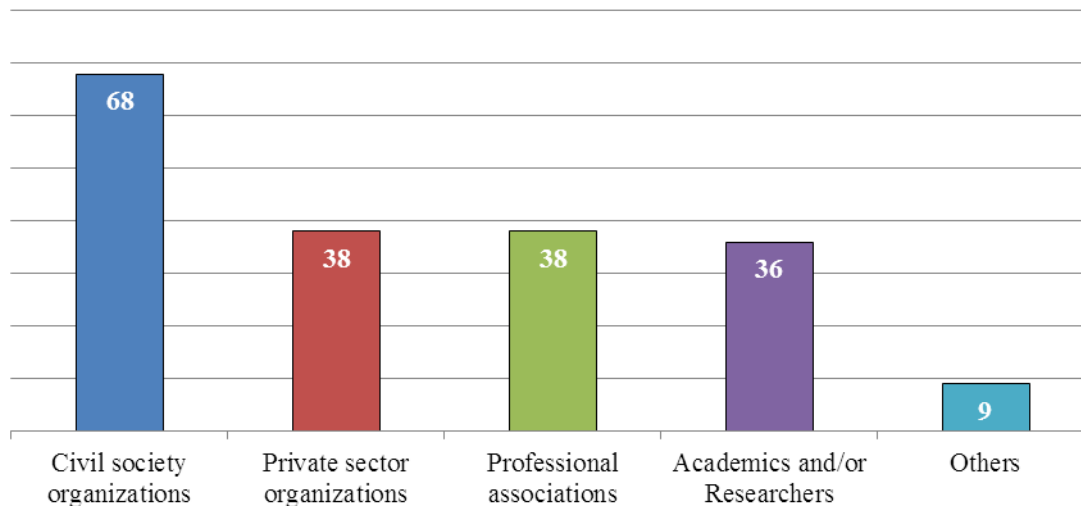
The names and positions of these officials are found in the agendas of the on-site visits, which are included in the annexes to the individual country reports and are available at the following link: http://www.oas.org/juridico/english/mesicic4_rep.htm.

d) Civil society participation in on-site visits

As stated in Chapter IV of this report, while the MESICIC is intergovernmental in nature, it affords broad opportunities for participation by civil society. For the on-site visits, those opportunities are enshrined in Provisions 26 and 27 of the corresponding Methodology, which provide, respectively, that during the visits, meetings will be held with the civil society organizations that presented documents with information on the questions posed to the States in the Questionnaire, and that invitations to those meetings may also be extended to other civil society organizations and/or, *inter alia*, organizations representing the private sector, professional associations, academics, and researchers.

As the result of this, the **30** on-site visits that were conducted involved the participation of a total of **189** civil society organizations, private sector organizations, professional associations, and academics and researchers, the names of which are found in the agendas of the on-site visits annexed to the corresponding country reports, available at the link indicated above. The diversity of those participants can be seen in the following chart:

Number of civil society organizations, private sector organizations, professional associations, academics, researchers and others that participated in the *on-site* visits during the Fourth Round



Among the **68** civil society organizations that participated in the on-site visits were the national chapters of Transparency International, organizations, such as Article 19, and others that work in the area of access to information, and numerous other important organizations in the countries visited.

The **38** private sector organizations that participated were mainly chambers of trade and industry and other leading business associations in the countries visited.

The **38** professional associations interviewed included bar associations and colleges of accountants, trade unions, professional women’s associations, and associations of judges and magistrates.

36 academics and researchers with recognized expertise in the topics addressed during the on-site visits were interviewed.

In addition, another **9** civil society bodies participated in the on-site visits, including press associations and representatives of the media.

Annex I of this report contains a list of the civil society participants in the on-site visits, classified according to the categories indicated in the previous paragraphs.

e) The successful outcome of the on-site visits

The on-site visits attained the goals set for them and, therefore, were clearly successful. This can be seen not only in the considerable number of authorities of the States and representatives of civil

society that participated in them, but also in how they enriched the review process of which they are a part: they provided the Committee with invaluable information gathered directly from different, highly qualified sources, thereby equipping it with more solid grounds for formulating concrete and pertinent recommendations for strengthening the reviewed oversight bodies and for conducting precise follow-up on the implementation of the First Round recommendations.

The visits also allowed the Committee to obtain very useful information on best practices related to the reviewed agencies and to learn about their problems and about the difficulties encountered in implementing the First Round recommendations at close hand, and they also allowed the States to reap the benefits of or to request technical assistance.

All these claims can be corroborated by reading the text of the country reports, which make numerous references to the information gathered during the on-site visits. Those reports are found in the link indicated above.

VII. GENERAL AND SPECIFIC ANALYSIS OF COUNTRY REPORTS

In this chapter of this report, the general and specific analysis of the country reports adopted during the Fourth Round will deal with the recommendations formulated therein as regards the oversight bodies, as well as with the best practices reported by the States in connection with those bodies, as referred to in those reports.

The general and specific analysis of the follow-up on the implementation of the First Round recommendations contained in the country reports adopted during the Fourth Round will be made in Chapters VIII and IX of this report, along with a summary of the progress made by the countries as a whole in connection therewith.

7.1 Recommendations regarding the oversight bodies reviewed

The recommendations formulated by the Committee in connection with the Convention provision related to oversight bodies charged with preventing, detecting, punishing, and eradicating corrupt acts, the implementation of which was reviewed in the Fourth Round, in some cases deal with situations that specifically affect a given oversight body in a country. For that reason, the scope of those recommendations is restricted to that body. In other cases they address situations found more frequently in the oversight bodies that were reviewed in the 31 MESICIC Member States and, accordingly, those recommendations are more general in nature.

While not undermining the importance of the Committee's recommendations limited to one specific body that can be seen in full in each of the country reports adopted,¹⁵ this section of the report focuses its attention on the recommendations that were most commonly formulated to the 139 oversight bodies reviewed, given that they reflect more exactly the criteria used by the Committee in reviewing the implementation of the Convention provision selected for the Fourth Round.

As stated above, these recommendations address situations detected with a high level of frequency in the oversight bodies reviewed, and they consequently are more general in nature. It should be noted, however, that not all of them were necessarily directed to all bodies reviewed and were not expressed textually in the exact form set out in this section. In drafting these recommendations, for each of the individual oversight bodies on which they were formulated, consideration was given to the particular circumstances and legal and institutional framework of each country. For that reason, their contents or focus may vary.

15. These reports are available at: http://www.oas.org/juridico/english/mesicic4_rep.htm

It should also be noted that in some cases, these recommendations are crosscutting in nature, in that they concern oversight bodies regardless of the specific anticorruption functions with which they are charged. In others, they are specific in nature, in that they deal with the bodies in light of their given functions of preventing and/or detecting and/or punishing corrupt acts that give rise to criminal liability or to disciplinary, administrative, financial, or civil responsibility.

Those clarifications having been made, the following section summarizes the elements contained in the most common recommendations formulated by the Committee in connection with the oversight bodies reviewed in the Fourth Round, for consideration by each of the 31 States to which the bodies on which those recommendations were issued belong, beginning with those that are crosscutting in nature and continuing with those that are more specific, as explained in the previous paragraph.

1. Crosscutting recommendations formulated to the oversight bodies¹⁶

- a) Strengthen the functional autonomy and/or technical independence necessary for the objective performance of their duties.
- b) Clearly demarcate their sphere of competence to avoid overlapping functions among different state agencies, authorities, or bodies and to prevent conflicts of jurisdiction among them.
- c) Adopt or strengthen the institutional coordination mechanisms necessary for the harmonious development of the functions with which the different agencies are charged to allow effective collaboration among them in pursuit of their assigned objectives.
- d) Adopt the legal and/or regulatory provisions to govern their operations, such as organic statutes, that are provided for in constitutional or legal texts and that are pending enactment, in order to complete the legal framework within which they operate.
- e) Regulate more closely the exercise of their powers or adopt guidelines for their actions, in order to avoid areas of undue discretion.
- f) Adopt measures to streamline the performance of their duties, or the processing of matters for which they are responsible, or for the adoption of decisions in the cases they are called to resolve.
- g) Adopt manuals or other documents describing the functions of the personnel in their service, and establish documented procedures for the performance of their tasks.
- h) Equip them with personnel with the training necessary for the due performance of their functions and subject to a regime of selection procedures, disqualifications, incompatibilities, and responsibility in line therewith.
- i) Implement or strengthen programs to provide their personnel with training on the regime of responsibility to which they are subject and on the functions with which they are charged.
- j) Implement or strengthen internal control mechanisms to enable oversight of compliance with

16. The Technical Secretariat prepared a series of charts to indicate the frequency with which these recommendations were formulated, which are found in Annex II of this report.

their objectives, the attention given to claims, complaints, or allegations related to that compliance, and the performance of their personnel, and the adoption of the relevant preventive or corrective measures.

- k) Implement or strengthen the use of modern systems or technologies to facilitate the pursuit of the duties with which they are charged.
- l) Implement or strengthen mechanisms to enable them to obtain, on a timely basis, the information needed for discharging their duties.
- m) Adopt measures for obtaining the technical cooperation they require from international organizations, cooperation agencies, or other States' institutions or agencies on matters such as strengthening their legal and institutional framework, the implementation of technological systems or tools, or personnel training.
- n) Implement or complete programs for quality improvement or institutional strengthening.
- o) Ensure the human and/or financial resources necessary for their operations.
- p) Provide the public, through such channels as the internet, with information about their objectives, functions, and legal framework, and supply them with guidance on steps to pursue formalities with them.
- q) Implement or strengthen mechanisms or programs to secure from the public the assistance or support needed to attain their objectives.
- r) Implement or strengthen accountability mechanisms covering the performance of their functions, such as periodic management reports and public hearings for informing the public about the results of their undertakings.
- s) Prepare statistical data on compliance with their anticorruption functions, designed in such a way as to clearly indicate the objective results obtained in that area and to identify challenges and adopt the relevant corrective measures.
- t) Publicize broadly, through such channels as the internet, the activities undertaken in pursuit of their anticorruption functions, together with information on the results obtained therein.

2. Specific recommendations formulated to oversight bodies charged with the prevention of corruption

- a) Provide the bodies or the offices within them that are charged with corruption prevention functions with the level of institutional authority demanded by the importance of those duties.
- b) Adopt measures so that the guidelines, indications, comments, recommendations, or rulings issued in accordance with their corruption prevention functions are given due attention by the recipients thereof.
- c) Implement integrity or awareness programs for public servants on the duty of respecting and protecting public property and general interests and on the consequences triggered by corrupt

acts.

- d) Conduct awareness campaigns for the public on respecting public property and on the ethical behavior they must observe in their dealings with the State.
- e) Conduct campaigns to encourage both public servants and members of the public to report acts of corruption to the competent authorities and to assist them as needed for the investigation and punishment thereof.
- f) Design mechanisms to facilitate attending to inquiries, issuing opinions, or providing advice related to public affairs, in order to prevent undue actions in their processing or resolution.
- g) Conduct studies on preventing corruption in different areas of the State's activities and ensure that proper use is made of those studies.
- h) Encourage participation by civil society and nongovernmental organizations in efforts to prevent corruption.
- i) Implement mechanisms to follow up on the corruption cases placed before the competent authorities to determine the criminal, disciplinary, or financial responsibility of the perpetrators, in order to provide those authorities with the support needed for their investigation and to monitor the results.
- j) Prepare statistical data on the actions taken in compliance with their corruption prevention functions, covering such aspects as studies, campaigns, or programs carried out with that purpose; recommendations or rulings issued and the attention paid thereto by the recipients; corruption cases placed before the competent authorities for investigation and punishment and the results thereof; and activities carried out to involve civil society in anticorruption efforts.

3. Specific recommendations formulated to oversight bodies charged with investigating and/or prosecuting corrupt acts that trigger criminal responsibility

- a) Provide the bodies or the offices within them that are charged with the investigation and/or prosecution of corrupt acts that trigger criminal responsibility with the level of institutional authority demanded by the importance of those duties.
- b) Implement or strengthen mechanisms so they can obtain, in a timely fashion, the support they need to discharge their duties from the state agencies responsible for conducting technical tests, performing expert examinations, or issuing technical opinions, in the event that they have no bodies for such tasks within their own structure.
- c) Strengthen the bodies charged with conducting investigations of a technical nature into acts of corruption, providing them with or making available to them such elements as forensic laboratories and specialized personnel, including financial investigators and forensic accountants.
- d) Implement mechanisms to follow up on the corruption cases that they have investigated and have referred to the competent authorities for resolution, so they can provide those authorities with the support needed for prosecution and can be informed of the results.

- e) Analyze the possible causes behind delays in the investigation of acts of corruption and/or the circumstances that prevent their conclusion or lead to the triggering of the applicable statutory limitations, and adopt the relevant corrective measures.
- f) Prepare statistical data on the actions taken in pursuit of the function of investigating corrupt acts that trigger criminal responsibility, covering such issues as the total number of investigations opened, indicating how many remain ongoing, how many have been suspended for whatever reason, how many have been shelved because of the statute of limitations, how many have been shelved without a decision being reached on the merits in the case under investigation, how many are at a stage that allows a decision to be reached on the merits of the case under investigation, and how many have been referred to the competent body for such a decision to be taken, in order to identify challenges and adopt the pertinent corrective measures.

4. Specific recommendations formulated to oversight bodies charged with judging and punishing corrupt acts that trigger criminal responsibility

- a) Strengthen the judicial bodies charged with the criminal prosecution and punishment of corruption cases, creating the offices or positions needed for the timely performance of those functions.
- b) Make or complete the legal and institutional modifications required by criminal justice reforms, such as the entry into force of new criminal codes or codes of criminal proceedings or the transition from inquisitorial to adversarial systems.
- c) Provide the officials responsible for dealing with cases on corruption access to jurisprudence, analyses, and studies on the topic, and adopt mechanisms to ensure they have the support and specialized advice when so required due to the complexity of those cases.
- d) Analyze the possible causes behind delays in the criminal prosecution and punishment of acts of corruption and/or the circumstances leading to impunity or to the triggering of the applicable statutory limitations, and adopt the relevant corrective measures.
- e) Prepare statistical data on the actions taken in compliance with the functions of judging and punishing corrupt acts that trigger criminal responsibility, dealing with such aspects as the total number of cases ready for a decision to be adopted, the number of decisions adopted in connection with them, the number of those decisions that resulted in sanctions, the number of those decisions that resulted in acquittals, and the number of those decisions involving the extinction of the punishment or responsibility because statutory limitations were triggered, in order to identify challenges and adopt the pertinent corrective measures.

5. Specific recommendations formulated to oversight bodies charged with investigating corrupt acts that trigger disciplinary or administrative responsibility

- a) Provide the bodies or the offices within them that are charged with the investigation of corrupt acts that trigger disciplinary responsibility with the level of institutional authority demanded by the importance of those duties.
- b) Adopt measures to ensure that investigations of corrupt acts that trigger disciplinary responsibility are not interrupted or subject to the results of criminal proceedings brought in

connection with the same acts.

- c) Implement or strengthen mechanisms so they can obtain, in a timely fashion, the support they need to discharge their duties from other state agencies in areas such as the examination of evidence, in the event that they have no bodies for such tasks within their own structure.
- d) Implement mechanisms to follow up on corrupt acts into which an investigation was opened and was referred to the competent authorities to resolve on the imposition of sanctions, so they can provide those authorities with the cooperation they need and can be informed of the results.
- e) Analyze the possible causes behind delays in the investigation of acts of corruption that trigger disciplinary responsibility and/or the circumstances that prevent their conclusion or lead to the triggering of the applicable statutory limitations, and adopt the relevant corrective measures.
- f) Prepare statistical data on the actions taken in pursuit of the function of investigating corrupt acts that trigger disciplinary responsibility, covering such issues as the total number of investigations opened, indicating how many remain ongoing, how many have been suspended for whatever reason, how many have been shelved because of the expiration of the established deadlines, how many have been shelved without a decision being reached on the merits in the case under investigation, how many are at a stage that allows a decision to be reached on the merits of the case under investigation, and how many have been referred to the competent body for such a decision to be taken, in order to identify challenges and adopt the pertinent corrective measures.

6. Specific recommendations formulated to oversight bodies charged with punishing corrupt acts that trigger disciplinary or administrative responsibility

- a) Adopt measures to ensure that disciplinary responsibility can be imposed on all public servants who perpetrate acts of corruption, and provide the units and offices within public bodies charged with punishing corrupt acts that trigger disciplinary responsibility with the necessary authority for their effective enforcement.
- b) Adopt measures to ensure that the corresponding disciplinary sanction can be imposed on those perpetrating corrupt acts that trigger that type of responsibility, regardless of the criminal responsibility to which they may be subject for the same offense.
- c) Adopt measures to strengthen the effectiveness of disciplinary responsibility regimes, such as establishing appropriate sanctions for those who violate standards on ethical conduct, and ensure that they can be imposed in a timely fashion.
- d) Provide the officials responsible for dealing with corrupt acts that trigger disciplinary responsibility with access to jurisprudence, analyses, and studies on the topic, and adopt mechanisms to ensure them support and specialized advice when so required by the complexity of those cases.
- e) Analyze the possible causes behind delays in the disciplinary sanction of acts of corruption that trigger that kind of responsibility and/or the circumstances that lead to impunity or to the triggering of the applicable statutory limitations, and adopt the relevant corrective measures.

- f) Prepare statistical data on the actions taken in compliance with the functions of punishing corrupt acts that trigger disciplinary responsibility, dealing with such aspects as the total number of cases ready for a decision to be adopted, the number of decisions adopted in connection with them, the number of those decisions that resulted in sanctions, the number of those decisions that resulted in acquittals, and the number of those decisions involving the extinction of the punishment or responsibility because statutory limitations were triggered, in order to identify challenges and adopt the pertinent corrective measures.

7. Specific recommendations formulated to oversight bodies charged with detecting and/or punishing corrupt acts that trigger financial or civil responsibility

- a) Adopt measures so they can discharge their auditing duties with respect to a broader number of public agencies; so that better use can be made of that work in detecting corrupt acts; and so they have the legal instruments and authority necessary to ensure effective compliance with the financial responsibilities they are charged with determining and with the sanctions they are authorized to impose.
- b) Strengthen the internal auditing systems of public agencies.
- c) Adopt measures to streamline and increase the effectiveness of the recovery of the compensation amounts ordered in favor of the State and to prevent the triggering of statutory limitations in the associated actions.
- d) Implement mechanisms to follow up on the recommendations formulated, to identify the attention given to them by the recipients and to take the steps necessary to ensure that they give them due consideration.
- e) Adopt measures to ensure that public agencies properly conserve the documents necessary for them to be fully audited, such as proof of expenditures, financial statements, and accounting records.
- f) Adopt measures to ensure that the audited public agencies pay timely attention to requests for documents or information, such as the imposition of fines or other sanctions on those public officials who are reluctant to do so.
- g) Adopt measures so they can have a more active participation in judicial proceedings dealing with economic harm inflicted on the State.
- h) Promote and facilitate social oversight on spending by public agencies, and implement mechanisms to enable them to forge ties with civil society for that purpose.
- i) Implement mechanisms to follow up on corruption cases detected and referred to the competent authorities for the determination of criminal or disciplinary responsibility, so they can provide those authorities with the support needed for the investigation and can be informed of the results.
- j) Prepare statistical data on the actions undertaken in pursuit of the functions of detecting and/or punishing corrupt acts that trigger financial responsibility, covering such aspects as the number of audits conducted and of investigations underway, completed, or shelved because of a failure to complete them within the set deadline; corrupt acts detected and

measures adopted in connection therewith; number of incidents detected that could trigger criminal or disciplinary responsibility that were reported to the corresponding authorities, and the results thereof; number of recommendations formulated and the results thereof; number of fines or other sanctions imposed; number of compensations ordered in favor of the State and the amounts thereof; and number of those effectively received by the State and the amounts thereof; in order to identify challenges and adopt the pertinent corrective measures.

7.2 Best practices reported by the States in connection with the reviewed oversight bodies

As part of the Fourth Round of Review, the States Parties to the MESICIC were encouraged to voluntarily share best practices with other MESICIC member countries and which could be beneficial to other States Parties, with respect to the oversight bodies selected for review in that Round. To that end, in the Questionnaire adopted by the Committee of Experts, an annex was included which allowed the States Parties to provide information on a best practice, based on a standard format. This format required a State Party to provide a short description and summary and an explanation as to why it should be considered a best practice; reasons for the development of the best practice; as well as identification of challenges in its implementation and outcome, among other things

As the result of the above, the States voluntarily reported on those actions they considered best practices in connection with the bodies in question. They can be seen in the following table, where they are classified according to the kind of activity they involve and the main function of the agencies within which they were reported:

<u>Best Practice</u>	Main Function of the Bodies				Total
	Discipline or Administrative	Financial or Civil	Criminal	Others	
Enforcement of laws and/or legal provisions	0	0	3	2	5
Training and/or awareness raising	1	2	2	10	15
International cooperation	0	1	1	2	4
Institutional strengthening	4	7	13	9	33
Technological systems or tools	6	9	2	4	21
Others	1	2	2	2	7
Total	12	21	23	29	85

This table indicates that the majority of the best practices involve institutional strengthening actions; this is understandable since the Fourth Round entailed a comprehensive review of the main oversight bodies in the MESICIC Member States charged with preventing, detecting, punishing, and eradicating corrupt acts that trigger disciplinary, administrative, financial, civil, or criminal responsibility. This underscores the importance that the States assign to those endeavors and it is in line with the purpose of Article III.9 of the Convention, the intention of which is for the bodies in question to develop modern mechanisms for discharging their duties.

It also explains why the second largest group of actions reported by the States involves the implementation of technological systems or tools, given the importance of this for facilitating due compliance with their functions.

Actions regarding training and awareness-raising for public officials, which make up the third largest group of reported actions, are so important that the Committee has repeatedly formulated recommendations on those issues in all its review rounds.

It is understandable that only five of the reported actions involve the enforcement of laws and/or legal provisions, given that this is more a function of the agencies charged with their enforcement than a best practice.

International cooperation activities account for only four of the actions reported as a best practice. In light of the importance of strengthening such cooperation at the hemispheric level, in Chapter XI of this report the Committee will formulate a series of collective recommendations addressing that point, pursuant to Article 30 of its Rules of Procedure.

With respect to the best practices categorized as ‘other’ in the table, the States Parties reported a broad range of actions. These consisted in measures such as, implementation of national coordination mechanisms to better assist national authorities in preventing and punishing corruption; public acknowledgement of public servants and bodies that have adhered to standards that govern performance, as well as the publication of administrative sanctions ordered against public bodies for noncompliance with anti-corruption measures.

The Committee is pleased with the enthusiasm shown by the countries in sharing their best practices relating to the reviewed oversight bodies, which reflects the comments made in section 3.2 of this report indicating that the Committee is an ideal forum for promoting exchanges of best practices among the MESICIC Member States.

VIII. SUMMARY OF THE PROGRESS MADE BY ALL THE COUNTRIES IN IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS FORMULATED BY THE COMMITTEE IN THE FIRST ROUND OF REVIEW

a) Basis for determining progress

Article 30(b) of the Committee’s Rules of Procedure states that the hemispheric report to be adopted at the end of each round shall contain a summary of progress achieved by the countries overall in implementing the recommendations made by the Committee in previous rounds.

Pursuant to that provision, and also taking into account the agreement reached by the Committee at its Eighteenth Meeting, in compliance with Recommendation 9(a) of the Third Meeting of the Conference of MESICIC States Parties, for the Fourth Round to focus on following up on the implementation of the First Round recommendations, the summary will deal with the progress made with those recommendations by all 28 States that were reviewed in that round.

The progress will be determined on the basis of the comments made by the Committee in the country reports adopted in the Second, Third, and Fourth Rounds. It should also be borne in mind that in this most recent round, pursuant to Article 29 of the Rules of Procedure and to the review methodology adopted for that round, the Committee identified which of the recommendations and/or measures formulated in the First Round were no longer current on account of circumstances such as changes in

the corresponding country's legal and institutional framework; reformulated some of them to bring them into line with the changes detected; and examined the steps taken by the countries in question to implement those recommendations. In doing so, the Committee noted those that had been considered satisfactorily, those that reported progress in its implementation, and those on which no information was reported and, in the latter two cases, indicating that they required additional attention from the States to which they were formulated. Those reports may be found at the following link: http://www.oas.org/juridico/english/mesicic4_rep.htm.

Accordingly, to clearly indicate the progress made with the total number of recommendations and/or measures formulated by the Committee for the 28 States that were reviewed in the First Round, they were classified into the following categories:

- Recommendations and/or measures no longer considered current
- Recommendations and/or measures that were reformulated
- Recommendations and/or measures that have been satisfactorily considered
- Recommendations and/or measures reporting progress in their implementation
- Recommendations and/or measures providing no information on progress in their implementation

Thus, after removing the recommendations and/or measures considered no longer current and which therefore no longer require implementation, and those that have been reformulated recently – that is, during the Fourth Round – and regarding the implementation of which the Committee has not yet been able to conduct a follow-up, the results are the following as regards each of the items in the Convention that were reviewed in the First Round:

- 1) Standards of conduct and mechanisms to enforce compliance (Article III, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Convention)
 - Standards of conduct to prevent conflicts of interest and mechanisms to enforce compliance:

Of the 163 recommendations and/or measures formulated by the Committee on this topic, 9 were deemed no longer current and 21 were reformulated. Of the remainder, 47 (35.3%) were considered satisfactorily, 68 (51.1%) reported progress in their implementation, and 16 (12%) provided no information on progress in their implementation.

- Standards of conduct and mechanisms to ensure the proper conservation and use of resources entrusted to government officials:

Of the 76 recommendations and/or measures formulated by the Committee on this topic, 5 were deemed no longer current and 10 were reformulated. Of the remainder, 35 (57.1%) were considered satisfactorily, 20 (32.7%) reported progress in their implementation, and 6 (9.8%) provided no information on progress in their implementation.

- Measures and systems requiring public officials to report acts of corruption in the performance of public functions of which they are aware to the appropriate authorities:

Of the 91 recommendations and/or measures formulated by the Committee on this topic, 3 were deemed no longer current and 15 were reformulated. Of the remainder, 30 (41.1%) were considered satisfactorily, 29 (39.7%) reported progress in their implementation, and 16 (21.9%) provided no information on progress in their implementation.

2) Systems for registering income, assets, and liabilities (Article III, paragraph 4, of the Convention)

Of the 137 recommendations and/or measures formulated by the Committee on this topic, 9 were deemed no longer current and 35 were reformulated. Of the remainder, 33 (35.4%) were considered satisfactorily, 50 (53.7%) reported progress in their implementation, and 11 (11.8%) provided no information on progress in their implementation.

3) Oversight bodies responsible for the selected provisions (Article III, paragraphs 1, 2, 4, and 11, of the Convention)

As a result of the comprehensive review of the oversight bodies identified in section 5.1 of this report conducted by the Committee in the Fourth Round, recommendations were issued only recently with respect to many of the bodies examined partially in the First Round. As a result, progress with the implementation of the recommendations dealing with this Convention provision will be determined, comprehensively, in a later round.

4) Mechanisms to encourage participation by civil society and nongovernmental organizations in efforts to prevent corruption (Article III, paragraph 11, of the Convention)

• Mechanisms for access to information:

Of the 104 recommendations and/or measures formulated by the Committee on this topic, 1 was deemed no longer current and 20 were reformulated. Of the remainder, 42 (50.6%) were considered satisfactorily, 25 (30.1%) reported progress in their implementation, and 14 (16.8%) provided no information on progress in their implementation.

• Mechanisms for consultation:

Of the 68 recommendations and/or measures formulated by the Committee on this topic, none were deemed no longer current and 3 were reformulated. Of the remainder, 30 (44.1%) were considered satisfactorily, 22 (32.3%) reported progress in their implementation, and 18 (26.4%) provided no information on progress in their implementation.

• Mechanisms to encourage participation in public administration:

Of the 74 recommendations and/or measures formulated by the Committee on this topic, 2 were deemed no longer current and 1 was reformulated. Of the remainder, 25 (35.2%) were considered satisfactorily, 28 (39.4%) reported progress in their implementation, and 16 (22.5%) provided no information on progress in their implementation.

• Mechanisms to encourage participation in the follow-up of public administration:

Of the 71 recommendations and/or measures formulated by the Committee on this topic, 1 was deemed no longer current and 3 were reformulated. Of the remainder, 28 (41.7%) were considered

satisfactorily, 19 (28.3%) reported progress in their implementation, and 20 (29.8%) provided no information on progress in their implementation.

5) Assistance and cooperation (Article XIV of the Convention)

Of the 101 recommendations and/or measures formulated by the Committee on this topic, 4 were deemed no longer current and 3 were reformulated. Of the remainder, 38 (40.4%) were considered satisfactorily, 30 (31.9%) reported progress in their implementation, and 26 (27.8%) provided no information on progress in their implementation.

6) Central authorities (Article XVIII of the Convention)

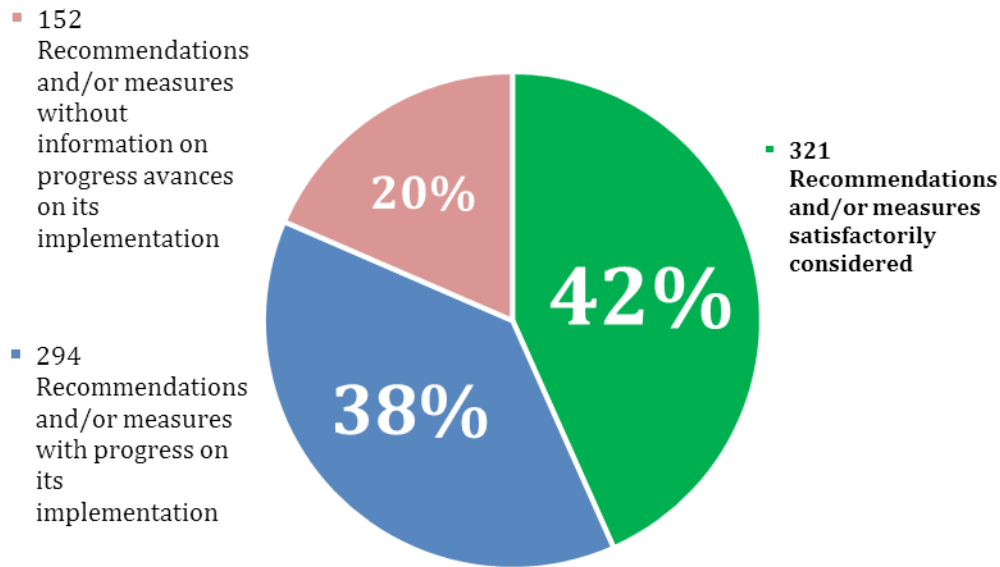
Of the 28 recommendations and/or measures formulated by the Committee on this topic, not one was deemed no longer current and 3 were reformulated. Of the remainder, 13 (52%) were considered satisfactorily, 3 (12%) reported progress in their implementation, and 9 (36%) provided no information on progress in their implementation.

b) Consolidated progress results

An analysis of the above information reveals the following consolidated results on the level of progress with the implementation of the recommendations formulated by the Committee in the First Round for the 28 States that were members of the MESICIC at that time:

1) Of the **915** recommendations and measures formulated in that round, **34** were deemed no longer current and **114** were reformulated. After discounting those two groups – given that those that are no longer current do not require implementation and that the reformulated recommendations were issued only recently, during the Fourth Round, and so have yet to be followed up by the Committee – the overall results with respect to the remaining **767** recommendations and measures are as follows: the States, as a whole, have satisfactorily considered **321**, have made progress in the implementation of **294**, and have reported no progress in the implementation of **152**. The percentages corresponding to those three situations can be seen in the following graphic:

Level of progress in the implementation of the recommendations and/or measures formulated in the First Round of Review



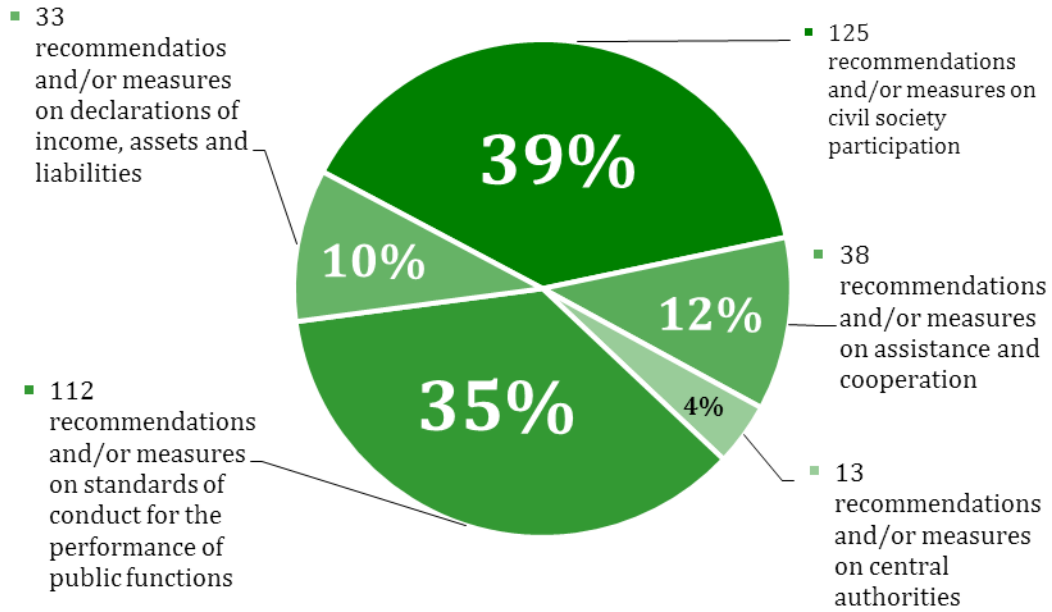
767 recommendations and/or measures

The chart indicates that the progress made with the implementation of the recommendations and/or measures formulated in the First Round, indicated by those that have been satisfactorily considered and those reporting progress with implementation, stands at **80%** of the total, of which more than half (**42%**) have been fully implemented.

This represents significant progress, bearing in mind that many of those recommendations and measures address the strengthening of the legal frameworks governing the provisions of the IACAC reviewed in the First Round and that their implementation requires the enactment of new laws or amendments to existing laws, which can take a considerable time.

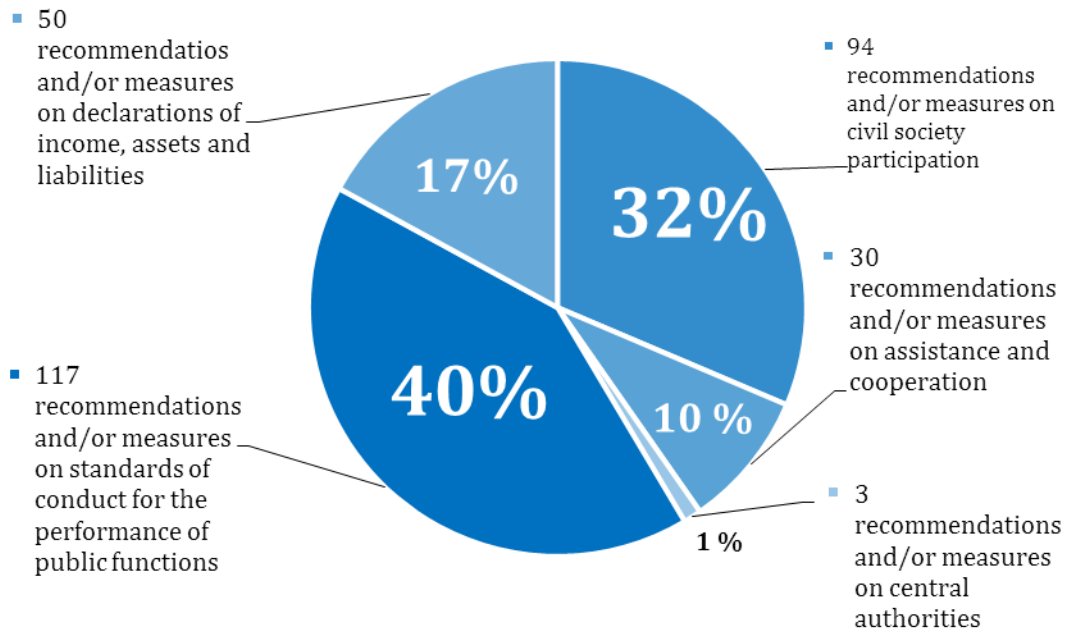
2) The following chart breaks down the **42%** of the recommendations and/or measures that were satisfactorily considered, indicating the percentages corresponding to each of the IACAC provisions addressed by those recommendations and/or measures:

Percentage of recommendations and/or measures SATISFACTORILY considered corresponding to each one of the provisions of the IACC to which they refer



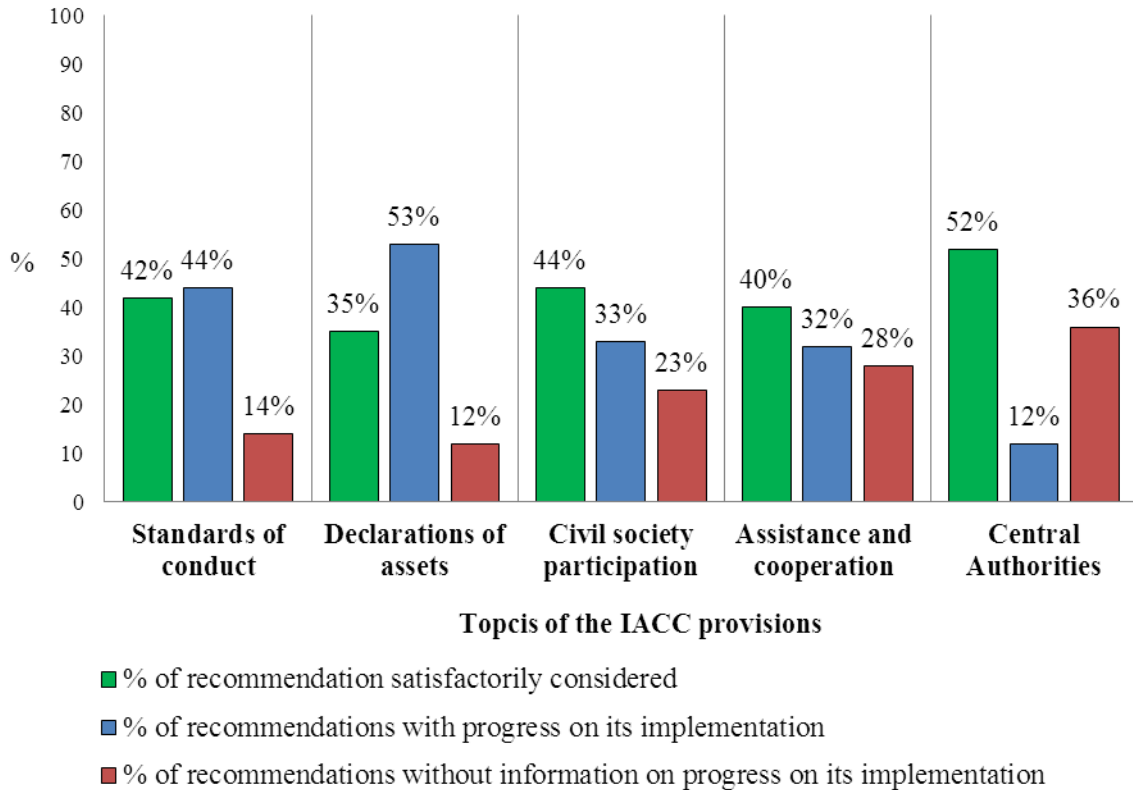
3) The following chart breaks down the 38% of the recommendations and/or measures reporting progress in their implementation, indicating the percentages corresponding to each of the IACAC provisions addressed by those recommendations and/or measures:

Percentage of recommendations and/or measures with PROGRESS IN THEIR IMPLEMENTATION corresponding to each of the provisions of the IACC to which they refer



4) The following chart indicates the progress made with the implementation of the recommendations and/or measures formulated during the First Round with respect to each of the provisions of the IACAC that they address, showing the percentages of those have been satisfactorily considered, those reporting progress in their implementation, and those reporting no progress:

Percentage/level of implementation of the recommendations and/or measures formulated in the First Round



The chart reveals that two of the IACAC's provisions reviewed in the First Round – civil society participation, and assistance and cooperation – report higher proportions of recommendations and/or measures that have been satisfactorily considered, compared to those that, while reporting progress, have not yet concluded that process and also compared to those reporting no progress.

With respect to the provision of the IACAC dealing with standards of conduct, the percentage of recommendations and/or measures that have been satisfactorily considered is very close to the percentage of reported progress in their implementation and much more than the percentage for no progress reported.

Regarding the provision of the IACAC dealing with public servants' statements of net worth, where the largest proportion corresponds to recommendations and/or measures reporting progress in their implementation (**53%**) and not to those that have been satisfactorily considered (**35%**), the Committee notes that during the Fourth Round (Twenty-first Meeting) it adopted a model law on the issue and that it hopes it will encourage the States to make further progress with the implementation of the recommendations related to the topic.

Regarding the IACAC's provision dealing with central authorities, where the recommendations and/or measures that have been satisfactorily considered account for the largest proportion (**52%**) although there is still a significant number (**36%**) regarding which no progress in their implementation have been reported. The Committee reiterates the importance of those authorities in

facilitating the assistance and cooperation provided for in the IACAC and accordingly, in the collective recommendations formulated in Chapter XI of this report under Article 30 of its Rules of Procedure, it will indicate a series of actions to assist the States in making additional progress with the implementation of the recommendations dealing with this and other issues covered by the IACAC with which satisfactory consideration is still pending.

IX. SUMMARY OF ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN BY THE COUNTRIES THAT REPRESENT PROGRESS WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS FORMULATED BY THE COMMITTEE IN THE FIRST ROUND OF REVIEW

To allow an appreciation of the actions undertaken by the 28 States reviewed in the First Round that the Committee has deemed to represent progress with the implementation of the recommendations and/or measures formulated to them in that round, the MESICIC Technical Secretariat has prepared a summary of those undertakings, based on the contents of the country reports from the Second, Third, and Fourth Rounds of Review in which the Committee followed up on the implementation of those recommendations.

Because of the large number of actions and their diversity, in order for that summary to indicate in a standard fashion the progress with the implementation of the First Round recommendations that those actions represent for the 28 countries on which they were formulated, they have been classified according to the following categories, which correspond to the kinds of actions most commonly undertaken by the countries:

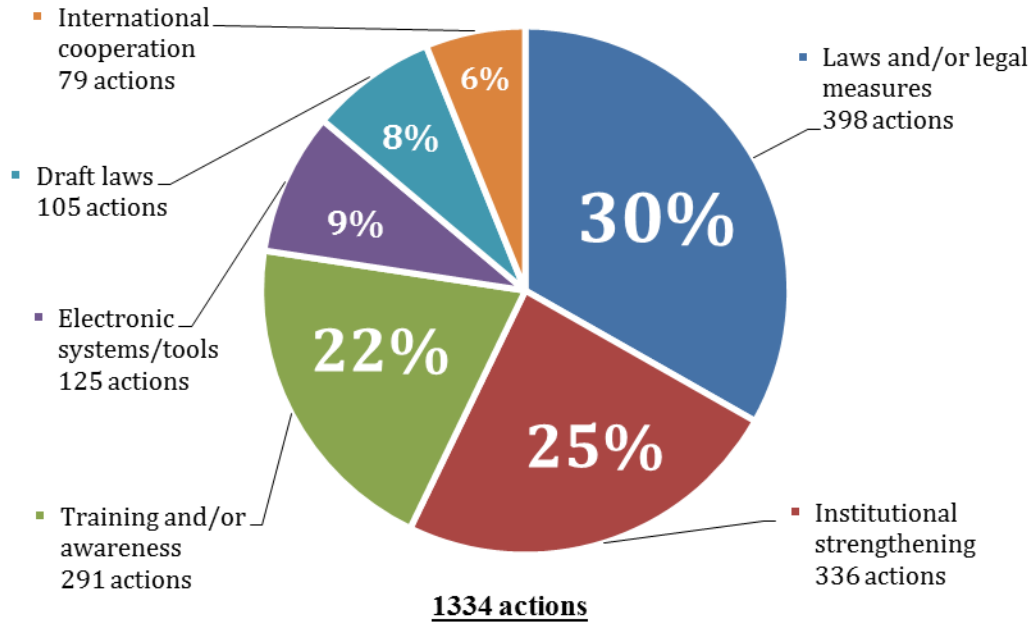
- a) Enactment of laws and/or legal measures.
- b) Preparation and processing of draft laws.
- c) Organization of training and/or awareness-raising activities.
- d) International cooperation activities.
- e) Institutional strengthening actions.
- f) Adoption or implementation of technological systems or tools.

Thus, Annex III of this report offers a summarized description of the actions in question, classifying them into the above categories, from which the following results can be observed:

1. The States have undertaken a total of **1334** actions that the Committee deems to constitute progress with the implementation of the recommendations and/or measures formulated to them in the First Round.

The breakdown of those actions into the aforesaid categories can be seen on the following graphic:

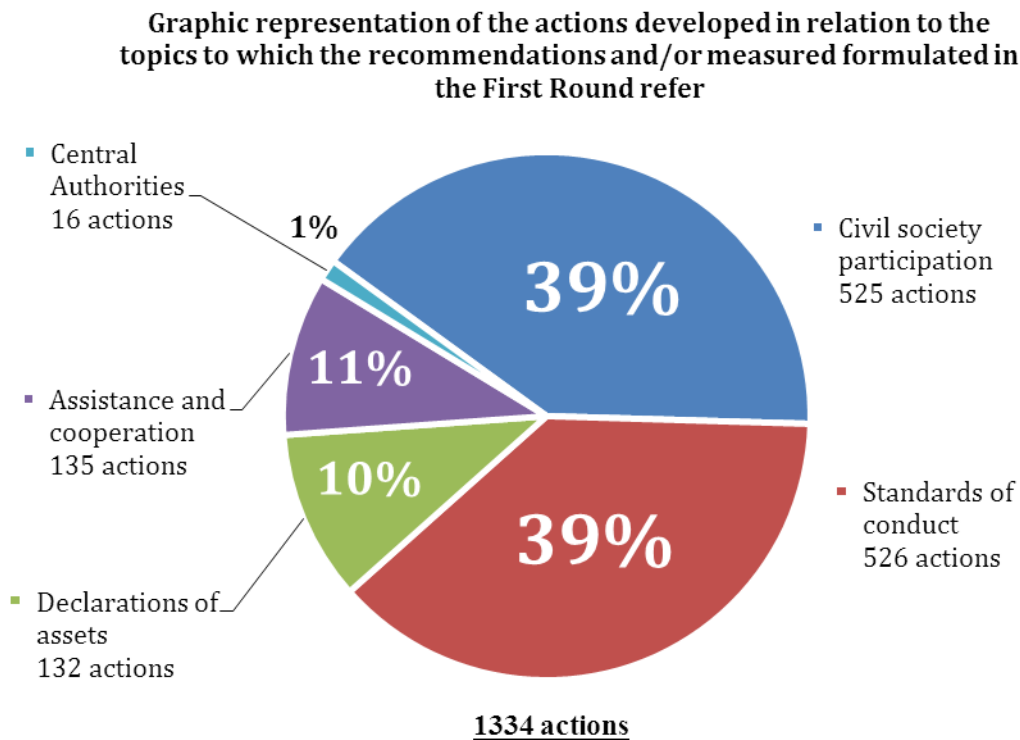
Graphic representation of the categories of actions developed by States for the implementation of the recommendations and/or measures formulated in the First Round



2. As the graphic demonstrates, although the actions undertaken by the States are highly diverse, the enactment of laws and/or legal measures accounts for the largest share. This reflects the importance that the States have assigned to strengthening their legal frameworks for combating corruption, which is one of the basic goals of the recommendations of the MESICIC.
3. It also shows that the second largest group of actions is institutional strengthening activities, which is another of the basic goals of the recommendations of the MESICIC. Laws alone are not enough and, therefore, the institutions responsible for their enforcement must enforce them effectively, and that was the rationale behind the Committee's decision for the Fourth Round to focus on a comprehensive review of oversight bodies.
4. The organization of training and/or awareness-raising activities for the public officials responsible for carrying out the specific activities through which the competent institutions discharge their duties represents the third largest group of actions. Such efforts are of vital importance for those institutions' effectiveness because, in the final analysis, the full exercise of those powers and the attainment of the expected results depend on those officials.
5. It is understandable that the actions for the implementation of technological systems or tools represent the fourth largest group, since the Committee has stressed the importance of their use in such areas as public servants' statements of net worth and access to information, which were examined during the First Round.

6. Worthy of note is the percentage of the actions involving draft laws. This underscores the need to continue strengthening the legal frameworks governing the Convention provisions that were reviewed in the First Round, together with the essential role that legislative branches must play in that task.
7. Finally, as regards international cooperation activities, in light of the importance of strengthening such cooperation at the hemispheric level, in Chapter XI of this report the Committee will formulate a series of collective recommendations on the point, in accordance with the terms of Article 30 of its Rules of Procedure.

The breakdown of these **1334** actions, according to the Convention provisions reviewed in the First Round that they address, is as follows:



The graphic demonstrates that most of the actions address the Convention provisions that deal with standards of conduct for the correct, honorable, and proper fulfillment of public functions and mechanisms for civil society participation (**39%** and **39%**, respectively, for a total of **78%**). This is due not only to their importance, but also to the fact that most of the recommendations issued in the First Round (**36%** and **35%**, respectively, for a total of **71%**) addressed the implementation of these provisions. This was because their review covered exceedingly broad issues: in the case of the former, provisions and mechanisms for preventing conflicts of interest, proper conservation of public resources, and reporting acts of corruption by public officials; and, in the case of the latter, access to information, civil society mechanisms for consultation, mechanisms to encourage participation in the

public administration, and the mechanisms to encourage participation in the follow-up of public administration.

The actions addressing the remaining convention provisions reviewed in the First Round are also indicated on the chart and, taken together, represent **22%** of the total. That figure, as with the provisions referred to in the previous paragraph, is in approximate proportion with the number of recommendations formulated in connection with their implementation during that round, which accounted for **29%** of the total.

X. RECOGNITION OF THE USEFULNESS OF THE IACAC AND OF THE MESICIC

The usefulness of the IACAC and of the MESICIC Committee of Experts have received explicit acknowledgment and can also be seen in the numerous actions undertaken by the Member States to tackle corruption, inspired by the terms of the IACAC and by the recommendations for their full implementation issued by the Committee. In addition, this acknowledgement is also seen in studies on the phenomena of corruption carried out by academics, research centers, and other organizations, which have made use of the review undertaken by the Committee and the content of the reports. The following are just a few examples:

At the most recent meeting of the Conference of MESICIC States Parties, held in Brazil in December 2010, the States unanimously expressed their satisfaction with the progress made through this mechanism. Specifically, they spoke of such aspects as the Committee's recommendations and the support for their implementation given to the countries by its Technical Secretariat by means of such legal cooperation tools as model laws and legislative guides on the topics addressed by the IACAC.

Following that Conference, on December 15, 2010, the civil society organization Transparency International published a communiqué on its web site, which was later picked up by other media outlets, congratulating the MESICIC's Member States and its Technical Secretariat for their progress in strengthening the Mechanism, and in particular, for establishing on-site visits.

A 2009 study by the U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre titled "How prepared are we to assess real implementation of anti-corruption conventions? Lessons from the Americas" underscores the usefulness of the IACAC and of the experience of the follow-up mechanism as it related to the implementation of the United Nations Convention. In addition, it states that: "With regard to the real effects that MESICIC generates in the States Parties, it can be affirmed that government actors and civil society in several countries have used the recommendations to encourage debate, reach political agreements and ultimately strengthen the transparency and anti-corruption agendas."

Another study, prepared in 2012 by the Latin America Program of the Open Society Foundations, titled "Effectiveness of International Anticorruption Conventions on Domestic Policy Changes in Latin America," states: "Data shows that the Inter-American process has more advantages for anticorruption advocates in the region than other international instruments. For instance, it has provided a number of intangibles which contribute to national-level advocacy, such as institutional workspaces and contact with home public officials as well as technical capabilities to engage these officials."

In turn, the Freedom of Information Advocates Network (FOIANet) said, in a 2013 study titled "Global Right to Information Update – An Analysis by Region," that: "The oversight body for the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, MESICIC, also contributed to the movement for RTI

[Right to Information] due to the fact that the questionnaires used in the oversight of implementation included questions on access to information and regular recommendations were made calling for a right to information.”

An article published in the George Mason Journal of International Commercial Law in 2013, titled “Conflicting Trends: Lessons from Current Evaluative Mechanisms in International and Regional Anticorruption Systems Regarding Conflicts of Interest,” stated:

“It should be noted that the MESICIC review round reports are by far the most comprehensive of the reviews discussed in this article. Therefore, the MESICIC reports provide the greatest insight into the successes and failures in implementing a conflict of interest regime at the domestic and regional levels.”

Similarly, the MESICIC Member States have undertaken numerous actions to combat corruption, and both the IACAC and the recommendations of the MESICIC Committee of Experts have contributed to those endeavors. As an example, Annex III of this report shows the wide variety of actions reported by the States in connection with their implementation of the recommendations formulated to them in the First Round that the Committee has described as constituting progress therewith.

Many of the laws and/or measures intended to strengthen the legal and institutional frameworks of the States Parties to the MESICIC for combating corruption (and/or the bills preceding their adoption) have expressly cited the IACAC and/or the MESICIC’s recommendations in the rationale for the provisions they contain. This has provided them with a solid foundation and has facilitated their enactment.

Examples of this include the following:

- The Marcelo Quiroga Santacruz Law on Fighting Corruption (Bolivia)
- Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act (Canada)
- Law Containing the Anticorruption Statute (Colombia)
- Regulations to the Law against Corruption and Illicit Enrichment (Costa Rica)
- Agreement Creating the COPRET as a Corruption Prevention Body (Guatemala)
- Access to Information Act (Guyana)
- Law on the Prevention and Punishment of Corruption (Haiti)
- Law on Government Ethics (El Salvador)
- Federal Anticorruption in Public Procurement Law (Mexico)
- Law Creating the National Transparency and Information Access Authority (Panama)
- Decree on Standards of Conduct in the Civil Service (Uruguay)

Similarly, numerous proposals for the adoption of legislative provisions and/or initiatives refer to the IACAC and/or to the MESICIC's recommendations as the basis for the enactment of statutes. Examples of this include the following:

- The Report of the Constitutional Commission charged with conducting a review of the Constitution of The Bahamas, which recommends enacting some form of Integrity in Public Life Act that would create a watchdog agency to enforce the applicable legislation, including the provisions of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.
- Bill presented by Brazil's Comptroller General's Office to criminalize illicit enrichment.
- Draft bill to amend an article of the Code of Criminal Procedure of Panama dealing with statutory limitations applicable to criminal action.
- Bill establishing the non-applicability of statutory limitations to crimes of corruption committed by public officials (Peru).

Finally, the IACAC and/or the MESICIC's recommendations have also been cited in rulings issued by oversight bodies responsible for investigating and/or punishing acts of corruption. Examples of this include a judgment handed down in a high-profile corruption case by the Federal Criminal Cassation Chamber, a superior Argentine court, and the "legal opinions" issued by the office of the Attorney General of the Republic of Costa Rica.

XI. COLLECTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee offers these recommendations under Article 30 of its Rules of Procedure, which states that the Hemispheric Report is to include, *inter alia*, recommendations of a collective nature, both as regards following up on the results of said reports and regarding the recommended actions for consolidating or strengthening hemispheric cooperation on the issues addressed in the provisions under consideration in each round or closely related to them.

11.1 Regarding the follow-up of the results of the reports

The purpose of the collective recommendations on the follow-up of the results of the country reports adopted in the Fourth Round is to encourage the MESICIC Member States to take the specific actions necessary for implementing the recommendations formulated to each one of them regarding the oversight bodies reviewed in those reports, and for implementing the recommendations formulated for them in the First Round that, as indicated by the Committee in the section dealing with follow-up on the Fourth Round reports, are still pending implementation.

Bearing this in mind, the Committee believes that the following collective recommendations should be issued:

- a) Adequately and broadly disseminate the country reports, so that the authorities or bodies responsible for implementation, and civil society, are made aware of the information and recommendations they contain.
- b) Identify a body, authority, or agency to be responsible for pursuing the process of recommendation implementation.

- c) Clearly identify the tasks that each of the competent authorities and agencies is to perform in pursuit of recommendation implementation, so they can undertake the activities required for performance of those tasks.
- d) Make the authorities or agencies charged with implementing the recommendations more aware of the responsibilities incumbent on them in compliance with a commitment that their country has acquired with the international community.

At this juncture it would be useful to recall the Committee's remarks in its reports on previous rounds, indicating that implementation of a recommendation requires the combined efforts of different branches of government and agencies of the State.

This is of vital importance in connection with the recommendations formulated for the oversight bodies, since their implementation requires in some cases measures or actions over which the authorities of those bodies have competence, depending on their level of autonomy, and, in others, the involvement of other branches of government or state authorities, such as the legislature when laws are to be amended or enacted.

The involvement of legislatures is essential for implementing the recommendations, since many of them are geared toward strengthening the legal and institutional frameworks in the countries for developing both the Convention provision examined in the Fourth Round (oversight bodies) and its provisions regarding which recommendations were issued in the First Round and the implementation of which underwent follow-up in the Fourth Round.

This must be kept in mind, given that through the information provided by the States, the Committee learned of the existence of numerous legislative bills dealing with those provisions that are pending examination by legislative bodies.

- e) Provide the coordination mechanisms necessary for the harmonious development of the recommendation implementation process, with the relevant participation by the competent authorities or agencies.
- f) Encourage civil society participation in the process of implementing the recommendations, so that the process can be enriched with contributions by them.
- g) Identify the actions necessary to resolve the difficulties detected in the implementation of both the Convention provision reviewed in the Fourth Round (oversight bodies) and the recommendations formulated in the First Round, making use of, if necessary, the technical cooperation provided for in the IACAC.
- h) Design and develop a plan of action or other procedure for planning the activities required to implement the recommendations, establish execution responsibilities, and monitor their performance.
- i) Adopt indicators for the objective measuring of progress with the tasks needed for implementation of the recommendations.
- j) Gather full, exact, and relevant information on progress with recommendation implementation, so it can be conveyed to the Committee clearly and succinctly on the

occasions indicated in the Rules of Procedure in order for it to fully discharge its follow-up duties.

11.2 Type of actions recommended for consolidating or strengthening hemispheric cooperation on the topics covered by or closely related to the Convention provision selected for the Fourth Round

The purpose of these collective recommendations is to encourage the MESICIC Member States to undertake the specific actions necessary to consolidate or strengthen hemispheric cooperation on the topics covered by or closely related to oversight bodies (the IACAC provision selected for the Fourth Round).

Among the topics that the Committee believes to be “closely related” to oversight bodies are those set out in the provisions of the IACAC that deal with mutual assistance and mutual technical cooperation (Article XIV) and with central authorities responsible for issuing and receiving requests for such assistance and cooperation (Article XVIII), both of which were reviewed during the First Round.

First, the Committee believes that close attention must be paid to Article XIV, paragraph 1, of the Convention, which expressly states that the States Parties shall afford one another, in accordance with their laws and applicable treaties, the widest measure of mutual assistance by processing requests from authorities that, in conformity with their domestic laws, have the power to investigate or prosecute the acts of corruption described in the Convention, in order to obtain evidence and take other necessary action to facilitate legal proceedings and measures regarding the investigation or prosecution of acts of corruption.

The Committee believes that in light of the characteristics involved in certain criminal actions that entail corruption – such as transnational bribery and illicit enrichment – equipping the oversight bodies responsible for their detection and punishment with timely mutual assistance is essential for attaining greater effectiveness in those undertakings, given that the activities necessary for investigations and prosecutions often transcend national borders and, in cases of large-scale corruption, the perpetrators frequently conceal the proceeds abroad.

Bearing this in mind, the Committee recommends that in order to strengthen mutual assistance in connection with their oversight bodies, the countries as a whole consider the following measures:

- a) Capitalize on the benefits offered by new electronic communications technologies for processing requests and collecting evidence, such as witness statements, which can be taken more economically and faster by using such modern mechanisms as videoconferencing.
- b) Capitalize on the benefits offered by the Hemispheric Network for Legal Cooperation on Criminal Matters, set up under the aegis of the hemispheric cooperation process known as the Meetings of Ministers of Justice or Other Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA), which is available to the States of the Americas and allows for mutual assistance in a swift and secure manner, which is essential in the investigation and punishment of acts of corruption.
- c) Adopt the mechanisms necessary for effective coordination between the central authorities charged by the States with formulating and receiving requests for mutual assistance in connection with acts of corruption, pursuant to the terms of Article XVIII of the IACAC, and the authorities of the different oversight bodies requiring that assistance.

Second, the Committee believes that close attention must be paid to Article XIV, paragraph 2, of the Convention, which expressly provides that the States Parties are to provide each other with the widest measure of mutual technical cooperation on the most effective ways and means of preventing, detecting, investigating, and punishing acts of corruption, and that, to that end, are to foster exchanges of experiences by way of agreements and meetings between competent bodies and institutions, and shall pay special attention to methods and procedures of citizen participation in the fight against corruption.

The Committee believes that since the functions of the oversight bodies that were reviewed in the Fourth Round, taken as a whole, cover preventing, detecting, investigating, and punishing acts of corruption, the effectiveness of the mutual technical cooperation referred to in this provision of the IACAC depends largely on them.

Bearing this in mind, the Committee extends the following recommendations to the countries as a whole to assist them in strengthening their mutual technical cooperation in connection with the oversight bodies:

- a) Recall that some of the States expressly indicated, in their answers to the Fourth Round questionnaire and during the on-site visits, the need for technical cooperation in connection with some of their oversight bodies, including such areas as training, implementation of technological systems and tools, and institutional strengthening, as indicated in the corresponding country reports, in order to offer them such assistance as can be rendered, according to their possibilities and the resources available.
- b) Take advantage of the best practices identified by the States in connection with the reviewed oversight bodies, as referred to in section 7.2 of this report, and regarding which they can obtain additional information from the responses given to the Fourth Round questionnaire, in the corresponding country reports, and through the contacts identified by the countries for that purpose.
- c) Take advantage of the legal developments and other measures adopted by the countries for maintaining and strengthening the reviewed oversight bodies, as described in the corresponding country reports, to the extent that they are compatible with each State's legal and institutional framework and relevant in light of the similarities between those bodies.
- d) Take advantage of the authorities of the reviewed oversight bodies, identified in the agendas of the on-site visits that were conducted in connection with them and which are attached to the corresponding country reports, to exchange know-how and experiences on topics of common interest, according to the similarity of the functions assigned to the different bodies.
- d) Take advantage of the studies, analyses, and opinions issued by civil society organizations, organizations of the private sector, professional associations, academics, and researchers into the reviewed oversight bodies, as identified in the country reports, to the extent that they are relevant for strengthening those bodies.
- e) Adopt the mechanisms necessary for effective coordination between the central authorities appointed by the States for formulating and receiving requests for mutual technical cooperation in corruption-related matters, pursuant to Article XVIII of the IACAC, and the authorities of the different oversight bodies requiring that cooperation.

- f) Take advantage of the [Anticorruption Portal of the Americas](#), on the OAS web site covering the MESICIC, which allows the countries access to the legal cooperation tools prepared by the Technical Secretariat for supporting them in the implementation of the IACAC and, in addition, enables them to obtain up-to-date information on all the anticorruption activities carried out under the aegis of the Mechanism, including the Fourth Round country reports, the responses by the States to the Fourth Round questionnaire, and the studies, analyses, and opinions of the civil society organizations, organizations of the private sector, professional associations, academics, and researchers referred to in previous sections of this report.

XII. OTHER ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE MESICIC

During the Fourth Round of Review, other activities were developed within the framework of the MESICIC, which, though not executed by the Committee of Experts and therefore not mentioned in section 5.7 of this report, merit attention considering their importance in terms of fulfilling the purposes of the Mechanism and those of the Committee. These activities are as follows:

- Technical Secretariat and National Experts of the OAS Anticorruption Mechanism participation in the “*Second Forum of Central America and the Dominican Republic for Transparency*”, held in San Jose, Costa Rica, on November 2 and 3, 2011.
- Technical Secretariat participation in “*First Seminar of the Anticorruption Academy of the Ministry of Public Administration of Mexico*”, held from November 4-5, 2011.
- OAS Secretary General participation in the “*International Seminar on Probity and Transparency in the National Congress and the Political Parties System*”, held in Chile on January 12 and 13, 2012.
- Technical Secretariat and representatives of the MESICIC Committee of Experts participation in the “*Latin American Meeting: Combating Transnational Corruption*”, held on March 1 and 2, 2012, in Bogotá, Colombia.
- OAS, Mexico and the OGP hold “*Regional Dialogue for Open Government*” on March, 20, 2012, in Mexico City.
- OAS Technical Secretariat participation in the Annual OGP Meeting in Brasilia, Brazil, from April 17 to 18, 2012.
- Technical Secretariat participation in the “*Third Transparency Forum of Central America and the Dominican Republic*”, held in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on October 10 and 11, 2012.
- Technical Secretariat participation in the “*15th International Anticorruption Conference*”, held from November 7 to 10, 2012, in Brasilia, Brazil.
- Technical Secretariat participation in the “*International Academic Symposium – Successful Latin American Experiences in Controlling Corruption*”, held in Quito, Ecuador on December 3, 2012.






- Technical Secretariat and Colombia hold “*Regional Meeting on Private Sector Responsibility in the Fight against Corruption*” in Bogotá, Colombia, on March 7 and 8, 2013.
- Technical Secretariat participation in the “*IV Meeting of the Latin-American Pro Transparency Network*”, in Chile, from July 23 to 24, 2013.
- Technical Secretariat participation in the “*III Summit of Transparency Agencies of Bolivia,*” held from October 3-4, 2013, in La Paz.
- OAS Technical Secretariat participation in the “*Fifth Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption*”, held in Panama City, Panama, on November 26, 2013.
- Technical Secretariat participation in Seminar in Colombia: “*Scenarios for Territorial Anticorruption*”, held in Bogota on November 27, 2013.
- Technical Secretariat participation in “*International Seminar on Institutional Coordination in Cases of Corruption*”, held from July 7 to 10, 2014, in Antigua, Guatemala.








XIII. ANNEXES

ANNEX I

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS THAT PRESENTED DOCUMENTS AND PARTICIPATED IN THE ON-SITE VISITS












COUNTRY	Civil society organizations that presented documents
 Argentina	Federación Interamericana de Abogados (FIA) (Documento de la Comisión del Cumplimiento de la CICC) Foro de Estudios sobre la Administración de Justicia (FORES)
 Canada	Transparency International Canada
 Chile	Chile Transparente
 Colombia	Corporación Transparencia por Colombia
 Costa Rica	Costa Rica Integra (CRI) Programa Estado de la Nación
 Guatemala	Acción Ciudadana
 Guyana	Transparency Institute of Guyana
 Honduras	Asociación por una Sociedad más Justa (ASJ) Federación de Organizaciones Privadas para el Desarrollo de Honduras (FOPRIDEH) Grupo de Sociedad Civil (GSC)
 Mexico	Transparencia Mexicana
 Nicaragua	Grupo Cívico Ética y Transparencia
 Panama	Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Libertad Ciudadana
 Paraguay	Gestión Ambiental (GEAM) Semillas para la Democracia (SPD) Centro de Estudios Judiciales (CEJ) Centro de Políticas Públicas de la Universidad Católica (CPP-UC)
COUNTRY	CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS that participated in the on-site visits
 Argentina	Asociación Civil por la Igualdad y la Justicia (ACIJ) Foro de Estudios sobre la Administración de Justicia (FORES) Fundación Poder Ciudadano Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento (CIPPEC)
 Bolivia	Organización Matriz de Mujeres “Juana Azurduy de Padilla” Confederación Sindical de Comunidades Interculturales de Bolivia (CSCIB)
 Brazil	Artigo 19 Amigos Associados de Ribeirão Bonito (AMARRIBO)
 Canada	Transparency International Canada
 Chile	Chile Traspasparente Fundación AVINA








	Fundación Pro Acceso
 Colombia	Corporación Transparencia por Colombia Corporación Somos Más
 Costa Rica	Programa Estado de la Nación Costa Rica Integra Consejo Consultivo Nacional de Responsabilidad Social Costa Rica
 Dominican Republic	Participación Ciudadana Fundación Institucionalidad y Justicia (FINJUS)
 Ecuador	Corporación Participación Ciudadana Ecuador Coordinadora de Radio Popular Educativa del Ecuador – CORAPE Grupo FARO Asamblea Cantonal de Montúfar Fundación ESQUEL
 El Salvador	Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo Fundación Salvadoreña para el Desarrollo Económico y Social Iniciativa Social para la Democracia Fundación de Estudios para la Aplicación del Derecho
 Grenada	Inter Agency Group of Development Organizations (IAGDO)
 Guatemala	Acción Ciudadana Fundación Myrna Mack Guatemala Visible Grupo de Apoyo Mutuo (GAM) Fundación para el Desarrollo de Guatemala (FUNDESA) Red Nacional por la Integridad
 Guyana	Transparency Institute of Guyana (TIGI)
 Haiti	Fondation Héritage pour Haïti Initiative de la Société Civile (ISC)
 Honduras	Asociación para una Sociedad más Justa (ASJ) Grupo de Sociedad Civil (GSC) Consejo Nacional Anticorrupción (CNA)
 Jamaica	Jamaica Civil Society Coalition National Integrity Action
 Mexico	México Evalúa Transparencia Mexicana Artículo 19
 Panama	Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Libertad Ciudadana Alianza Ciudadana Pro Justicia
 Paraguay	Gestión Ambiental (GEAM) Semillas para la Democracia (SPD)
 Peru	PROÉTICA Grupo de Trabajo Contra la Corrupción (GTCC)
 Saint Kitts	National Youth Parliament

and Nevis	
 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	National Council of Women
 Suriname	Stiching Projekta
 The Bahamas	Civil Society Bahamas
 Trinidad and Tobago	Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute
 United States	Government Accountability Project (GAP) Project on Government Oversight (POGO)
 Uruguay	Centro de Archivo y Acceso a la Información Pública Instituto de Comunicación y Desarrollo Uruguay Transparente
 Venezuela	Núcleo de Desarrollo Endógeno Fabricio Ojeda Consejo Comunal Matanza Consejo Comunal UCO 3334 Movimiento Social “Otro Beta” Emisora Comunitaria CRP 91 Comuna Alicia Benítez, Maca-Petare Sur








COUNTRY	PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS that participated in the on-site visits
 Antigua and Barbuda	Antigua & Barbuda Chamber of Commerce & Industry Antigua and Barbuda Bankers Association
 Belize	National Trade Union Congress of Belize Belize Tourism Board Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Bolivia	Confederación de Empresarios Privados de Bolivia (CEPB)
 Brazil	Instituto Ethos
 Chile	Cámara de Comercio de Santiago Fundación Generación Empresarial
 Colombia	Confederación de Cámaras de Comercio de Colombia (CONFECÁMARAS)
 Costa Rica	Cámara de Comercio de Costa Rica
 Ecuador	Consorcio Ecuatoriano para la Responsabilidad Social (CERES)
 El Salvador	Cámara de Comercio e Industria de El Salvador Asociación Nacional de la Empresa Privada Cámara Salvadoreña de la Industria de la Construcción Consejo Empresarial para el Desarrollo Sostenible DynCorp/Casals
 Grenada	Chamber of Commerce represented by “ Republic Bank Grenada” and “G4S SecureSolutions”
 Guatemala	Cámara de Industria de Guatemala

	Cámara de Comercio Guatemala
 Guyana	Consultative Association of Guyanese Industry Ltd. (CAGI) Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI)
 Haiti	Chambre de Commerce Américaine en Haïti (AmCham)
 Honduras	Federación de Organizaciones Privadas para el Desarrollo de Honduras (FOPRIDEH) Consejo Hondureño de la Empresa Privada (COHEP)
 Jamaica	Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica
 Mexico	Comité Anticorrupción de la Cámara Internacional de Comercio (ICC-México)
 Panama	Asociación Panameña de Ejecutivos de Empresa (APEDE)
 Peru	Confederación Nacional de Instituciones Empresariales Privadas (CONFIEP)
 Saint Kitts and Nevis	Saint Kitts and Nevis Chamber of Commerce
 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Chamber of Industry and Commerce Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Chamber of Agriculture & Nutrition
 Suriname	Suriname Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KKF)
 The Bahamas	Bahamas Chamber of Commerce
 Venezuela	FEDEINDUSTRIAS Cámara Venezolano-Brasileña (Sector Alimentos, Capítulo Venezuela) Federación Venezolana de Porcicultura (Feporcina)
COUNTRY	PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS that participated in the on-site visits
 Antigua and Barbuda	Antigua and Barbuda Bar Association Antigua Trades and Labour Union
 Argentina	Asociación de Abogados de Buenos Aires Federación Interamericana de Abogados – FIA) Consejo Profesional de Ciencias Económicas de la Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires (CPCECABA)
 Belize	Institute of Chartered Accountants of Belize
 Bolivia	Sociedad de Ingenieros de Bolivia (SIB) Colegio de Contadores de Bolivia Central Obrera Boliviana (COB)
 Brazil	Ordem dos Advogados do Brasil (OAB)
 Chile	Colegio de Contadores de Chile
 Costa Rica	Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Costa Rica
 Dominican Republic	Instituto de Contadores Públicos Autorizados de la República Dominicana (ICPARD)
 Ecuador	Colegio de Abogados del Guayas
 Guyana	Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana (ICAG)

	Guyana Association of Women Lawyers (GAWL) Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Guyana
 Haiti	Ordre des avocats du Barreau de Port-au-Prince Chapitre Haïtien de l'Association Internationale des Femmes juges (CHAIFEJ)
 Honduras	Colegio de Abogados de Honduras C LIBRE Asociación de Jueces y Magistrados Asociación de Fiscales
 Jamaica	Jamaican Bar Association
 Mexico	Barra Mexicana de Abogados
 Paraguay	Colegio de Abogados del Paraguay
 Peru	Colegio de Abogados de Lima (CAL)
 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Bar Association
 Suriname	Suriname Bar Association Institute of Certified Accountants of Suriname (SUVA)
 The Bahamas	Bahamas Bar Association Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants
 United States	Association of Government Auditors (AGA) American Bar Association Senior Executive Association.
 Uruguay	Asociación de Magistrados del Uruguay Asociación de Magistrados Fiscales del Uruguay Asociación de Despachantes de Aduanas del Uruguay

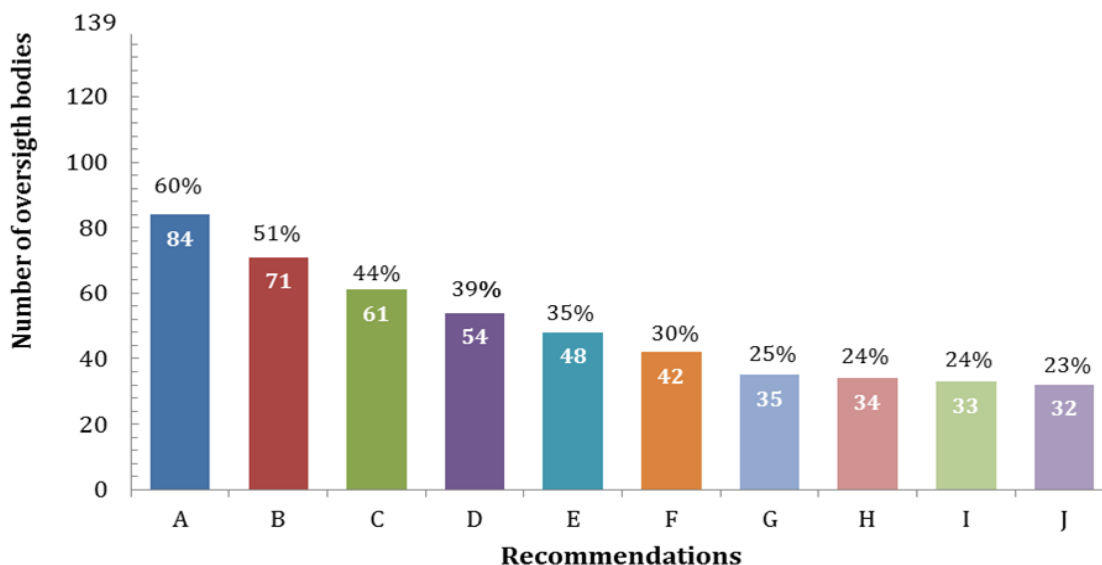
COUNTRY	ACADEMICS AND/OR RESEARCHERS that participated in the on-site visits
 Argentina	Alejandro Gómez, Universidad de Buenos Aires – Facultad de Derecho Cecilia Vázquez, Centro de Investigaciones sobre la Prevención de la Criminalidad Económica (CIPCE)
 Bolivia	Héctor Arce, Universidad Andina
 Brazil	Fernando Abrucio (Fundação Getúlio Vargas – FGV) Carlos Higino Ribeiro de Alencar
 Chile	Nicolás Cobo, Universidad Católica
 Colombia	Orlando Puentes, Universidad Nacional
 Costa Rica	Jorge Córdoba Ortega, Universidad de Costa Rica Pablo Barahona Kruger
 Ecuador	Isabel Ramos, FLACSO Ecuador Santiago Ortiz, FLACSO Ecuador Diego Zalamea, UASB

 El Salvador	Dafne Sánchez Carla Fratti de Vega
 Guatemala	David Martinez Amador, Universidad Rafael Landivar Werner Castillo Regalado, Universidad San Carlos de Guatemala Sandino Asturias , Centro de Estudios de Guatemala
 Haiti	Amos Durosier, Institut des Hautes Études Commerciales et Économiques (IHECE) Henri Bazin, Chambre de Conciliation et d'Arbitrage d'Haïti (CCAH)
 Honduras	Julieta Castellanos, Universidad Autónoma de Honduras
 Mexico	Marco Cancino, Centro de Investigaciones para el Desarrollo (CIDAC) José Roldan Xopa, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económica
 Panama	Hipólito Gill, Universidad de Panamá
 Paraguay	Camilo J. Filartiga Callizo, Universidad Católica (CPP-UC) Ma. Victoria Rivas, Centro de Estudios Judiciales (CEJ) Agustín Carrizosa, Centro de Información y Recursos para el Desarrollo (CIRD) Claudio Lovera Velázquez, Instituto de Estudios para la Consolidación del Estado de Derecho (ICED)
 Peru	Yván Montoya Vivanco (Instituto de Democracia y Derechos Humanos – IDEH PUCP) Jaris Mujica
 Suriname	Monsels Abdoelrahman, University of de Suriname
 Uruguay	Daniel Buquet, Universidad de la República GeraradoCaetano, Universidad de la República Rafael Piñeiro, Universidad de la República
 Venezuela	Víctor Álvarez, Centro Internacional Miranda (CIM) Luis Bonilla, Centro Internacional Miranda (CIM) Alfredo Sequera, Instituto de Altos Estudios de Control Fiscal y Auditoría de Estados

COUNTRY	OTHER ORGANIZATIONS that participated in the on-site visits
 Antigua and Barbuda	Antigua and Barbuda Media Congress
 Bolivia	Asociación Nacional de la Prensa (ANP) Federación de Trabajadores de la Prensa de La Paz (FTPLP)
 Brazil	Associação Brasileira de Jornalismo Investigativo (ABRAJI)
 Costa Rica	Instituto de la Prensa y Libertad de Expresión (IPLEX)
 Haiti	Association Nationale des Médias Haïtiens (ANMH)
 Peru	Consejo de la Prensa Peruana Instituto Prensa y Sociedad
 Saint Kitts and Nevis	Christian Council

ANNEX II

MOST COMMON CROSSCUTTING RECOMMENDATIONS FORMULATED TO OVERSIGHT BODIES IN THE FOURTH ROUND OF REVIEW



- A.** Prepare statistical data on compliance with their anticorruption functions, designed in such a way as to clearly indicate the objective results obtained in that area and to identify challenges and adopt the relevant corrective measures.
- B.** Ensure the human and/or financial resources necessary for their operations.
- C.** Clearly demarcate their sphere of competence to avoid overlapping functions among different state agencies, authorities, or bodies and to prevent conflicts of jurisdiction among them.
- D.** Implement or strengthen programs to provide their personnel with training on the regime of responsibility to which they are subject and on the functions with which they are charged.
- E.** Implement or strengthen accountability mechanisms covering the performance of their functions, such as periodic management reports and public hearings for informing the public about the results of their undertakings.
- F.** Implement or strengthen the use of modern systems or technologies to facilitate the pursuit of the duties with which they are charged.
- G.** Implement or complete programs for quality improvement or institutional strengthening.
- H.** Implement or strengthen internal control mechanisms to enable oversight of compliance with their objectives, the attention given to claims, complaints, or allegations related to that compliance, and the performance of their personnel, and the adoption of the relevant preventive or corrective measures.
- I.** Publicize broadly, through such channels as the internet, the activities undertaken in pursuit of their anticorruption functions, together with information on the results obtained therein.
- J.** Provide the public, through such channels as the internet, with information about their objectives, functions, and legal framework, and supply them with guidance on steps to pursue formalities with them.

ANNEX III

SUMMARY OF THE ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN BY THE COUNTRIES THAT REPRESENT PROGRESS WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS FORMULATED IN THE FIRST ROUND OF REVIEW¹⁷

1. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT AND MECHANISMS TO ENFORCE THEM (ARTICLE III, PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 2 OF THE CONVENTION)

1.1 Standards of conduct and mechanisms to prevent conflicts of interest

ACTIONS	COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION
Enactment of laws and/or legal measures	The Bahamas	- Adoption by the judiciary of the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct, 2002.
	Belize	- Prevention of Corruption Act.
	Bolivia	- Adoption of a new Political Constitution of the State.
		- Supreme Decree establishing conflicts of interest (incompatibilidades) for certain public servants. - Supreme Decree approving the National Transparency and Anti-Corruption Policy.
	Brazil	- The "Clean Slate" (Ficha Limpia) Law.
		- Law establishing the rules on exclusive devotion to duty for typical careers in government.
- Decree establishing the Ethics Management System for the Federal Executive Branch.		
- Codes of Ethics and Conduct for Staff of the Central Bank of Brazil and of the Bank for Economic and Social Development (BNDES). - Regulations governing procedures for the investigation by Ethics Commissions of ethical lapses in the Federal Executive Branch. - Enabling regulations for the rules on exclusive devotion to duty of career staff in the Office of the Comptroller General of the Union (CGU).		
Canada	- Public Servants Disclosure Protection Act.	
	- Code of Conduct for Procurement.	
	- Treasury Board Policy on Conflict of Interest and Post-Employment. - Conflict of Interest Act.	
Chile	- Constitutional Amendment on transparency, modernization of the State, and the quality of politics.	
	- Constitutional amendment introducing principles governing probity and transparency in acts and resolutions by	

17. As noted in Chapter IX of this report, the actions that are summarized herein are those that the Committee has considered as constituting progress in the implementation of the recommendations from the First Round, based on what is expressed in the country reports corresponding to the Second, Third and Fourth rounds of review, in which the Committee has followed-up on the implementation of those recommendations. Accordingly, there may be other actions developed by countries in relation to the topics of the Convention to which those recommendations refer, but which, because they took place subsequent to the Committee considering in those reports that the respective country had given satisfactory consideration to a given recommendation, do not appear in this summary.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> organs of the State. - Law amending the Constitutional Organic Law on Regional Government and Administration. - Law on the General Bases for Government Administration. - Presidential Directive on transparency and disclosure of information. - Opinion of the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic (CGR) on instructions for sworn statements of interest and net worth. - Opinions (2) of the CGR on prohibiting former staff of oversight institutions from working in private entities that were subject to their oversight. - Opinions (9) of the CGR on conflicts of interest and their application to various public authorities. - Official Circular from the CGR containing instructions relating to the statement of net worth. - Official circular on implementing the Presidential Directive on transparency and disclosure of information. - Regular Official Letters (2) from the General Internal Audit of Government Council (CAIGG) on statements of interest and net worth.
Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resolution updating the National Education and Training and Plan.
Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law against Corruption and Illicit Enrichment in Public Administration. - Enabling regulations of the Anti-Corruption Law - Law on the Protection of Victims, Witnesses, and Others Involved in Criminal Proceedings. - General Directives published by the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic. - Executive Decree establishing ethical principles for public servants.
Dominican Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Political Constitution adopted in 2010, which establishes a series of disqualifications for public office. - Law governing Public Procurement and Hiring of Goods, Services, Works, and Concessions, containing a list of persons prohibited from entering into contracts with the State. - Civil Service Law containing prohibitions for civil servants aimed at preventing them from getting involved in conflict of interest situations. - Decree establishing the Directorate of Government Ethics and Integrity and assigning it responsibility for setting policy guidelines with respect to conflicts of interest.
Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organic Public Service Law. - Regulations of the Organic Public Service Law - Staff recruitment and Selection Subsystem. - Organic Law of Public Companies. - Organic Law of Citizen Participation. - Organic Code for Territorial Organization, Autonomy, and Decentralization. - Organic Law of Popular and Solidary Economy of the Financial System. - Organic Law on the Regulation and Control of Market Power. - Organic Law of the National Government Procurement System. - Social Security Law. - General Law on Financial System Institutions. - Law Creating the Financial Security Network.
El Salvador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government Ethics Law.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amendment to the Government Ethics Law.
Grenada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrity in Public Life Act. - Code of Conduct for Civil Servants.
Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Code of Ethics of the Public Prosecution Service (Ministerio Público). - Regulatory Provisions on the Solution of Conflicts of Interest by the Ministry of Finance.
Guyana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Audit Act. - Rules, Policies, and Procedures Manual (RPP) of the Audit Office of Guyana. - Procurement Act. - Judicial Service Commission Rules.
Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Code of Ethical Conduct of Public Servants. - Amendment of Article 52 of the Organic Law of the Superior Court of Accounts (Tribunal Superior de Cuentas) - Regulations for the Establishment and Operations of Committees Probity and Civic Ethics.
Jamaica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adoption of Judicial Guidelines.
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreement instructing Federal Public Administration (APF) entities and the Office of the Attorney General (PGR) to update their Codes of Conduct and bring them into line with the APF's Code of Ethics. - General guidelines for establishing ongoing actions to ensure integrity and ethical behavior on the part of civil servants.
Nicaragua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Civil Service and Administrative Career Law and the decree issuing enabling regulations. - Municipal Administrative Career Law. - Judicial Career Law. - Public Sector Administrative Procurement and Hiring Law. - Organic Law of the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic (CGR) and of the System for Overseeing Public Administration and Monitoring Government Property and Resources.
Paraguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law Prohibiting Nepotism in Public Administration. - Code of Ethics of the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic. - Code of Ethics of the Honorable Chamber of Deputies. - Code of Judicial Ethics of the Supreme Court of Justice.
Panama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Single Code of Ethics of Civil Servants working in Central Government agencies. - Codes of Ethics for the legislative and judicial branches. - Resolution establishing transfers of funds as the means of payment in the Treasurer's Office in the Ministry of Economy and Finance.
Peru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supreme Decree approving guidelines for drafting the Regulations governing Organization and Functions. - Supreme Decree approving guidelines for drafting the Personnel Allocation Table. - Regulations governing infringements and punishments for functional administrative liability stemming from reports issued by National Oversight System bodies. - Ministerial Resolution approving the Directive for Use, Search, and Consultation of the Electronic System of the National Registry of Sanctions involving Dismissal and Removal. - Legislative Decree establishing the National Civil Service Authority. - Supreme Decree approving the enabling regulations for the Civil Service Code of Ethics.

	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	- Roads, Bridges, and General Services Law.
	Trinidad and Tobago	- Introduction of a legislative package to enhance and reorganize administration of the Police Service. - Justice Protection Act. - Integrity in Public Life (Amendment) Act.
	United States	- Passing of the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act. - Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Chamber of Representatives regarding the conduct of its members and staff. - Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Senate regarding the conduct of senators and staff.
	Uruguay	- Decree on Standards of Conduct in the Public Service. - Police Procedures Law. - General Regulations governing Disciplinary Actions. - Laws (2) regulating the operations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. - Code of Ethics for offices in the Ministry of Economy and Finance. - Code of Ethical Conduct of the Office of the Director General of Taxes. - Principles of Ibero-American Judicial Ethics taken from the model code of judicial ethics. - Code of Medical Ethics drawn up by the Medical Association of Uruguay. - Code of Ethics of the Bank of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay.
	Venezuela	- Various legal instruments and regulatory provisions (10).

Preparation and processing of bills (draft laws)	Argentina	- Draft amendment to the Law on Ethics in Public Office.
	Belize	- Preparation of a revised version of the Civil Service Regulations.
	Bolivia	- Draft of the Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz law - Preliminary draft law on Nepotism and Conflicts of Interest.
	Brazil	- Draft law on conflicts of interest deals with conflicts of interest in the performance of jobs or employment in the Federal Executive Branch and subsequent impediments for holding positions or jobs. - (3) Draft laws regulating "lobbying" (three bills, especially draft law 1202/2007).
	Chile	- Draft law on ethics in public office. - Draft blind trust law. - Draft law on impediments to holding positions in supervised private institutions. - Draft law regulating lobbying. - Draft law strengthening rules regarding sworn statements of interests and net worth.
	Ecuador	- Draft Code of Ethics for Good Living in the Executive Branch.
	Guatemala	- Proposed text of a Government decision to amend the enabling regulations for the Law on Probity and Responsibility of Government Officials and Employees. - Draft Code of Ethics prepared by the Ethics and Morality Directorate of the Office of the Comptroller General. - Bill presented by Congress awaiting a legal opinion by the National Special Commission for Transparency.

	- Draft of amendments to the Civil Service Law.
Guyana	- Preparation of a Draft Cabinet Code of Conduct.
Jamaica	- Preparation of a draft Code of Ethics for Public Servants. - Preparation of a draft Code of Ethics for Senators and Members of the House of Representatives.
Paraguay	- Draft Law on Ethics in Public Office. - Draft Framework Code of Ethics for the Executive Branch.
Peru	- Draft Law to amend subparagraph e) of Article 4 of the Parliamentary Ethics Code. - Draft law prohibiting legislators from legislating on matters regarding which they have conflict of interest impediments. - Preparation of a draft law on Ethics, Incompatibilities, and Responsibilities. - Preliminary draft law regulating the Sworn Statement of Interest of Public Servants.
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	- Integrity in Public Life Draft Bill - Prevention of Corruption Draft Bill.
Trinidad and Tobago	- Proposed amendment to the Integrity in Public Life Act to ensure that the Integrity Commission responds efficiently to officials' requests for advice. - Draft law to amend the Integrity in Public Life Act.
United States	- Revision by the Office of Government Ethics of the regulation clarifying restrictions subsequent to holding public office; still being considered by the Executive.
Uruguay	- Draft Law on "Strengthening Transparency in the Public Sector."
Venezuela	- Bill on Conflicts of Interest.

Training and/or awareness-raising activities	Argentina	- Distance training courses for government officials on matters relating to public ethics. - Public dissemination of anti-corruption policies. - "Ethics Training to Prevent Corruption -- Education in Values," for secondary school students, members of their families, and their teachers. - Publication: "Conflicts of Interest: The Public v. Private Question and Preventing Corruption." - Instructions for government officials on how to handle the Comprehensive Sworn Statements of Net Worth system.
	Brazil	- The teaching a Course on Ethics in Public Administration for all Federal Government officials.
	Canada	- Program of the Public Service of Canada to make values and ethics a core element woven into required training programs for human and financial management. - Organization of training courses for conflict of interest practitioners in the public service. - Incorporation of the conflicts of interest training programs for human resource professionals. - Offer by the Canada School of Public Service, through its on-line courses catalogue, of training in values and ethics for employees, managers, and executives.
	Colombia	- Obligation for entities to develop induction and re-induction sessions that are to include updates regarding disqualification and incompatibility (conflict of interest) rules.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Re-structuring of the Advanced Government Studies program with a new approach geared to training its target population group. - Research project: "Participatory Development of State Education and Training Policy for Government Employees: A Non-Formal and Informal Education Perspective."
Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seminars organized by the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic and Office of the Attorney General on the Anti-Corruption Law. - Seminar on the rules governing civil servant responsibilities. - Training activities carried out by the Ministry of Finance on the Anti-Corruption Law.
Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training courses delivered by the Ministry of Labor Relations on the Civil Service Law and its Regulations. - Dissemination and Training Mechanisms, implemented by the CPCCS, with respect to transparent practices for civil servants. - Training courses in public ethics for CGE personnel. - Ongoing training on anti-corruption issues provided by the FGE. - Workshops and discussions conducted nationwide by the Superintendency of Corporations to disseminate the Institutional Code of Ethics.
El Salvador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government Ethics Law. - Publication of a column in the written media to inform the population about the functions of the Court of Accounts.
Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Day-seminars to sensitize and raise awareness of the CGC's Code of Ethics.
Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seminars on conflicts of interest for civil servants. - Establishment of ties with educational authorities designed to establish a new civic mindedness that will ensure appropriate use and handling of public property. - Municipal management training project. - Training courses for Probity and Public Ethics Committees in public institutions.
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (2) training programs for personnel in the oversight and control bodies and for personnel throughout the Federal Public Administration and in interested nongovernmental organizations. - The "Culture of Legality: Ethics and Public Responsibility" program, for civil servants in the Federal Public Administration. - Holding of 118 training courses addressing the conflicts of interest issue for 3,496 civil servants in oversight and control bodies. - Holding of the Third National Colloquium on Transparency: "Transparency and accountability as the basic principles for managing the fight against corruption." - Guidelines entitled "Administrative Responsibilities in Electoral Contexts: legality as the means to securing public responsibility" and creation of a virtual course on the subject.
Nicaragua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training activities conducted by the CGR regarding its legal framework. - Actions by the Public Ethics Office to promote, educate, disseminate, sensitize and provide technical-cum-legal advice on the prevention of corruption. - Cooperation agreement between the Public Ethics Office (OEP) and the PEOBIDAD agency to train government officials in the Executive Branch in transparency and methods to combat corruption.

	Paraguay	- A number of training activities regarding rules of conduct relating to conflicts of interest (the Council to Promote the National Integrity System -CISNI).
	Panama	- (5) Training courses on Law 6 on Transparency.
	Peru	- Draft Law to amend subparagraph e) of Article 4 of the Parliamentary Ethics Code. - Draft law prohibiting legislators from legislating on matters regarding which they have conflict of interest impediments. - Preparation of a draft law on Ethics, Incompatibilities, and Responsibilities. - Preliminary draft law regulating the Sworn Statement of Interest of Public Servants.
	Trinidad and Tobago	- Intensive training for Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Department to minimize complications and delays in disciplinary proceedings. - Holding of seminars with the Permanent Secretaries and other employees regarding the anti-corruption obligations and to improve their relations with the Integrity Commission.
	United States	- New training course on conflicts of interest introduced by the Office of Government Ethics.
	Uruguay	- Design and launching by the Transparency and Public Ethics Board (JUTEPE) of a program for training civil servants specializing in anti-corruption rules and regulations. - Holding of 10 classes and workshops for ministry employees, and others - Holding of a seminar/workshop on ethics, medicine, and public health. - Workshops on ethics in public office and anti-corruption provisions for departmental government offices (intendencias departamentales). - Holding of scheduled workshops for departmental government offices - Agreements signed to provide training to primary school teachers, for them to pass on to their pupils.
Implementation of international cooperation activities	Panama	- Seminar on "Corruption, its causes, and legal instruments for combating corruption," in coordination with the UNODC.
Implementation of institutional strengthening activities	Argentina	- Actions by the National Executive Branch to promote the establishment of the National Public Ethics Commission.
	Bolivia	- Development of a Program of Ethics in Public Administration. - Hiring of a consultant to draft the legally required regulations. - Holding of the Transparency Units Summit. - Drafting of the Manifiesto on the Decolonization of Public Ethics and the Civil Servants' Revolution - "Conversations" with social organizations and civil servants to discuss the aforementioned Manifiesto. - Survey of civil servants regarding the ethics environment in government entities. - Adherence to the process of decolonization of public ethics by public servants and more than 220 municipalities.
	Canada	- Study conducted by the TBS Office of Public Service Values and Ethics of a governance model for values and ethics in the public service. - Assessment by the Management Accountability Framework on the implementation of conflict of interest

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> management practices in departments and agencies. - Internal audits performed by the Auditor General to analyze the results of enforcement of conflict of interest provisions.
Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Framework Audit Program for the Government Procurement process in the CAIGG. - Framework Audit Program for Administrative Probity in the CAIGG. - Document on Operational Controls with respect to Government Procurement in the CAIGG. - Establishment of the Judiciary's Ethics Commission. - Establishment of the Stock Exchange's Self-Regulation Committee.
Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of the Judicial Register of Offenders. - Approval of a substantial increase in the Public Prosecution Service (Ministerio Público) budget. - Establishment of Treasury Jurisdiction over Criminal Matters (Jurisdicción Penal de Hacienda), specializing in corruption offenses. - Register of punished civil servants kept by the Office of the Director General of the Civil Service. - Plan developed by the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic to detect deeds constituting grounds for administrative liability.
Dominican Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Regulations for making the Disciplinary Tribunal operational. - Establishment of the Directorate of Government Ethics and Integrity with responsibility for setting policy guidelines with respect to conflicts of interest.
Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compilation by the National Congress of all provisions relating to prohibitions, disqualifications, and incompatibilities to prevent conflicts of interest. - Self-evaluation questionnaire for public institutions on the use and effectiveness of codes of conduct for preventing conflicts of interest and mechanisms for compliance with them. - Ministry of Labor Relations forms (control of moonlighting; nepotism; absence of a legal impediment to performing a job).
El Salvador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adoption of the "Map of Government Risks in Handling Public Resources" project. - Updating of the way citizens' complaints are received and addressed. - Preparation of a proposed plan for preventing risks in the handling of public resources.
Grenada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of the Integrity Commission.
Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issuance of circulars by the Office of the Comptroller General (CGC) aimed at avoidance of conflicts of interest. - Inclusion by the CGC of a clause in the sworn declaration form aimed at preventing conflicts of interest.
Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of ethics inspections to assess the extent to which ethical standards are observed in government institutions. - Implementation of special investigations by the Probity Department to detect conflicts of interest in public administration.
Jamaica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of the Public Service Regulations.
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Accountability, Transparency and Anti-Corruption Program, as it affects observance of the Code of Ethics of the Federal Public Administration (APF). - Progress made with the adoption of institutional codes of conduct containing conflicts of interest provisions.
Nicaragua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of the Inter-agency Ethics Promoters Network and the Network for Social Oversight of Public

	Administration.	
	Trinidad and Tobago	- Allocation to the Integrity Commission of the financial and human resources required to fulfill its mandate by granting it a separate financial vote for expenditure and thus complete control of its expenditure.
	United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Study carried out and report written by the Office of Government Ethics on criminal legislation regarding conflicts of interest applicable to officials in the Executive Branch. - Study carried out by the Office of Government Ethics on rules of conduct for employees in the Executive Branch. - Publication by the Office of Government Ethics of five new educational leaflets. - Surveys administered by the Office of Government Ethics to evaluate institutions' ethics programs. - Participation by the Office of Government Ethics in panel discussions during the Fifteenth National Government Ethics Conference. - Evaluation by the Office of Government Ethics on activities to enforce provisions in Executive Branch agencies. - Publication by the Office of Government Ethics of the annual summary of conflict of interest proceedings brought by the Department of Justice.
	Uruguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice provided by the Transparency and Public Ethics Board (JUTEP) to the National Customs Directorate on the drafting of its Code of Ethics. - Advice provided by the Transparency and Public Ethics Board (JUTEP) to the National Audit Office (Contaduría General de la Nación) on the drafting of its Code of Ethics.
	Venezuela	- Register of civil servants incorporated into the On-Line Sworn Statement of Net Worth system.

Adoption or implementation of technological systems and tools	Argentina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training in Public Ethics System - SICEP - Inclusion of the work record of elected officials in the National Executive Branch in the sworn statements of net worth system.
	Chile	- Creation on the CGR website of an Internet portal for Government Services Audit or Internal Control Units.
	Mexico	- Development of a dissemination system that can be accessed via the Internet through the Civil Service Secretariat's web page.
	United States	- Electronic Information System created by the Office of Government Ethics for the Conflict of Interest Notification Form.
TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIONS CARRIED OUT	266	

1.2 Standards of conduct and mechanisms for ensuring the conservation and proper use of resources entrusted to public officials

ACTIONS	COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION
Enactment of laws and/or legal	Argentina	- Decree on the role of Internal Audit Units under current law and with freedom to use their own judgment (independencia de criterio).

measures	Belize	- Prevention of Corruption Act
	Bolivia	- The "Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz" Law on Combating Corruption, Illicit Enrichment, and Investigating Fortunes. - Supreme Decree on Basic Rules and Regulations of the Administration of Property System. - Ministerial Resolution approving the Political Manifesto on Decolonization of Public Ethics.
	Colombia	- Law adopting the National Development Plan, which includes a specific chapter on corruption. - Decree adopting the Internal Control Standard Model for Government Entities (MECI). - (2) Circulars giving instructions to civil servants on implementing the new internal control arrangements and on annual reporting of progress made.
	Costa Rica	- Regulations governing the use of computers, programs, and accessories in the Legislative Assembly. - Regulations governing the dispensing of alcoholic drinks in the Legislative Assembly. - In-house Regulations regarding the administrative hiring procedures of the Administrative Registration Tribunal (Tribunal Registral Administrativo). - Regulations on telephone services in the Ministry of the Interior and Police. - Regulations governing the payment of per diem allowances and transportation costs for staff of the Ministry of Public Works and Transportation and bodies attached to it. - Regulations governing the handling of petty cash in the District Sports and Recreation Committee of San José. - CGR resolution regulating the travel and transportation expenses tariff schedule for civil servants.
	Dominican Republic	- Law on the Organizational Structure of the Finance Secretariat (Secretaría de Estado de Hacienda). - Organic Budget Law. - Treasury Law. - Public Credit Law. - Procurement Law. - Law establishing the Integral Government Financial Administration System. - Law amending the Accounting Law. - Internal Control Law.
	El Salvador	- Government Ethics Law.
	Guatemala	- Anti-Corruption Law.
	Honduras	- General Execution Regulations for the Organic Budget Law. - Administrative Decision establishing Framework Guidelines for Public Sector Internal Audits.
	Jamaica	- Financial Management Regulations.
	Mexico	- Federal Budget Law and Financial Liability (Responsabilidad Hacendaria). - Agreement instructing Federal Public Administration (APF) entities and the Office of the Attorney General (PGR) to update their Codes of Conduct and bring them into line with the APF's Code of Ethics. - General guidelines for establishing ongoing actions to ensure integrity and ethical behavior on the part of civil servants.
	Nicaragua	- Organic Law of the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic (CGR) and of the System for Overseeing Public Administration and Monitoring of Government Property and Resources (2009).
	Panama	- Law establishing the Official Audit Office (Tribunal de Cuentas).

	Paraguay	- Law to Prevent, Legally Define, and Punish Illicit Enrichment in Public Office and Influence Peddling.
	Peru	- Law on Internal Control of Government Entities. - Government Procurement Regulations. - Supreme Decree on the implementation of the Standard Transparency Portal in all public administration entities. - Directive entitled "Guidelines for Implementing the Standard Transparency Portal." - Ministerial Resolution approving the Directive for the Use, Registration, and Consultation of the Electronic System of the National Registry of Sanctions involving Dismissal and Removal (RNSDD). - Legislative Decree establishing the National Civil Service Authority. - Supreme Decree approving the enabling regulations for the Civil Service Code of Ethics.
	Uruguay	- Article 132 of the Amended Text of the Accounting and Financial Administration Law. - Article 137 of the Amended Text of the Accounting and Financial Administration Law.
	Venezuela	- Review of the Organic Law of the Supreme Court of Justice. - Promulgation of a series of laws that seek, among other thing, to ensure the preservation and appropriate use of the resources assigned to civil servants. - Reform of the Government Contracting Law and its Regulation.
Preparation and processing of bills (draft laws)	Argentina	- (3) Draft laws on control of government expenditure.
	Guatemala	- Presentation of two bills for legally defining illicit enrichment.
	Peru	- Draft implementing regulations for Legislative Decree No. 1025 on Public Sector Training and Performance Standards.
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	- Integrity in Public Life Draft Bill. - Prevention of Corruption Draft Bill.
	Venezuela	- Draft Reform of the Venezuelan Criminal Code. - Draft Reform of the Anti-Corruption Law.
Training and/or awareness-raising activities	Bolivia	- Public ethics awareness-raising for more than 15,000 civil servants.
	Costa Rica	- Training seminars and national courses organized by the CGR and PGR.
	Ecuador	- Training delivered by the CGE on the aforementioned subjects. - Other pertinent training courses and events staged by other oversight bodies.
	El Salvador	- Government Ethics Law.
	Guatemala	- Workshops organized by the Superintendency of Tax Administration to strengthen values and ethics.
	Guyana	- Training of Audit Office staff in performance and value-for-money audits.
	Honduras	- Training delivered by the CGE on the aforementioned subjects. - Training delivered by the TSC on administrative procurement processes. - Intensive course on government procurement for new employees and staff. - Training and awareness-raising programs run by the National Banking and Insurance Commission (CNBS), the Higher Official Audit Office (Tribunal Superior de Cuentas - TSC), and the Executive Directorate of Revenue

	(DEI).
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training courses promoted by Public Financial Administration (APF) entities to disseminate provisions regarding the conservation and appropriate use of federal public resources. - The "Culture of Legality: Ethics and Public Responsibility" program, for civil servants in the Federal Public Administration (APF). - Government audit and internal control guidelines and manuals for APF entities. - Government audit and internal control training courses for APF civil servants.
Panama	- (5) Training courses on Law 6 on Transparency.
Paraguay	- Various training activities on codes of conduct to ensure the conservation and appropriate use of public resources (CISNI).
United States	- Preparation by the Government Ethics Office (OGE) of a new training course for Executive Branch employees.
Venezuela	- Training for officials with respect to the rules of conduct set forth in the Civil Service Statute, the Anti-Corruption Law, and other instruments (10).
Implementation of international cooperation activities	<p>Guyana</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IDB programs with the Government of Guyana on Fiscal and Financial Management and Government Services Reform, as well as the Millennium Challenge Account.
Implementation of institutional strengthening activities	<p>Bolivia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of a Program of Ethics in Public Administration. <p>Brazil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening the ability of the Office of the Attorney General of the Union (Abogacía General de la Unión - AGU) to effectively collect fines imposed by the Official Audit Office of the Union (TCU). - Establishment of sectoral inspectorates (Corregedurías Sectoriales) of the CGU in each of the ministries. <p>Canada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment exercise, the Policy Suite Renew, and review of the effectiveness of the Policy on Losses of Money, and Offenses and Other Illegal Acts against the Crown. - Management Accountability Framework, which reviews the effectiveness of policies, including the Policy on Losses of Money, and Offenses and Other Illegal Acts against the Crown. <p>Colombia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joint studies under an agreement between various oversight bodies to identify threats to the efficient, effective, and equitable use of public funds. - "Anti-Corruption Observatory," generating inputs for the implementation of effective public policies for combating corruption and promoting integrity. - Strategic Plan of the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic entitled: "For Timely and Effective Fiscal Oversight." <p>El Salvador</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis by the Official Audit Office of the Inter-relationships, operations, and regulations governing the components of the National Public Administration Control and Audit System. - Review and updating of forty-five (45) Specific Internal Control Technical Standards (NTCIE) for 45 public institutions. - Adoption of the "Map of Government Risks in Handling Public Resources."

	Grenada	- Establishment of a Unit and a Committee for reducing unnecessary bureaucratic outlays.
	Guatemala	- Use of the GUATECOMPRAS procurement system by government entities.
	Guyana	- Performance and value-for-money audits by the Audit Office (2009). - Expansion of scrutiny and supervision of government spheres through a Public Accounting Committee (PAC) with greater powers.
	Honduras	- Design by the Official Auditing Office of a National Oversight of National Resources System (SINACORP). - Establishment of the National Office for Comprehensive Development of Internal Controls (ONADICI). - Establishment of the Public Ethics Committees.
	Mexico	- National Accountability, Transparency and Anti-Corruption Program (PNRCTCC), as it affects observance of the Code of Ethics of the Federal Public Administration (APF). - Progress made with the adoption of institutional codes of conduct containing provisions on the conservation and appropriate use of public resources.
	Nicaragua	- Posting on the CGR website of the results of investigations and audits carried out. - Establishment of the CGR Training Center.
	Panama	- Start-up of Official Audit Office operations.
	Peru	- Drafting and pre-publication of the National Skills-Development Plan.
	Suriname	- Commitment form for officials going on mission. - Mission form for officials returning to the country. - Systems set up in the various government departments to eliminate improper use of telephones by government officials (e.g. for personal calls).
	United States	- Monitoring and examination by the Office of Government Ethics of enforcement of code of conduct laws and criminal legislation on conflicts of interest.
	Uruguay	- Verification of the disclosure government agencies are supposed to make of goods and services procured by the JUTEP.
Adoption or implementation of technological systems and tools	Argentina	- Posting on the Internet of the reports of the Office of the Comptroller General (Sindicatura General de la Nación). - Posting on the Internet of audits being conducted by the Officer of the Auditor General. - Optimization of information disseminated by the Anti-Corruption Office.
	Colombia	- Government Procurement Surveillance Information System (SICE). - Single Portal for Government Procurement (PUC). - Implementation of 5 information systems to ensure transparency and to improve government resource management monitoring mechanisms. - "Open Government Index (IGA)": a synthetic indicator that measures compliance with strategic anti-corruption provisions. - Government Employment Information and Management System (SIGEP).
	Guatemala	- Programming carried out for developing and completing the GUATECOMPRAS procurement system. - Updating, upgrading, expanding and modifying of Government web portals.
	Guyana	- Expansion and upgrading of the National Procurement and Tender Administration Board (NPTAB) website.

	Honduras	- Establishment of the Government of Honduras Procurement Information System (www.honducompras.gob.hn).
	Mexico	- The "Normatecna" I.T. tool for disseminating regulations applicable to entities in the APF.
	Peru	- Pre-publication on the website of the approved ground rules for selection processes in the Electronic Government Procurement System (SEACE). - Expansion of the Electronic Government Procurement System (SEACE) to cover 97% of entities in Peru.
TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIONS CARRIED OUT	137	

1.3 Measures and systems requiring public officials to report acts of corruption in the performance of public functions of which they are aware to the appropriate authorities

ACTIONS	COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION
Enactment of laws and/or legal measures	Belize	- Prevention of Corruption Act
	Bolivia	- Adoption of a new Political Constitution of the State.
		- The "Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz" Law on Combating Corruption, Illicit Enrichment, and Investigating Fortunes. - Supreme Decree mandating Transparency Units in Executive Branch entities.
	Brazil	- Access to Information Law.
	Canada	- Public Servants Disclosure Protection Act. - Internal Disclosure of Wrongdoing and Reprisal Protection Policy of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS)
		- Amendment of the Queen's Regulations and Orders for the Canadian Armed Forces to include internal disclosure of wrongdoing and reprisal protection procedures.
	Chile	- Law protecting civil servants who disclose wrongdoing and breaches of the probity principle.
Colombia	- Code of Criminal Procedure requiring that everyone, including civil servants, disclose any offenses they become aware of.	
	- Law banning reprisals against a civil servant who has disclosed acts of corruption.	
Costa Rica	- Law against Corruption and Illicit Enrichment in Public Administration. - Regulations implementing the Anti-Corruption Law. - Law to Protect Victims, Witnesses and Others Participating in Criminal Proceedings. - Issuance of Regulations for Administration of the Special Fund to Protect Victims, Witnesses, and Others Participating in Criminal Proceedings.	
	- Law partially amending the Anti-Corruption Law	
	- Decision by the Ombudsperson's Office establishing the Directorate of Labor Affairs.	

Dominican Republic	- Decree authorizing the Office of the Director General of Government Integrity to receive complaints against government officials violating administrative provisions.
Ecuador	- Organic Law of the Civil Service. - Organic Law of the Citizen Participation and Social Oversight Council (LOCPPCS). - Code of Ethics for staff and employees of the FGE.
El Salvador	- Government Ethics Law.
Honduras	- Rules of Procedure governing the Installment and Operations of Probity and Public Ethics Committees.
Jamaica	- Protected Disclosures Act, 2011.
Mexico	- Organic Law of the Attorney General's office (Procuraduría General de la República). - Decree on protection of victims, injured parties, witnesses, experts, judges, magistrates, police officers, and others when they need it because of their participation in criminal proceedings. - Federal Law to Combat Corruption in Government Procurement, providing for anonymous complaints and confidentiality for the complainant. - Decree modifying the Internal Rules of Procedure of the Civil Service Secretariat, including those of the Office of the Director General of Denunciations and Investigations (DGDI). - Agreement instructing Federal Public Administration (APF) entities and the Office of the Attorney General (PGR) to update their Codes of Conduct and bring them into line with the APF's Code of Ethics. - General guidelines for establishing ongoing actions to ensure integrity and ethical behavior on the part of civil servants. - Circular regarding the duty of civil servants to refrain from any form of pressure to prevent potential whistleblowers from making disclosures.
Nicaragua	- Code of Ethical Conduct of Public Servants of the Executive Branch of Government.
Panama	- New Code of Criminal Procedure. - Single Code of Ethics of Civil Servants working in Central Government agencies. - Resolution establishing a training unit in the Department of Training and Development of the Public Prosecution Service. - Decree establishing the National Directorate of Citizens' Complaints in the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic.
Paraguay	- Law to Protect Victims and Witnesses in Criminal Proceedings.
Peru	- Law for the Protection of Whistleblowers in Public Administration and Effective Cooperation in Criminal Proceedings. - Implementing regulations for the Whistleblower Protection Law. - Supreme Decree approving the enabling regulations for the Civil Service Code of Ethics.
Trinidad and Tobago	- Justice Protection Act. - Integrity in Public Life (Amendment) Act.
Uruguay	- Law on protection of victims, witnesses, and collaborators in proceedings of Courts of First Instance Specializing in Organized Crime.
Venezuela	- Code of Conduct of Public Servants.

	- Law on the Protection of Victims, Witnesses and Persons involved in Judicial Proceedings.
Preparation and processing of bills (draft laws)	Chile - Draft law on ethics in public office.
	Costa Rica - Draft law "To protect and encourage citizens to combat corruption in public office". - Draft law partially amending the Anti-Corruption Law.
	Mexico - Draft amendment to the Federal Law on the Administrative Liabilities of Civil Servants, which contains provisions on the protection of whistleblowers.
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines - Civil Service Draft Bill. - Integrity in Public Life Draft Bill. - Prevention of Corruption Draft Bill.
	Uruguay - Draft Law on "Strengthening Transparency in the Public Sector."
	Venezuela - Draft Reform of the Venezuelan Criminal Code.
Training and/or awareness-raising activities	Argentina - On-line training courses for government officials that address their obligation to disclose any wrongdoing they are aware of.
	Bolivia - Training provided by the Ministry of Institutional Transparency and Efforts to Combat Corruption (MTILCC) for more than 550 government officials, with a view to disseminating Law No. 004. - (MTILCC) Training for 415 students and inhabitants and public servants of the country's 339 municipalities.
	Brazil - National Strategy to Fight Corruption and Money Laundering (ENCCLA – Action 14) (2012). - The teaching of a Course on Ethics in Public Administration for all Federal Government officials.
	Canada - Training by the TBS Office of Public Service Values and Ethics, including awareness-raising with respect to the Public Servants Disclosure Protection Act. - Preparation of new courses for public servants on values and ethics that include information regarding the Public Servants Disclosure Protection Act.
	Chile - The National Directorate of the Civil Service's Five-Year Probity and Transparency Training Program. - Dissemination and training activities for various institutions to counsel civil servants regarding their duty to denounce crimes and wrongdoing.
	Colombia - National Civil Servants Education and Training Program, in which one of the focuses is on fighting corruption. That includes training in the duty to report wrongdoing.
	Costa Rica - Training courses taught by the PGR and the CGR for government officials in the Central Administration, decentralized government, and municipalities. - Training course taught by the PGR on Administrative Procedures.
	Ecuador - Specialized training in anti-corruption issues for public prosecutors and administrative supervisors in the field (personal Fiscal Administrativo Misional). - Joint anti-corruption training courses run by the Prosecutors' Academy in cooperation with the National Judicial Council and the Judicial Academy.
	El Salvador - Government Ethics Law.
	Guatemala - Training courses for government officials and employees run by the Presidential Commission for Transparency

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - and the National Public Administration Institute. - Training course taught by the CGC and the Public Prosecution Service on ethics issues and ways to improve the handling of corruption cases. - Training courses for institutions in the Executive Branch run by the Presidential Commission for Transparency and E-Government (COPRET).
Honduras	- Various training courses for civil servants and civil society organizations.
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The "Culture of Legality: Ethics and Public Responsibility" program, for civil servants in the Federal Public Administration (APF). - Mass media campaigns to encourage reporting of acts of corruption.
Nicaragua	- OEP training program on crimes against Public Administration.
Uruguay	- Design and launching by the JUTEP of a program to train government officials specializing in anti-corruption regulations.

Implementation of institutional strengthening activities	Bolivia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dissemination of the SAFCO Law and its systems and of the Responsibility in Public Office standards. - Preparation of General Guidelines for supporting the Whistleblowers and Witnesses Protection System. - Establishment of the Whistleblowers and Witnesses Protection System. - Drafting of the National Plan to Combat Corruption. - Distribution of leaflets, banners, and other materials by the MTILCC. - Compilation of information needed to draft the basic specifications for the Whistleblowers and Witnesses Protection System.
	Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of an Internal Disclosure Office by Department of National Defence. - Establishment of an "Ethics Officer" position by Canada's Communications Security Establishment.
	Colombia	- Use of the Prosecutor General's Whistleblowers and Witnesses Protection program for corruption cases.
	Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CGR Resolution establishing guidelines for receiving, investigating and handling complaints. - Issuance of an internal guide for addressing complaints by the PEP. - Creation of the Victim's Assistance Office in the Public Ministry.
	Dominican Republic	- Setting up of mailboxes for complaints and suggestions in all State institutions.
	Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purchase of 24 offices in all the provinces to improve the services provided by the Office of the Prosecutor General (Fiscalía General). - Establishment of seven additional offices to receive complaints in Guayaquil and Quito. - Establishment of 11 Indigenous Public Prosecutor's Offices. - Increase in 2009 in the number of prosecutors and Public Prosecution Office personnel providing services to the public.
	Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of the CGC's Center for Handling Citizen Complaints. - Establishment by the COPRET of a cost-free telephone hot-line to receive complaints. - Inclusion of an E-government diploma course and courses on transparency in National Public Administration Institute programs.

	Honduras	- Strengthening of the complaint reception units.
	Jamaica	- Designation of the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption as the authority to perform the functions contemplated in the Protected Disclosures Act, 2011.
	Mexico	- National Accountability, Transparency and Anti-Corruption Program, as it affects observance of the Code of Ethics of the Federal Public Administration (APF). - Progress made with the adoption of institutional codes of conduct containing provisions relating to the obligation to report acts of corruption. - The "Simulated User" program, which makes it possible to evaluate government agencies and the cases being processed by them and thereby detect irregularities committed by government officials.
	Nicaragua	- Posting on the CGR website of the results of investigations and audits carried out. - Establishment of the CGR Training Center.
	United States	- Cooperation between the Office of the Special Counsel and other federal agencies to ascertain best practices.
	Uruguay	- The Ministry of the Interior's telephone service for receiving citizens' complaints about its work. - System used by the Directorate General of Taxes to receive denunciations of tax fraud, through its web page or over the phone.
	Venezuela	- Establishment by the Public Prosecution Service of the National Coordination Office for the Protection of Victims, Witnesses and other Persons involved in Judicial Proceedings.

Adoption or implementation of technological systems and tools	Bolivia	- Development of the electronic system used by the Ministry of Institutional Transparency and the Fight against Corruption (MTILCC).
	Chile	- Transparency Portals on the institutional websites of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies.
	Colombia	- Government Employment Information and Management System (SIGEP).
	Dominican Republic	- Setting up of an e-mail to receive complaints.
	Guatemala	- Establishment by the COPRET of an electronic complaints system. - Setting up of an e-mail to receive complaints.
	Mexico	- Use of an electronic billboard to disseminate civil servants' duty to report offenses committed to the detriment of public office. - The DGDI's I.T. system for operating on-line and in real time with all the internal oversight bodies in the Federal Public Administration. - Use of institutions' web pages to encourage reporting of wrongdoing.
	Panama	- "3-1-1 Program" to record complaints and denunciations simply and expeditiously. - Channels for filing Internet complaints using the portals set up by the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic and the Public Prosecution Service.
	Peru	- National System for Handling Complaints (SINAD) of the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic.
	United States	- Use by the Office of Special Counsel of technology designed to foster expedited resolution of appropriate cases.
	TOTAL NUMBER OF	123

ACTIONS CARRIED OUT	
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2. SYSTEMS FOR REGISTERING INCOME, ASSETS, AND LIABILITIES (ARTICLE III, PARAGRAPH 4, OF THE CONVENTION)

ACTIONS	COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION
Enactment of laws and/or legal measures	Argentina	- Resolution regulating suspension of pay for government officials who fail to submit their sworn statement of net worth.
	Belize	- Prevention of Corruption Act
	Bolivia	- Adoption of a new Political Constitution of the State. - Adoption of the "Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz" Law on Combating Corruption, Illicit Enrichment, and Investigating Fortunes. - Adoption of the second version of the Regulations on Control of Sworn Statements of Assets and Income in Public Entities.
	Brazil	- Regulations for implementing the Access to Information Law in the Federal Executive Branch. - Inter-ministerial resolution requiring civil servants in the Federal Executive Branch to authorize access to electronic copies of their tax returns.
	Canada	- Public Servants Disclosure Protection Act. - Treasury Board Policy on Conflict of Interest and Post-Employment Restrictions. - Values and Ethics Code for the Public Sector.
	Chile	- Constitutional amendment regarding transparency, modernization of the State, and the quality of politics. - Law on the statement of net worth filed by authorities. - Two Regular Official Letters of the CAIGG on statements of interest and net worth. - Official Circular from the CGR containing instructions relating to the statement of net worth. - Opinion of the CGR on instructions for statements of interests and net worth.
	Costa Rica	- Adoption of the Law against Corruption and Illicit Enrichment in Public Office. - Resolution amending the Organic Rules of Procedure of the CGR.
	Dominican Republic	- Decree institutionalizing the digital system and electronic form for the submission of sworn statements of assets by government officials in the Executive Branch. - Decree delegating administration of the Automated Sworn Statement of Assets System to the Prosecutor's Office Specializing in Prosecuting Administrative Corruption. - Decree establishing the presentation of an annual financial report by officials in the Executive Branch who are required to submit a sworn statement of assets.
	Ecuador	- Law that regulates the sworn statements of net worth.
	El Salvador	- Government Ethics Law.

	Grenada	- Integrity in Public Life Act. .
	Guatemala	- Rules of Procedure for Recording, Oversight, and Reporting to the Board of the Sworn Statement of Net Worth. - Entry into force of the Asset Recovery/Forfeiture of Ownership Law (Ley de Extinción de Dominio).
	Guyana	- Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Act. - Money Transfer Licensing Act.
	Mexico	- Amendment to the Federal Law on the Administrative Liabilities of Civil Servants to require persons submitting a statement of net worth to include their Curriculum Vitae data. - Decision establishing the Regulations on the Roster of Persons Required to Submit Declarations of Net Worth in Federal Government Institutions. - Decision requiring Federal civil servants to submit their statements of net worth electronically and with an advanced electronic signature. - Decree amending the internal Rules of Procedure of the Civil Service Secretariat and restructuring the Changes in Net Worth Procedure to make it more expeditious and efficient.
	Nicaragua	- Manual of Administrative Procedures and Management Indicators of the Office of the Director General for Juridical Affairs of the Superior Council of the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic (CSCGR).
	Paraguay	- Internal Rules of procedure of the Office of the Prosecutor General (Fiscalía General del Estado).
	Peru	- Provisions for the use of the Electronic System for On-line Registration of Sworn Statements of Income, Assets, and Revenues (SDJL). - Provisions for Verification of Sworn Statements of Income, Assets, and Revenues.
	Uruguay	- Law on Accountability and Budget Execution Statement for 2005.
	Venezuela	- Resolutions of the Comptroller General of the Republic (CGR) requiring an updated sworn statement of net worth by various agencies of the State. - Resolution by the CGR requiring those responsible for the human resources area of the entities or agencies under their control to report movements on staff that enter or leave its service in a Monthly Report called the “Relación Mensual.”
Preparation and processing of bills (draft laws)	Bolivia	- “Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz” Law
	Brazil	- Draft law legally defining illicit enrichment.
	Chile	- Draft law on ethics in public office. - Draft law strengthening rules regarding sworn statements of interests and net worth.
	Dominican Republic	- Draft law establishing criminal sanctions for failure to comply with obligations in respect of the sworn statement of assets.
	Ecuador	- Draft law on sworn statements of net worth. - Draft law on the Auditing and Registration of Worn Statements of Net Worth.
	El Salvador	- Draft Probity Law.
	Mexico	- Two bills to amend banking and financial legislation so as to be able to access information on civil servants subject to investigation of changes in their net worth.
	Peru	- Draft law proposing that it be obligatory to declare all the income, assets, and revenues of the declarant and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> his/her spouse. - Preliminary draft law regulating the Sworn Statement of Interest of Public Servants. - Draft law regulating the Sworn Statement of Income, Assets, and Revenues of Officials and Civil Servants.
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	- Integrity in Public Life Draft Bill.
Suriname	- Draft Anti-Corruption Law.
Trinidad and Tobago	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft law to amend the Integrity in Public Life Act. - Draft law to amend the Prevention of Corruption Act.
Venezuela	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Reform of the Anti-Corruption Law. - Bill on Conflicts of Interest.
Training and/or awareness-raising activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Argentina - Publication entitled "Civil Servant Sworn Declarations: A corruption prevention and control tool. Information Technology and Public Administration." Bolivia - Workshops with heads of institutions to familiarize them with model tools for verifying sworn statements. Costa Rica - Training programs taught by the CGR and the PGR. Dominican Republic - Courses and workshops to inform civil servants about the sworn statement of assets and the procedures for complying with its provisions. El Salvador <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government Ethics Law. - Establishment of a section on the website of the Supreme Court of Justice that includes, inter alia, information regarding the purpose of sworn statements of net worth. Jamaica <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness-raising and training campaigns by the Office of Service Commissions on the legal and ethical duty to furnish their statutory declarations. - Presentation by the Integrity Commission to parliamentarians on the contents of the declaration required by the Parliament (Integrity of Members) Act. - Execution by the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption of training and education programs for public agencies on the Corruption (Prevention) Act. Mexico <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training and awareness for civil servants to ensure that, for the sake of transparency, they allow the publication of data regarding their net worth. - Training to enable civil servant to fill in and file their statement of net worth correctly. Trinidad and Tobago - Public education programs and training seminars conducted by the Integrity Commission for persons subject to the Integrity in Public Life Act. United States - Preparation by the Office of Government Ethics of an on-line training course and a guide to frequently asked questions.
Implementation of international cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Honduras - Financial cooperation by the World Bank to support the process of setting up a Computerized Sworn Statements of Income, Assets, and Liabilities System. Peru - Individual consultancy "Broadening the Scope of the Sworn Statements Information System" provided by the

activities	Inter-American Development Bank.	
Implementation of institutional strengthening activities	Argentina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actions by the National Executive Branch to promote the establishment of the National Public Ethics Commission. - The Anti-Corruption Office's plan for strengthening the rules governing sworn statements of net worth..
	Bolivia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of the CGR's System for Verifying Sworn Statements of Assets and Revenues. - Execution of the Pilot Scheme for Verifying Sworn Statements of Assets and Revenues. - Inter-agency agreements to undertake verification of statements. - Design of a working procedure for verifying statements. - Preparation of a form for sworn statements of assets and revenues.
	Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Framework Audit Program for Administrative Probity in the CAIGG. - Establishment of a CGR Access to Information Unit to ensure that statements of net worth and interests are actually accessible to the public. - Publication on the Internet of the sworn statements of net worth and interests of Senators and members of the Chamber of Deputies.
	Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mechanisms developed by the CGR to ensure effective and efficient verification of statements.
	Dominican Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreements between the Prosecutor's Office Specializing in the Prosecution of Administrative Corruption and other entities to check the veracity of sworn declarations of assets.
	Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of the Directorate of Public Ethics and Citizen Participation.
	Grenada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reconstitution of the Integrity Commission pursuant to the Integrity in Public Life Act, which grants the Commission powers with respect to sworn statements of net worth.
	Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposed amendments to the sworn statement form. - Annual review of the sworn statements of staff at the Superintendency of Tax Administration. - Incorporation by the CGC of the conflicts of interest item in the form for sworn statements of net worth. - Signing of cooperation agreements between the CGC and other government institutions.
	Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design of the Format for the Sworn Statement of Income, Assets, and Liabilities.
	Jamaica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in the resources of the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption, following a review of its Organizational Structure. - Use of the database on the declarations of Public Servants to detect cases of illicit enrichment and serious breaches of the Corruption (Prevention) Act.
	Panama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of the mechanism for suspending pay for civil servants failing to comply with their obligation to submit a sworn statement of net worth.
	Paraguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Format for the sworn statement of assets. - Incorporation of sanctions in the internal Rules of Procedure of nine government institutions for failure to submit sworn statements.
	Trinidad and Tobago	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of a Manual of Register of Interests.
United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing review, evaluation, and updating by the Office of Government Ethics of the financial information 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> statements system applicable to civil servants. - Publication by the Office of Government Ethics of a confidential form on regulations and information for the financial data statement. - Review by the Office of Government Ethics of Executive Branch agencies that have adopted non-standard payments systems. - Issuance by the Office of Government Ethics of directives to assist government officials with ethics matters.
Venezuela	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of the System for the Registration of Public Sector Bodies and Institutions. - Publication of preliminary reports containing the findings of net worth verification procedures carried out by the CGR. - Studies on methods by the CGR to detect, follow up and punish conflicts of interest. - Studies on the implementation of a technological program for submission of Sworn Statements of Assets through the internet.

Adoption or implementation of technological systems and tools	Argentina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation by the Anti-Corruption Office of I.T. tools for optimizing the sworn statements of net worth system. - Posting on the Anti-Corruption Office's website of lists of names of those complying with or failing to comply with the obligation to submit a sworn statement of net worth.
	Bolivia	- Development of the Integrated Anticorruption and Recovery of State Property Information System (SIARBE).
	Brazil	- Systematic review by the CGU of sworn statements of assets and revenue.
	Colombia	- Government Employment Information and Management System (SIGEP), which includes civil servants' Curricula Vitae and assets and revenues.
	Costa Rica	- Development of the CGR's Sworn Statement of Assets System (SDJB).
	Dominican Republic	- Automated Sworn Statement of Assets System.
	Ecuador	- Updating of the system for computerized registration and audit of sworn statements of net worth.
	Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Optimization by the Superintendency of Tax Administration of systems for analyzing the contents of sworn statements. - Implementation of the electronic Statement of Probity. - Establishment of the E-governance System by the CGC's Directorate of Probity.
	Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Computerized System of Sworn Statements of Income, Assets, and Liabilities. - Website: www.tsc.gob.hn/declaracionesjuradas.hn. - The Supreme Court's DECLARANET system for use by human resource units.
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "DeclaraNET" I.T. system for submitting sworn statements of net worth. - "OMEXT" I.T. tool for detecting civil servants who have either not submitted a statement of net worth or who did so extemporaneously. - "Sistema de Alertas" I.T. warning system for systematically analyzing statements of net worth. - Design of formats for statements of net worth that permit, with his or her prior authorization, publication of a civil servant's net worth position and also make it possible to keep data confidential. 	

		- Modification of the statement of net worth formats in such a way as to convert the statement into a tool for detecting possible cases of illicit enrichment.
	Nicaragua	- Procurement of I.T. and audiovisual media to support the process of verifying statements of net worth.
	Panama	- The sworn statement system of the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic, which contains an up-to-date register of all those required to submit statements
	Peru	- Electronic System for On-line Registration of Sworn Statements of Assets and Revenues (SDJL). - "Prisma Web" application for the preparation and remittance of sworn statements via the "Internet" (2006).
	Uruguay	- I.T. system developed by the JUTEF for managing the Sworn Statements Register. - New JUTEF system for submitting sworn statements electronically.
	Venezuela	- Electronic Submission System for Sworn Statements of Net Worth.
TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIONS CARRIED OUT	132	

3. OVERSIGHT BODIES FOR THE SELECTED PROVISIONS (ARTICLE III, PARAGRAPHS 1, 2, 4 AND 11, OF THE CONVENTION)

Given that, as a result of the comprehensive review conducted by the Committee in the Fourth Round with respect to the oversight bodies referred to in Section 5.1 of this report, more recent recommendations were made concerning many of the bodies partially reviewed in the First Round. The actions undertaken by the countries in respect of such bodies will be summarized in a later Round.

4. MECHANISMS TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION BY CIVIL SOCIETY AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN EFFORTS TO PREVENT CORRUPTION (ARTICLE III, PARAGRAPH 11 OF THE CONVENTION)

4.1 Mechanisms for access to information:

ACTIONS	COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION
Enactment of laws and/or legal measures	Argentina	- General Regulations governing Access to Public Information for the National Executive Branch of Government. - Resolution adopting the procedure for processing complaints involving noncompliance with the previous Regulations.
	Belize	- Amendment to the Freedom of Information Act.
	Bolivia	- Adoption of a new Political Constitution of the State.
	Brazil	- Access to Information Law. - Regulations for implementing the Access to Information Law in the Federal Executive Branch.

Canada	- Federal Accountability Act further strengthened access to information mechanisms by bringing forward significant reforms to the Access to Information Act.
Chile	- Law on Access to Public Information. - Constitutional Amendment Law. - Implementing Regulations on the Access to Public Information Law. - Presidential Instruction on transparency and disclosure of information pertaining to Public Administration. - Repeal of the Regulations on the Secrecy or Confidential Nature of Government Acts and Documents.
Colombia	- Decree setting out the guidelines for the Online Government (Gobierno en Línea) program that harnesses information technologies to enhance the efficiency and transparency of the State and participation therein.
Costa Rica	- Judgments of the Constitution Division of the Court establishing the scope of the right to information. - Executive Decree regulating the Technical Secretariat within the National Service Comptrollers System.
Dominican Republic	- Implementing regulations for the General Law on Free Access to Public Information. - Decree granting the Directorate General of Ethics and Government Integrity powers to set policies for implementing the Law on Free Access to Public Information. - Resolution instructing central and decentralized government institutions to establish Access to Public Information Offices. - Resolution regarding standardization of the minimum amount of information to be provided by central and decentralized government.
Ecuador	- Organic Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information. - Implementing regulations for the Organic Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information.
El Salvador	- Law on Access to Public Information.
Guatemala	- Law on Access to Public Information. - Resolutions adopted by government entities to implement the Access to Public Information Law.
Guyana	- Access to Information Act.
Honduras	- Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information (LTAIP). - Implementing regulations for the Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information (RLTAIP).
Jamaica	- Issuance of a Statistical Notice offering guidance regarding the new reporting standards and forms developed by the Access to Information Unit.
Mexico	- Federal Archives Law. - General Guidelines for Organizing and Keeping Records of Federal Public Administration (APF) units and entities.
Nicaragua	- Law on Access to Public Information. - New Criminal Code punishing denial of access to public information.
Paraguay	- Various administrative resolutions to ensure access, where appropriate, to information of public interest.
Panama	- Law establishing the National Authority for Transparency and Access to Information. - Repeal of Executive Decree 124 of 2002 because it was deemed to negate the principles of public access to information.
Peru	- Rules governing the Imposition of Administrative Sanctions for violations of the National Documentary Archives

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> and Cultural Heritage. - Archiving Procedures Handbook. - Rules governing the formulation and adoption of the Annual Work Plan of the Body responsible for Administering the Archives of Government Institutions. - Directive containing guidelines for standardizing Transparency Portals. - Supreme Decree establishing the Portal for Serving Citizens and Enterprises.
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Freedom of Information Act (has yet to enter into force).
	United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issuance of the Executive Order on Enhancing the Disclosure of Information of Government Agencies.
Preparation and processing of bills (draft laws)	Argentina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Access to Public Information laws being processed by the legislative branch.
	The Bahamas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Freedom of Information Act..
	Bolivia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation and adoption by the Executive Branch of a draft law on access to information. - Drafting of a new preliminary draft Access to Information Law. - Preparation of the draft Law on Transparency in Public Office.
	Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information. - Draft Law to Amend the Law against Corruption submitted to the Legislative Assembly. - Draft law (at the Vice President's initiative) to amend the Anti-Corruption Law. - Preparation and submission to the Legislative Assembly of the draft law to establish Service Comptrollers.
	Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of several preliminary draft laws on access to information.
	Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drafting of a new implementing regulations for the Transparency and Access to Information Law.
	Peru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft amendment to the Federal Transparency and Access to Governmental Public Information Law, to expand the scope of the information that entities must provide.
Training and/or awareness-raising activities	Bolivia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drafting of a training program for civil servants and social organizations. - Training delivered to 415 students in ethical values and prevention measures. - Six "transparency fairs" held. - Training provided to almost 30,000 civil servants on transparency issues and to 267 social organizations. - Development of seven games for teaching and promoting the practice of values.
	Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Production and dissemination by the CGU of the booklet entitled "Access to Public Information." - Promotion by the CGU of face-to-face and distance courses for training Federal civil servants regarding the Access to Information Law.
	Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Five-Year Training Program in Probity and Public Transparency. - Training and Awareness-Raising Program on the Right to Access information of the CPLT.
	Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training provided by the Office of the Attorney General to more than 300 civil servants on the right to access information. - Training workshop for 61 staff of Service Comptroller offices.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training delivered by the Ombudsperson's Office on the rights and duties of civil servants. - Training Program developed by the Office of the Attorney General that includes efforts to organize civil society. - Induction and training of new service comptrollers. - Training workshops for personnel of the service comptroller offices. - Participation in the World Consumer Tights Day fair. - Systematization of a feedback workshop and preparation of the Work Plan. - Holding of the annual workshop to evaluate and elicit feedback on the work of the service comptroller offices and the Technical Secretariat.
Dominican Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training for government officials on matters relating to transparency and access to information. - Workshop for directors of the mass media and journalists to explain the contents and scope of the General Law on Free Access to Public Information.
Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dissemination of the directives to be followed with respect to receiving the annual reports on the Right of Access to Public Information. - Training for government institutions in promoting the right of access to information.
El Salvador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training for Information Officers, civil servants, and the general public on the content of the Access to Public Information Law.
Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of training programs by various State institutions.
Guyana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publication of information in the official Gazette and in a daily newspaper circulating in Guyana with respect to the implementation of the Access to Information Act by public authorities.
Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IAIO training courses for certified instructors. - IAIP training courses for civil servants, students, nongovernmental organizations, employers' associations (patronatos), trade unions, and civil society organizations.
Jamaica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation by the Access to information Unit of public education programs directed at various stakeholder groups and interests. - Development and implementation of training courses for public servants. - Implementation of a support program designed to help new Access Officers in carrying out their duties under the Access to Information Act. - Educational Program on Access to Information for public schools.
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training for civil servants on access to information and the design of promotional materials to be used in federative entities. - Holding of the "Third Meeting on Federal Government Archives," with 320 participants. - Specialized courses and workshops on the handling of archives. - General Application Administrative Handbook on Transparency and Archive-related matters. - Survey to ascertain the areas in which training is needed by civil servants in the Federal Public Administration on archive-related matters. - Methodological Notebooks on Document Management and Administration of Archives.
Nicaragua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OEP training, dissemination and promotion activities regarding Citizen Participation and Access to Public Information laws.
Panama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Citizen Participation Program.

		- The 3-1-1 hot-line project for attending to citizens' concerns.
	Venezuela	- Workshop on the Strengthening of Relations between the State and Society. - Various programs to receive information from the public on current national topics. - Various training provided to public officials that deal with the general public.
Implementation of international cooperation activities	Brazil	- "International Seminar on Access to Information: Implementation Challenges," organized by the CGU in association with UNESCO (July 2011).
	Panama	- Course on "Public policies for improving the public administration, transparency, and institutional strengthening of the State"
	Peru	- Open Government Action Plan adopted by Ministerial Resolution of the Chair of the Council of Ministers.
Implementation of institutional strengthening activities	Bolivia	- Preparation by the MTILCC of basic guidelines on access to information.
		- Training provided by the MTILCC for government institutions on the importance of all of them having an Internet Portal.
		- System for overseeing the contents and updating of the web sites of government entities.
	Brazil	- Research and diagnostic assessment on values, knowledge and a culture of access to information in the Federal Executive Branch. - Diagnostic assessments of the role of ombudsman's offices in Federal Executive Branch agencies and entities.
	Canada	- Increase in the budget of the Office of the Information Commissioner of Canada.
	Chile	- Establishment of the Council for Transparency.
	Costa Rica	- Strengthening of the Service Comptrollers' offices. - Organization of the First National Service Comptrollers' Fair. - Ongoing updating of the Official Register of Service Comptrollers' Offices. - Counseling provided to service comptrollers on specific issues. - Participation by the Secretariat in the National Consumer Policies Committee. - Arrangements made to appoint professional human resources in the Secretariat. - Reception and review of the Rules of Procedure and other documents of the various service comptroller offices. - Coordination between the Technical Secretariat of the service comptroller offices and the national Ombudsperson's Office. - Working sessions held with service comptroller offices in the municipalities. - Review of the annual work plans of the service comptroller offices. - Updating of the methodological guidelines for preparing the Annual Activities Report. - Preparation of the Diagnostic Assessment of the National Service Comptrollers System.
Dominican Republic	- Opening of 195 access to information offices in government entities nationwide.	
Ecuador	- Activities by the Ombudsperson's Office to implement the Organic Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information (LOTAIP) and its enabling regulations (RLOTAIP). - Establishment of the directives to be followed for receipt of the Annual Reports on the Eight to Access Public	

	Information.
El Salvador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The process of having the Secretariat of Technological and I.T. Innovation of the Private Secretariat of the Office of the President standardize all the websites of all Executive Branch agencies. - Initiative of the Ministry of Finance to post the Fiscal Transparency and Diagnostic Assessment of Purchases Portal on its web page. - Improvement and updating of the Ministry of Finance's "Comprasal" procurement system. - Publication of the dossier of the environmental impact study on the Ministry of the Environment's web page.
Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivery of the first annual report on requests for information to the Government Attorney for Human Rights (Procurador de los Derechos Humanos). - Implementation of the Access to information Offices.
Guyana	- Appointment of the Commissioner of Information.
Honduras	- Establishment of the Access to Public Information Institute (ITAIP).
Jamaica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of the Access to Information Law by a Joint Select Committee of Parliament. - Comprehensive review of reporting standards for Quarterly Reports, and new standards are being developed. - Increased monitoring by the Access to Information Unit of the time it takes to respond to and process access to information requests.
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing evaluation by the Federal Institute of Access to Governmental Public Information (IFAI) of the transparency portals of Federal Public Administration (APF) entities. - Adjustment to IFAI's organizational structure to permit more high-level interaction with state and municipal governments. - Day seminars on transparency and the promotion and establishment of cooperation ties with the states and municipalities. - Mutual support agreements between the National Archives (Archivo General de la Nación) and a number of institutions. - Document entitled "Considerations regarding the Publication of Information," aimed at getting APF entities to standardize the transparency sections on their Internet portals. - Diagnostic assessment of the state of archives in APF entities. - Publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation of recommendations for organizing and conserving institutional e-mails in the APF.
Peru	- Quarterly supervision of the Standard Transparency Portales (PTE).
Suriname	- Weekly publication of the "Government Periodical."
United States	- Issuance by the Department of Justice of the Guidelines with respect to Implementation of an Executive Order on access to information.
Venezuela	- Register of Citizen Assistance Offices.
Adoption or implementation of technological	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disclosure of public information and processing of paperwork through the web pages of the National Executive branch. - Disclosure of information relating to the Judiciary through the web page of the Supreme Court.

systems and tools		- Disclosure of information relating to the Legislature through the web pages of the Senate and of the Chamber of Deputies.
	Belize	- Establishment of the website: www.governmentofbelize.com . - Establishment of the website: www.belize.gov.bz .
	Brazil	- Establishment by the CGU of a specific website on Access to Information. - Development of an electronic system for receiving and processing access to information requests (e-SIC system).
	Colombia	- "Connectivity Agenda - Government Online" program. - Online Government Portal, as a mechanism to facilitate access to the information of various government entities and oversight bodies. - Government Targets Information and Monitoring System (SIGOB). - Single Personnel Information System (SUIP), with information on the organizational structure, regulations and staffing of national institutions.
	Costa Rica	- Establishment of a database derived from the Activities Reports of the Service Comptroller offices. - Updating of the information posted on the websites of several oversight bodies.
	Ecuador	- I.T. tools for the presentation of reports, including upgrades of the I.T. indicators system and a new roster of entities required to comply with the LOTAIP.
	Guatemala	- Availability on the Internet of various agencies' budget management information.
	Mexico	- Installation of the Mexican Information System (Infomex). - TELEFAI telephonic counseling service. - Publication of APF entities' data through the Transparency Obligations Portals of the Federal Public Administration. - Automated System for Integrating Archive Consultation and Control Instruments (SICCA).
	Panama	- "Panamá Compras" [Panama buys] and "Panamá Tramita" [Panama processes] web pages. - Panama's Official Gazette (Gaceta Oficial) is available online.
	Suriname	- Posting of the Government's Internet page, with links to all the different ministries. - Televised briefing programs in all the ministries.
TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIONS CARRIED OUT	179	

4.2 Mechanisms for Consultation

ACTIONS	COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION
Enactment of laws and/or legal	Argentina	- Decree containing the "General Rules of Procedure governing the Participatory Preparation of Standards" and "General Rules of Procedure for Public Hearings of the National Executive Branch."

measures		- Decrees regulating the powers of the National Executive Branch with respect to appointing senior officials in the Judiciary and the Public Prosecution Service (Ministerio Público). .
	Canada	- Pursuant to the Government of Canada Communications Policy, institutions are required to post their public consultation activities on the Canada Site “Consulting with Canadians” web site (also known as the “Consultation Portal”).
	Chile	- Law on Associations and Citizen Participation in Public Administration. - Framework Law on Citizen Participation in Public Administration. - Law establishing the Ministry of the Environment, the Environmental Evaluation Service, and the Superintendency of the Environment. - Citizen Participation Policy within the Co-responsibility Framework. - Law establishing the Ministry of Energy. - Ratification of ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. - Presidential Instruction on Citizen Participation in Public Administration. - Presidential Instruction placing the multiple initiatives aimed at transparency and citizen participation and collaboration in a single window that the public can access.
	Colombia	- Two circulars to promote accountability to citizen’s hearings. - Law adopting the National Development Plan 2010 – 2014.
	Costa Rica	- Popular Initiative Law - Law against Corruption and illicit enrichment in public office. - Adoption (reported to the Committee of Experts) of the law and implementing regulations on community development. - Tax Simplification and Efficiency Law. - Executive Decree, Implementing Regulations for the General Law on Transfers of Competences in the Executive Branch. - Executive Decree, Implementing Regulations for Management, Standard-setting and Responsibility for Public Investment in the Canto Road Network.
	Dominican Republic	- Political Constitution passed in 2010 introduces new forms of citizen participation, such as people’s legislative bills, referendums, and plebiscites.
	Ecuador	- Organic Law of Citizen Participation.
	Guatemala	- Government decision amending the regulations for implementing the Law on Probity and the Responsibilities of Government Officials and Employees.
	Honduras	- Citizen Participation Law. - Rules of Procedure for Plebiscites and Referendums.
	Mexico	- Agreement establishing guidelines for the presentation of regulatory improvement programs.
	Nicaragua	- Citizen Participation Law.
	Panama	- Law adopting the mechanism for verifying and monitoring agreements and targets in the national consensus for development.
	Peru	- Organic Law of the Executive Branch (LOPE), containing procedures for publishing draft regulations for

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - implementing laws so that citizens can contribute inputs. - Law on the right to prior consultation of indigenous or native peoples.
	Uruguay	- System permitting citizen participation in the budget (launched in 2006).
Preparation and processing of bills (draft laws)	The Bahamas	- Civil Society Organization Bill.
	Colombia	- Draft statute "containing provisions on promotion and protection of the right to political participation."
	Guatemala	- Draft laws on citizen participation before Congress.
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	- Civil Society Organizations Draft Bill.
Training and/or awareness-raising activities	Brazil	- Holding of the local, municipal, regional, state and Federal stages of the First National Conference on Transparency and Social Oversight (CONSOCIAL).
	Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication by Canada's Privy Council Office (PCO) with federal departments and agencies to remind them to ensure that current public consultation information is posted on the Consultation Portal. - Work by the Privy Council Office with the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat to help ensure that appropriate importance is given to the consultation function.
	Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guidelines for citizen participation in accountability hearings. - Guide to evaluation of public administration. - Guidelines for government entities to help them organize and conduct accountability processes. - Handbook for accountability processes in municipalities. - Training of institutional teams to head the accountability process.
	Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshops "to familiarize participants with the Draft Law on Citizen Participation and Social Oversight." - Meetings of consultation with citizens to prepare the draft Citizen Participation Law.
	Guatemala	- Permanent training program for the development councils and executing units.
	Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Day seminars to train multipliers/facilitators to discuss and forge the National Accountability Agenda. - Pilot project entitled "Linking Citizens to the Audits conducted by the Official Auditing Office."
	Panama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Citizen Participation Program. - Community Consultation and Accountability Councils.
	Paraguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CGR training for government supervisors. - Public hearings conducted by the CGR.
	Uruguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation of joint publications with civil society organizations, such as the "Center for Archives and Access to Public Information," "Uruguay Transparente," and the "Training and Development Institute." - Meetings co-sponsored by "Uruguay Transparente" to analyze Uruguay's ranking in the International Corruption Perceptions Index. - Joint JUTEP-"Uruguay Transparente" activities on International Anti-Corruption Day. - Cost-free online course of the Access to Public Information Unit for any citizen or government official, to familiarize them with their rights in this sphere.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Courses run by the JUTEF, with a module on the Right to Access Public Office as a Human Right and dissemination of access to information mechanisms.
	Venezuela	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training activities for officials and citizens on aspects connected with public administration oversight and citizen participation.
Implementation of international cooperation activities	Peru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open Government Action Plan adopted by Ministerial Resolution of the Chair of the Council of Ministers.
Implementation of institutional strengthening activities	Belize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of the Human Resource Development Committee for the Public Service. - Establishment of the Council for Good Governance and Modernization of the Public Service. - Establishment of the Joint Staff Advisory Council. - Celebration of Public Service Week.
	Bolivia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation process conducted for adoption of the Referendum Law.
	Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public consultation for the preliminary draft law on conflicts of interest. - Establishment of 19 new national deliberative and consultative councils. - Establishment of more than 28,000 municipal councils, which help supervise the execution of Federal programs in the municipalities.
	Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring of the implementation by national bodies of accountability-to-citizens hearings.
	Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of the People's Initiative Office by the Legislative Assembly. - Establishment of the National Community Development Directorate.
	Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hiring of a consultancy firm to develop a transparency index prototype based on a mathematical model. - Drafting of national consolidated reports for assessing compliance with the Transparency and Access to Public Information Law.
	El Salvador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic and Social Council to systematize dialogue between social, business, academic and research circles and the Government's technical and strategic departments.
	Guyana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Invitation to the public to give their opinions and propose changes to two draft laws: the Access to Information Bill and the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Bill. - Public consultation regarding the appointment of four human rights commissions and the three Service Commissions.
	Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation of General Standards to Govern Access to Public Information. - Preparation of Ethics Standards for the Executive Branch.
	Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation of the Business Coordinating Council, the Mexican Institute for competitiveness and the Federal Regulatory Improvement Commission in the mentioned scheme - Scheme for public-private dialogue to define priorities in regulatory matters.
	Panama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public consultation regarding adoption of the draft New Criminal Code. - Public consultation for the draft amendment to the Judicial Career regulations.

		- Public consultation regarding amendments to the Electoral Code.
	Paraguay	- Publication of methodological guidelines for holding public hearings in Parliament. - Establishment of several offices for attending to citizens. - Joint program of the Public Prosecution Service and the NGO "Center of Information and Resources for Development" to encourage citizens to report acts of corruption.
	Uruguay	- Drafting of the "Uruguay 2012 Open Government Plan of Action."
	United States	- Annual General Review conducted on the performance and need for existing advisory committees. - More than 60 agencies use advisory committees to address issues within their mandates. - Participation by more than 65,000 members in 1,000 advisory committees.
	Venezuela	- Consultation processes held with interested parties in connection with the design of public policies. - Participatory municipal-budget drafting processes. - Statistics on laws adopted by the National Assembly through the public consultation processes, dubbed "parliamentarianism of the street."
Adoption or implementation of technological systems and tools	Belize	- Review and updating of the Government Internet portal.
	Guatemala	- Use of the National Public Investment System by the Planning Secretariat of the Office of the President. - Establishment of the National Territorial Strategic Planning System, available on line.
	Mexico	- Mechanism for public monitoring, via remote information systems, of progress commitments made by dependencies and entities.
	Venezuela	- Links on the websites of the agencies and entities of the Venezuelan State, through which citizens can submit queries, complaints, and proposals.
TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIONS CARRIED OUT	97	

4.3 Mechanisms to encourage participation in the public administration

ACTIONS	COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION
Enactment of laws and/or legal measures	Argentina	- Decree on "Improving the Quality of Democracy," which includes forms for submitting opinions and proposals, as well as application forms to participate in public hearings.
	Bolivia	- Adoption of a new Political Constitution of the State. - "Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz" Law on Combating Corruption, Illicit Enrichment, and Investigating Fortunes). - Supreme Decree creating the National Council against Corruption.
	Chile	- Law amending the Criminal Code and the Code of Military Justice by eliminating the offense of contempt (desacato).

	- Framework Law on Citizen Participation in Public Administration.
Colombia	- Decree on the Public Administration Democratization Policy, which promotes the opening-up of the administration to citizen participation.
Costa Rica	- Law against Corruption and Illicit Enrichment in Public Administration. - Community Development Law and its Implementing Regulations. - Public Services Regulator Law.
Ecuador	- Citizen Participation Law. - Citizen Watchdog General Regulations.
El Salvador	- Amendment of the Government Ethics Law.
Guatemala	- Adoption of the Government Decision governing the public disclosure obligation of institutions with regards to infrastructure projects that they carry out. - Constitutional Court ruling declaring contempt laws unconstitutional.
Honduras	- Decree establishing citizen participation entities and mechanisms. The decree governs their organization and operation as well as setting out their relationship with state organs (2006). - Judgment of the Constitutional Division of the Supreme Court of Justice of May 19, 2005, declaring Article 345 of the Criminal Code (on contempt) to be unconstitutional and abrogating it as a result.
Mexico	- Decision establishing the System of Interoperability and Open Data of the federal public administration.
Nicaragua	- Citizen Participation Law. - Implementation Guide for the Good Governance Complaints and Suggestions Boxes.
Panama	- Executive Decree requiring the involvement of the citizenry from the outset in designing Environmental Impact Studies. - Law repealing the contempt (desacato) laws.
Peru	- Law abrogating the offense of contempt (desacato) from the Peruvian Criminal Code (Law No. 27975 of May 29, 2003). - Resolution issued by the Office of the Comptroller adopting Directive "Citizen Watchdog Procedure in Public Entities" (Resolution 155-2006-CG).
Uruguay	- Signature by Customs (Dirección Nacional de Aduanas) of 10 memoranda of understanding with agents of the private sector in order to promote ethics and transparency.
Venezuela	- Community Councils Law.

Preparation and processing of bills (draft laws)	The Bahamas	- Civil Society Organization Bill.
	Bolivia	- Proposed societal oversight law currently under discussion in the Plurinational Legislative Assembly.
	Guatemala	- Draft laws on institution-building promoted by the Office of the President with the aim of enhancing transparency and the quality of public spending.
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	- Civil Society Organizations Draft Bill.

Training and/or awareness-raising activities	Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The “Keeping an Eye on Public Funds” (Olho Vivo no Dinheiro Público) to mobilize and train citizens and municipal officials in oversight of public resources. - A drawing and creative writing competition organized by the CGU to arouse interest in the issues of societal oversight, ethics, and civic-mindedness in students. - Holding of the local, municipal, regional, state, and federal stages of the First National Conference on Transparency and Societal Oversight (CONSOCIAL).
	Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actions by the Transparency Council (CPLT) on promotion, training, and awareness in the area of transparency and access to information.
	Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training projects to inform private citizens about services available from the public administration and how to apply for them.
	El Salvador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation by the Government Ethics Tribunal of the campaign “We Can Only Stop Corruption with Your Involvement” (Sólo con tu Participación Detendremos la corrupción).
	Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Various seminars on societal oversight held by the CGC. - Training programs offered by the Ministry of Finance to raise awareness of citizen participation mechanisms.
	Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Citizen training programs offered by the TSC to encourage participation. - Training programs offered to public servants and civil society representatives by the Office of the Deputy Director for Citizen Participation.
	Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organization of the event “Citizen Monitoring of Public Services Quality” (Monitoreo Ciudadano de la Calidad de los Servicios Públicos). - Presentation “Tools for Citizen Participation in Combating Corruption” (Herramientas para la participación Ciudadana en el combate a la Corrupción). - Online dialogues with public administration officials. - Program “Valuable Families: Ideas for Strengthening Values between Parents and Children” (Familias Valiosas: ideas para fortalecer valores entre padres e hijos). - Annual corruption investigation award in Mexico. - Recognition of integrity, transparency, and gender equity in civil society organizations. - First National colloquium “Transparency As a Policy of the Democratic State.” - Cine Minutos campaign.
	Nicaragua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training events held by the OEP promoting societal oversight of the public administration by civil society organizations.
	Panama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forum “Social Responsibility, Citizen Participation, and the Public Administration” (Responsabilidad Social, Participación Ciudadana y Función Pública) - Citizen Participation Program - Holding of the First and Second Transparency Weeks - Campaign “Corruption Stains. Don’t Let It Touch You” (La corrupción mancha, no te dejes tocar) - Training course on “Public Policies for Improving Public Administration, Transparency, and Institution-Building” (Políticas Públicas para el Mejoramiento de la Administración Pública, la Transparencia y el Fortalecimiento Institucional del Estado).
	Peru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Youth Auditors” Program.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corruption prevention program during the electoral period: the campaigns Postula con la Tuya and Únete al Control. - Transparency Promotion Program. - Public Ethics Awareness Program. - Preventive Information Dissemination Program (Anti-corruption Pack).
	Suriname	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corruption awareness training provided to government officials by an NGO in August 2012 on behalf of the Ministry of Justice and Police. - Training by the same NGO on corruption-related topics for members of Parliament and other interested parties.
	Trinidad and Tobago	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public disclosure of the response of the Opinion Leaders Group.
	Uruguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Free online courses by the Access to Public Information Unit for any citizen or public servant, in order to inform them of their rights in this area. - Courses held by JUTEP, including a module on The Right to Access to the Public Administration as a Human Right and it also publicly promotes access to information mechanisms.
Implementation of international cooperation activities	Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Entry to the Open Government Partnership (OGP).
	Panama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperation agreement on combating corruption and improving transparency between the National Transparency Council against Corruption and Georgetown University (June 2006).
Implementation of institutional strengthening activities	Belize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation process for adoption of the Plan of Action. - Participatory review of the Civil Service Regulations.
	Bolivia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creation of the National Council against Corruption. - Creation of the National Policy on Transparency and Fight against Corruption. - Inclusion of civil society representatives in the National Council against Corruption. - Participation of 394 civil society organizations in societal oversight forums at the national level. - National consultations conducted by the MTILC on the contents of the Societal Oversight Law.
	Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project "Strengthening Participatory Public Management and Social Cohesion" with UNDP - Implementation of the non-compulsory citizen participation mechanisms Ideas Ciudadanas and Yo Propongo by the Office of the Undersecretary of the Interior.
	Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public administration democratization policy. - Follow-up on implementation of the public administration democratization policy. - Citizen Watchdogs (Veedurías Ciudadanas). - Implementation of "Visible Audits" (Auditorías Visibles). - "Pacts for Transparency" which have brought together civil society and local authorities to promote transparent governance and citizen participation in societal oversight.
	Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formulation of the operational strategic plan by the Public Ethics Office (Procuraduría de Ética Pública). - Joint project between the University of Costa Rica and the Office of the Vice President of the Republic for the creation of the Corruption Observatory.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creation of the Judicial Observatory. - Citizen Participation Strategy of the Office of the Comptroller General. - Citizen participation plan implemented by the Ombudsman (Defensoría de los Habitantes de la República) - Activities carried out by the Institute for Municipal Advisory Services and Development (IFAM). - Municipal Strengthening and Decentralization Project (FOMUDE). - Land Planning Regulations drafted by IFAM. - Consultations carried out by the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy.
Dominican Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The "Anticorruption Participatory Initiative" as an entity of the Office of the President of the Republic to counter the perception of lack of transparency in the administration - The mandate from Bureau of Governmental Integrity and Ethics to continue the activities of IPAC and Open Governance initiative.
Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organization of immediate citizen security watchdogs under the "Construyendo el Buen vivir" program to report irregularities in their communities. - Participatory budget citizen watchdogs. - Meetings with sectoral representatives to establish joint working initiatives between the national police, the municipal authority, and citizens. - Proposed citizen security observatory. - Design and implementation by the National Assembly of the system for individual citizens to submit proposed laws and bills.
Grenada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "Social Partners Committee," which brings Government into contact with social groups and the private sector to address issues of national interest, pursuant to the "Social Partners Protocol."
Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of three lines of action by the Office of the President's General Secretariat for Planning and Programming. - Participation by Guatemala in the Open Government Initiative. - Creation of COPRET (previously SECyT). - Creation of interagency forums with different social sectors.
Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decision of the TSC to form a strategic partnership with the National Anticorruption Council. - Framework interagency agreement with the Permanent Forum of Civil Society Organizations. - Project on inclusion of the citizenry in the audit processes of the Supreme Audit Office (Tribunal Superior de Cuentas). - National agenda on public accountability to promote awareness of mechanisms, inter alia, for encouraging citizen participation and presenting opinions on the state budget. - Production of the Citizen's Integrity and Anticorruption Guide (Guía Ciudadana por la Integridad y contra la Corrupción) and other related publications. - Adoption of the Plan on Transparency and Fight against Corruption to make the public administration more transparent.
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Program PNRCTCC, which establishes indicators to evaluate the institutionalization of mechanisms for citizen participation in the fight against corruption in the APF.
Nicaragua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of more than 200 complaints and suggestions boxes in executive branch institutions.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Societal audit processes carried out at state agencies. - Opening of the Citizen Complaints Office by the PGR.
	Paraguay	- Establishment of Transparency and Citizen Participation Units in public sector institutions.
	Peru	- Formation of the Working Group for the Regulatory Review and Implementation of the Transparency and Access to Public Information Law.
	Suriname	- Project on compilation of existing anticorruption laws.
	United States	- Systematic evaluation of the possibility of introducing new mechanisms to facilitate participation in public administration.
	Uruguay	- Preparation of Uruguay's Open Government Plan of Action 2012.
Adoption or implementation of technological systems and tools	Belize	- Creation of www.governmentofbelize.com .
	Chile	- Creation of the websites: Datos.gob.cl, Portal de Gobierno Abierto, Chile-Atiende and Chile sin Papeleo by the Ministry of the Presidency (MSGG).
		- Creation of the website Contraloría y Ciudadano by the CGR.
	Ecuador	- Computer system to disseminate information on the behavior of members of the national assembly and political coalitions during sessions of the plenary in real-time.
	Panama	- Website of the National Assembly, which publishes information on the plenary's agenda, proposed laws, minutes, and committee schedules.
United States	- Creation of the Internet portal www.archives.gov/federal-register/public-participation/rulemaking-sites.html .	
	- Creation of the Internet portal http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main .	
	- Use of the Internet portals http://www.house.gov/ , http://www.senate.gov/index.htm , and http://thomas.loc.gov/ .	
TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIONS CARRIED OUT	133	

4.4 Mechanisms to encourage participation in follow-up on public administration

ACTIONS	COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION
Enactment of laws and/or legal measures	Argentina	- Resolution on the presentation by any person of documents concerning the performance of entities subject to the oversight of the Office of the Auditor General of the Nation.
	Bolivia	- Adoption of a new Political Constitution of the State.
		- Supreme decree granting funding to monitoring committees.
Brazil	- Law requiring the real-time disclosure by federative entities of disaggregated information on their budget execution and finances.	

		- Chart of Service to the Citizen.
	Chile	- Law on Associations and Citizen Participation in the Conduct of Public Affairs. - Framework Law on Citizen Participation in Public Administration. - Agenda for Citizen Participation in Government. - Instruction from the CPLT on the designation of channels of communication for implementation and enforcement of the Transparency Law.
	Costa Rica	- Framework Law on Transfer of Competencies.
	Ecuador	- Organic Law of Citizen Participation.
	Honduras	- Citizen Participation Law. - Law on Transparency and Access to the Public Administration.
	Mexico	- General Law on Social Development which regards the Office of the Societal Comptroller (Contraloría Social) as the oversight mechanism for beneficiaries of social programs. - Decision setting out guidelines for the promotion and functions of the Office of the Societal Comptroller in federal social development programs. - Manual on the composition and functions of "Societal Watchdogs" (Testigos Sociales) for procurement by agencies of the Federal Public Administration.
	Panama	- Government Procurement Law. - Enabling Regulations of the Government Procurement Law.
	Peru	- Law governing the rights of citizens to remove mayors, council members, regional presidents, and other occupants of elected posts.
Preparation and processing of bills (draft laws)	The Bahamas	- Civil Society Organization Bill.
	Guatemala	- Draft laws on institution-building promoted by the Office of the President with the aim of enhancing transparency and the quality of public spending.
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	- Civil Society Organizations Draft Bill.
Training and/or awareness-raising activities	Argentina	- Training imparted on the use of the participation tools contained in the Decree on "Improving the Quality of Democracy."
	Bolivia	- Training plan developed by the MTILC for civil society organizations. - Publication of newsletters and the annual report of the MTILCC.
	Brazil	- The "Keeping an Eye on Public Funds" (Olho Vivo no Dinheiro Público) to mobilize and train citizens and municipal officials in oversight of public resources.
	Chile	- The Infobus and Public Administration Schools (Escuelas de Gestión Pública) projects implemented by the MSGG. - MSGG program of training and awareness-raising on the Citizen Participation Law. - CPLT program of training and awareness-raising on the Access to Information Law.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical and methodological assistance projects for public institutions on forms of citizen participation implemented by the MSGG.
Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Training Plan for Societal Oversight. - Institutional Support Network for Citizen Watchdogs and Promotion of Societal Oversight. - Culture of Legality Program. - Public information and education programs for citizen oversight of public administration implemented by the Office of the Comptroller General. - Program “See You in School” (En la Escuela nos vemos) to strengthen training of civic and student leaders to increase awareness of the need to protect public funds and fight corruption. - Program “Combating Corruption in Colombia through Citizen Participation.” - “Oversight Heroes” strategy to create a new culture of morality by involving children and young people all over the country in citizen fiscal oversight programs. - Training of regional replicators to promote societal oversight. - Training for citizens to exercise societal oversight. - Creation of the Leadership and Citizen Participation School. - Inclusion of content concerning the prevention of corruption and the fulfillment of civic duties in education programs.
Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training imparted by the Public Services Regulator (ARASEP). - Training module on the organization and functions of district councils imparted by IFAM in order to promote a culture of citizen participation. - Information campaigns promoted by IFAM to raise awareness of the importance of citizen participation. - Talks on citizen participation for the Republic's inhabitants designed by IFAM, the office of the Comptroller General, and the Ombudsman's Office. - Training workshops on municipal budget planning.
Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training on the contents of the citizen training proposal. - Training programs on electoral oversight - Training activities and strengthening of the Undersecretariat for Transparency and Administration.
Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training program by the CGC for auditors and senior public officials. - Activities promoted by COPRET to encourage access to public information.
Nicaragua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training events held by the OEP promoting societal oversight of the public administration by civil society organizations.
Panama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Citizen Participation Program. - Project 3-1-1 on Citizen Assistance.
Suriname	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness training for civil servants by a civil society organization, on behalf of the Ministry of Justice and Police, on topics of corruption (2012). - Training on corruption related topics for members of National Assembly and other interested parties by the aforementioned civil society organization.
Venezuela	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness programs targeting civil society and nongovernmental organizations on the follow-up of public administration.

Implementation of international cooperation activities	Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formation of the Planning Agents Group (Grupo de Agentes de Planificación), including civil society organizations. - Participation by Guatemala in the Open Government Initiative.
	Peru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comun@s Project with USAID cooperation. - Cooperation program to encourage citizen oversight in the framework of the Millennium Challenge Account Threshold Program.
Implementation of institutional strengthening activities	Argentina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Committee to Follow up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, in which civil society organizations take part. - Cooperation agreements between the Office of the Prosecutor for Administrative Investigations and civil society organizations.
	Belize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation process for adoption of the Plan of Action. - Consultation process with society and public officials initiated by the Ministry of the Public Service.
	Bolivia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding for monitoring committees. - Creation of the Program on Transparency in Public Administration (Programa de Transparencia en la Gestión Pública). - Increase participation by public-sector entities in the accountability process.
	Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The CGR initiatives "Municipal Traffic Light" (Semáforo Municipal) and "Public Agendas" (Agendas Públicas).
	Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creation of the National Moralization Committee. - Creation of the National Citizen's Committee for the Fight against Corruption. - Cooperation agreements for public administration oversight with civil society organizations.
	Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Efforts by services oversight bodies to supplement and strengthen existing mechanisms for societal oversight by civilian and urban communities. - Initiative by the Technical Secretariat of the National System of Services Oversight Bodies for implementation of the Charters of Commitment to the Citizenry program. - Implementation of eight citizen auditors teams as part of IFAM's Municipal Strengthening and Decentralization Project (FOMUDE). - Work plans implemented by IFAM in cantons. - Encounters facilitated by IFAM with municipalities. - ARASEP Strategic Plan.
	Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of citizen watchdog bodies. - Observatories jointly implemented with the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. - Electoral oversight implemented in 12 cantons. - Meetings with coordinators of children's and youth movements. - Public accountability hearings. - Itinerant offices of the ex-SNTG to receive citizens' complaints, provide legal advisory services, and furnish information about the functions of the ex-SNTG.
	Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existence of the National Strategic Plan Planning System.

	- Creation of COPRET.
Honduras	- Project on inclusion of the citizenry in the audit processes of the Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ). - Production of the Citizen's Integrity and Anticorruption Guide (Guía Ciudadana por la Integridad y contra la Corrupción) and a series of related publications on integrity, access information, budgets, and corruption. - Plan on Transparency and Fight against Corruption.
Mexico	- Letters of Commitment to the Citizen (Cartas Compromiso al Ciudadano), which obligate offices of the federal public administration to transparency in a particular procedure or service. - Formation of 38,724 societal oversight committees (Comités de Contraloría Social) in 54 federal social development programs involving 153,539 citizen beneficiaries.
Peru	- Formation of the Working Group for the Regulatory Review and Implementation of the Transparency and Access to Public Information Law.
Uruguay	- Preparation of Uruguay's Open Government Plan of Action 2012.

Adoption or implementation of technological systems and tools	Argentina	- Digital tools to enable citizens to submit inquiries, suggestions, and opinions to the various areas involved in the administration of justice. - The websites of the ministries that make up the national executive branch through which citizens can monitor the conduct of public affairs. - Use of social networks by the National Audit Office (Sindicatura General de la Nación) to communicate with the public.
	Brazil	- Creation of two websites with information about the 2014 FIFA World Cup FIFA and on the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games. - Creation on the Transparency Portal of an inquiry service offering detailed, up-to-date information about the federal executive branch's revenue and expenditure.
	Chile	- Implementation by the CPLT of the education portal EducaTransparencia.
	Colombia	- System implemented by the Office of the Comptroller General that enables members of the public to make and follow up on complaints.
	Costa Rica	- Maintenance of the Public Budgets Information System (SIPP) - Maintenance of the Procurement Information System (SIAC). - Maintenance of the Electronic Complaints System (SIDE). - Maintenance of the Public Treasury's Penalties Registration System (SIRSA).
	Guatemala	- Implementation of a module to monitor the physical or financial progress of projects: www.segeplan.cgob.gt - Creation of the COPRET website.
	Honduras	- Increase in the number of available public administration channels and websites for citizen complaints.
	Mexico	- Computerized societal oversight system that records and systematizes actions carried out in this area by all government agencies - Website that allows users to take a survey of procedures or services that they have received and suggest improvements
	Panama	- The SÍGUEME records management system of the Office of the Comptroller General (December 2006).

	Paraguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in the number of public-sector institution websites. - Monitoring program implemented by the UNDP and Ministry of Finance.
	United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creation of the Internet portal www.archives.gov/federal-register/public-participation/rulemaking-sites.html. - Creation of the Internet portal http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main. - Use of the Internet portals http://www.house.gov/, http://www.senate.gov/index.htm, and http://thomas.loc.gov/.
TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIONS CARRIED OUT	116	

5. ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION (ARTICLE XIV OF THE CONVENTION)

ACTIONS	COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION
Enactment of laws and/or legal measures	Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promulgation of the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters. - Interministerial resolution on processing of letters rogatory and requests for mutual assistance in the absence of a bilateral or multilateral international legal cooperation agreement.
	Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Signature of the Agreement on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters by the MERCOSUR states, Bolivia and Chile. - Promulgation of various laws in the framework of the OECD admission process concerning bribery of national and foreign public officials. - Design of the first national strategy to prevent and combat money laundering and financing of terrorism.
	Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ratification of the United Nations Convention against Corruption.
	Guyana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act. - Ratification of the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters. - Ratification of the United Nations Convention against Corruption. - Ratification of the Caribbean Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty on Serious Criminal Matters.
	Nicaragua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interagency coordination agreement on investigation, prosecution, and recovery of the proceeds of acts of corruption and related offenses. - Memorandum of Understanding for the Creation of the Common Fund in Support of the National Police Strategic Plan 2008 – 2012.
	Peru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The law that brought into force the Seventh Book of the Code of Criminal Procedure "International Legal Cooperation."
	Uruguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreement between JUTEP, Asociación pro Fundación para las Ciencias Sociales, and the IDB formalizing the existence of a Corruption Observatory.
	Venezuela	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reform of the Organic Code of Criminal Procedure.

Preparation and processing of bills (draft laws)	<p>Brazil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to Congress of the agreement on legal cooperation in criminal matters negotiated with El Salvador. - Draft laws (three) introducing domestic rules on mutual legal assistance. - Promulgation of eight technical cooperation agreements with the Dominican Republic, Barbados, Grenada, Guatemala, Trinidad and Tobago, Canada, Chile, and Ecuador.
Training and/or awareness-raising activities	<p>Colombia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training for officials of the Office of the Prosecutor General (Fiscalía General de la Nación) on international legal assistance and the exchange of evidence abroad.
	<p>Costa Rica</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training courses imparted by the Public Prosecution Service (Ministerio Público) to its officials. - Implementation by the Office of Public Ethics (Procuraduría de la Ética Pública) of a registry of requests for legal assistance or letters rogatory. - Creation of a physical file on requests for assistance sent.
	<p>Grenada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training for officials on the Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance, the Agreement on Exchange of Tax Information, and the Extradition Treaty with the United States.
	<p>Guatemala</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training imparted by the Public Prosecution Service (Ministerio Público) to its officials on improvements in corruption cases. - Training imparted by the CGC on matters relating to ethics and probity. - Training imparted by the SECyT (now COPRET) to government agencies in the executive branch.
	<p>Nicaragua</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specialized training on investigation of crimes against the public administration provided by the Walter Mendoza Martínez Police Academy. - Seminars held by the PGR and the Public Prosecution Service on the scope and enforcement in domestic law of the international conventions against corruption.
	<p>Peru</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training in detection, freezing, and repatriation of funds in foreign financial entities in corruption cases.
	<p>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Systematic training program for financial institutions offered by the Financial Intelligence Unit.
	<p>Uruguay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organization by JUTEP of the First Meeting of MERCOSUR Oversight Bodies.
	<p>United States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seminar on recovery of the proceeds of corruption sponsored by the Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section.
<p>Venezuela</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in the Inter-American Development Bank's long-term training program - Chair of the Training Committee of the Latin American and Caribbean Organization of Latin American and Caribbean Supreme Audit Institutions. 	
Implementation of international cooperation activities	<p>Argentina</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in the Network of Government Institutions for Public Ethics in the Americas. - Participation in the discussion workshop on the plan of action for implementing the recommendations made by the MESICIC to Paraguay in the First Round. - Participation in the process of drafting and negotiation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption as well as its signature.
	<p>Belize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in training offered by international organizations and other countries, including Peru, Panama, El

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salvador, and United States. - Dialogue with the United States to review the bilateral agreement in effect. - Technical cooperation received from the Supreme Audit Office (Organismo Superior de Auditoria) of Peru. - Technical cooperation for cargo classification received from the Commonwealth Secretariat
Bolivia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International meetings and seminars. - Participation by the State in anticorruption conferences organized by the OAS and as part of the Open Government Partnership (OGP). - Evaluations performed by donors of the various programs and projects financed with external funds
Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft treaties on legal cooperation in criminal matters with Bolivia and Paraguay. - Analysis of a draft agreement on cooperation in criminal matters submitted by Costa Rica
Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in international forums. - Admission to the OECD. - Triangular cooperation program to benefit other countries in Latin America and the Caribbean
Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ratification of the United Nations Convention against Corruption. - Participation in different inter-American forums on judicial cooperation
Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation by the CPCCS in different exchange and technical assistance initiatives, such as workshops and meetings under the United Nations Convention against Corruption. - Promotion by the CGE of an open policy on cooperation with OLACEFS to provide training to a large number of officials in the country
Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Signature of memoranda of understanding and technical cooperation agreements between Guatemala and various Central American countries. - International Anticorruption Conference held in Guatemala City. - Permanent exchange of information and updating between staff of the Public Sector Administrative Organization and their counterparts in the Dominican Republic. - Funding secured from the Spanish International Cooperation Agency for the review of resource administration processes. - Technical cooperation project agreements signed by oversight bodies and USAID. - Inter-agency coordination among oversight agencies for the signature of technical cooperation agreement.
Guyana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical assistance in the framework of the United States Caribbean Basin Security Initiative. - Citizen security program implemented by the Government of Guyana and IDB.
Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreement signed by the TSC and other institutions, such as the Anticorruption Office of the Argentine Ministry of Justice, World Bank, OCCEFS, and others. - Signature of the Declaration of Cartagena de Indias. - Signature of the Guatemala Declaration for a Corruption-Free Region. - Subscription to the Oversight Agency of the Central American Integration System (OSFSICA). - Interagency cooperation agreement with the Oversight Organ of the Congress of the State of Guanajuato, Mexico.
Jamaica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical Assistance to the Anti-Corruption Branch of the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) provided by the United States and the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID). - Program supported by DFID which includes training, technical equipment, community outreach, and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> development of cyber capabilities. - Training offered by Canada as part of a polygraph program for the JCF and the Jamaica Defence Force. - Establishment of an anti-corruption database containing procedures, policies, and strategies employed by the JCF to provide intelligence support to colleagues in the Caribbean, if needed.
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperation with member countries of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (IACC) in relation to the work of the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC). - Participation in the Network for Public Ethics in the Americas and in the Regional Forum on Good Governance. - Internet micro-site initiative by the Mexican Government to encourage cooperation among IACC states parties. - Cooperation activities with different IACC states parties. - Cooperation activities with international agencies concerning the IDB and World Bank. - Participation in draft mutual legal assistance treaties concerning corruption.
Nicaragua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperation activities with the American Police Community (AMERIPOL) and the Commission of Central American, Mexican, Caribbean and Colombian Chiefs of Police (CJPCAMCC).
Panama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Signature of the Guatemala Declaration for a Corruption-Free Region and for Technical Transparency and Anticorruption Cooperation. - International Dialogue “Latin American Experiences in the Investigation of Corruption Cases That Cross Borders.” - Regional Workshop “Definition and Adoption of Effective Criminal Prosecution Strategies for Corruption” and adoption of Declaration of Commitment.
Paraguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusion of the Public Prosecution Service (MP) in the Secure Electronic Communication System (Groove) of the Hemispheric Information Exchange Network for Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition. - Signature by the SG/OAS and CISNI of a technical cooperation agreement to facilitate implementation of the recommendations of the MESICIC in the First Round. - Drafting by CISNI and the MP’s training center of a basic document on international cooperation for judges and prosecutors in extradition proceedings.
Peru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical cooperation agreements (five) between the Peruvian Public Prosecution Service (Ministerio Público) and the Offices of the Attorneys General of Spain, Paraguay, Chile, Ecuador, and Colombia. - Technical visits by representatives of the judiciary to Latin American and European countries. - Participation by the Office of the Comptroller General in the activities of the Organisation of Latin American and Caribbean Supreme Audit Institutions (OLACEFS). - Signature of two agreements on technical assistance and information sharing with the Offices of the Comptrollers General of the Republics of Chile and Costa Rica
United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular consultations with OAS member states that have mutual legal assistance treaties with the United States. - Active assistance to countries in the region for the recovery of assets stolen by former heads of state and other public officials. - Services provided by the Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training Activities carried out by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).
Venezuela	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Program supported by the Inter-American Development Bank to modernize the court. - Program supported by the World Bank to support reform of the criminal justice system.

		- Membership, through the Public Prosecution Service, of the Ibero-American Network of International Legal Cooperation.
Implementation of institutional strengthening activities	Argentina	- Plan of Action for implementing the recommendations of the MESICIC to the Argentine Republic in the First Round.
	Belize	- Change of the Office of Legal Cooperation of the Director of the Office of Legal Cooperation to the International Legal Affairs Section.
	Bolivia	- Events on various topics held by the MTILCC targeting public servants and civil society organizations. - The creation by the MTILCC of the Bolivian Institute of Transparency Studies (IBEC).
	Colombia	- Build system that allows the Office of the Prosecutor General, among others, to share evidence with foreign officials in different ways.
	Costa Rica	- Diagnostic assessment of the organizational, budgetary, technological, and human resources situation of the Office of Public Ethics.
	Ecuador	- Guidelines and a specific application form for requesting international assistance in criminal matters prepared by the Office of the Prosecutor General. - Department in charge of coordination with prosecutors who require international assistance in criminal matters, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and different prosecutor's offices in other countries. - Workshops held with auditors of the CGE and prosecutors in Quito, Guayaquil, and Cuenca.
	El Salvador	- Establishment of the system for processing and submitting requests for mutual assistance, the appropriate authorities, and its legal basis.
	Guatemala	- Agreements for training signed by the Public Prosecution Service and other entities. - Agreement signed with the University of San Carlos of Guatemala for the introduction of a diploma course on human resources administration. - Inclusion of an e-government diploma course as well as courses on transparency in the programs of the National Public Administration Institute.
	Nicaragua	- Creation of an interagency working group under the coordination of the Office of the Inspector General of the National Police to implement, monitor, and evaluate the recommendations of the MESICIC. - National Police Regional Security Strategy. - Instruction and Theory Manual on Ethics and Doctrine for Sound Public Management. - Implementation by the National Police of a programmatic approach based on the guidelines of the Declaration of Paris and the Accra Program of Action. - Establishment of the Dialogue Forum between the National Police and cooperation agencies operating in the country.
	Suriname	- Special desk at the Prosecution Office [Directie Internationale Rechtshulp in Strafzaken (DIRSIB)] to handle and monitor requests for international legal assistance in criminal cases. - The Special Investigations Department within the Police Corps is in charge of international criminal investigation requests.
	United States	- Review of cases and delivery of information for formulating requests for assistance to the United States.

	Uruguay	-	Call for bids from consultants to draft the National Anticorruption Strategy.
	Venezuela	-	Establishment of the International Affairs Coordination Office of the Public Prosecution Service.
Adoption or implementation of technological systems and tools	Colombia	-	Participation in the Secure Electronic Communication (Groove) System of the REMJA.
	Costa Rica	-	Creation of a database with relevant information about requests for legal assistance and letters rogatory.
	El Salvador	-	Use of electronic information-sharing systems by OAS member states, in particular the Secure Electronic Communication (Groove) System of the OAS.
	Peru	-	The “International Judicial Cooperation” link on the judicial branch institutional website.
TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIONS CARRIED OUT	135		

6. CENTRAL AUTHORITIES (ARTICLE XVIII OF THE CONVENTION)

ACTIONS	COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION
Enactment of laws and/or legal measures	Costa Rica	- Executive Decree designating the Central Authority.
	Honduras	- Organizational Law of the Supreme Audit Office. - Enabling Regulations of the Organizational Law of the Supreme Auditing Office.
Implementation of institutional strengthening activities	The Bahamas	- Establishment of a procedure for processing requests for mutual legal assistance and cooperation.
	Belize	- Formal designation of the Central Authority under the Convention.
	Chile	- Designation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the Central Authority under the Convention.
	Costa Rica	- Formal designation of the Office of Public Ethics as the Central Authority under the Convention.
	El Salvador	- Designation of the Department of Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the Central Authority under the Convention. - Allocation of the necessary human resources for the Department to carry out its functions adequately.
	Guyana	- Initiation of the process of hiring a Treaty Officer for the Ministry of Home Affairs. - Designation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the Central Authority under the Convention.
	Honduras	- Agreement between the TSC and the nongovernmental organization ACI-PARTICIPA to provide assistance to the Supreme Audit Office in publicizing and raising awareness of the Convention. - Development of a National Anticorruption Plan.
	Nicaragua	- Designation of the Office of Public Ethics as the Central Authority under the Convention.
	Paraguay	- Allocation of human and financial resources to the Public Prosecution Office's (MP) Department of International Affairs and External Legal Assistance and legal and budgetary status of the CISNI.

	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	- Designation of the Director of Public Prosecutors as Central Authority under the Convention.
TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIONS CARRIED OUT	16	