

Colleagues:

This is the first of series of periodic emails from the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism (CICTE) of the OAS. As the specialized body within the OAS structure charged with supporting the member states' counter- terrorism efforts, CICTE is attempting to establish close and continuing contact with the designated National Points of Contact. Through these emails, the Secretariat will keep you informed of current and upcoming CICTE programs, and solicit your suggestions for future activities.

The CICTE web page is on line in English and Spanish at [www.cicte.oas.org](http://www.cicte.oas.org). The page contains information on the National Points of Contact, the background and supporting documents of CICTE, examples of counter terrorism legislation as well as links to other national and multi-national sites with information on the fight against terrorism. The web page is being viewed an average of 20,000 times per month. Additionally we have placed the On-line Anti-terrorism (OLAT) Database in operation. This database is linked to the web page and contains information about subject matter experts in various counter-terrorism fields as well as full text documents. Documents include treaty texts, legislation, and best practice guidelines from a number of sources including the United Nations, FATF and OECD. The database is password controlled. You are welcomed to register at [www.cicte.oas.org/olat](http://www.cicte.oas.org/olat). Registration will be quickly processed. Documents or additional subject matter experts are always welcome. Please forward information to [knewmeyer@oas.org](mailto:knewmeyer@oas.org).

CICTE is currently planning for its next regular session to be held in San Salvador, El Salvador from 21-23 January 2003. The first preparatory meeting was held 28 October. Further meetings are scheduled at OAS Headquarters in Washington on 15 November and 2 December. The purpose of these meetings is to establish the agenda for San Salvador and to reach initial consensus on updated rules and statutes for CICTE and a draft work plan for 2003-2004. Member states are strongly encouraged to include the National Points of Contact in their delegations to San Salvador. The General Secretariat has requested that accreditation letters be forward to the Secretary General's office by 4 December.

**Upcoming events of interest:**

15 November, OAS Headquarters, Washington DC, Second Preparatory Meeting of CICTE

2 December, OAS Headquarters, Washington DC, Third Preparatory Meeting of CICTE

3-7 December "Underpinnings of Terrorist Financing" Course sponsored by US Department of Justice and US State Department, Asuncion Paraguay

11-12 December GAFISUD Plenary Meeting, Montevideo, Uruguay. For more information see [www.gafisud.org](http://www.gafisud.org)

21-23 January 2003 San Salvador, El Salvador, Third Regular Session of CICTE

**Items of Interest:**

Sandia Laboratory develops Mass Destruction Decision Analysis Center to respond to "what if" scenarios presented by potential terrorist attacks using weapons of mass destruction For more information see:  
<http://www.sandia.gov/news-center/news-releases/2002/gen-science/antiterror.html>

Canada and the United States have implemented several Smart Border initiatives to improve security and aid in the fight against terrorism. This initiatives include the NEXUS Program

implemented jointly by the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, United States Customs Service, United States Immigration and Naturalization Service. Nexus is designed to simplify border crossings for pre-approved, low-risk travelers. See: <http://www.cca-adrc.gc.ca/newsroom/factsheets/2002/oct/highlights-e.html> For more information on the Smart Border Plan see: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2002/09/20020909-2.html>

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