

**Opening Remarks for Brian S. Quigley, Jr., Deputy Executive Secretary, Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), Organization of American States (OAS).**

**ICAO Regional Seminar, Montego Bay, Jamaica, November 28, 2017**

- Good morning. On behalf of the Organization of American States, and in particular the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), I would like to thank and congratulate ICAO and the Jamaican Civil Aviation Authority for hosting this important regional seminar.
- The fight against terrorism calls for an integral and a multidimensional approach, the broadest possible levels of cooperation among countries, as well as coordination among international, regional, and subregional organizations to prevent, punish, and eliminate terrorism in all its aspects.
- The OAS-CICTE 2009 declaration on strengthening border controls and international cooperation in the fight against terrorism emphasizes, “the need to strengthen security and border controls through the promotion and adoption, where necessary, of measures related to ports of entry and customs and immigration in order to prevent air, sea, or land borders from becoming areas that facilitate the commission of acts of terrorism or related transnational crimes, while at the same time always allowing the legitimate flow of people and goods.” I think that all of us present here today would agree that the need still exists.

- This year's terrorist attacks on tourist destinations such as London, Barcelona, New York, and the plot to blow up the Dolphin Mall in Miami, only highlight the urgency to intensify efforts and initiatives to strengthen security and controls in ports, airports and border crossing points in accordance with standards established by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and the World Customs Organization (WCO), applicable international instruments, and pertinent resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly.
- Our region should not be viewed as a potential soft target for criminal and terrorist activity. CICTE is working in partnership with governments and the private sector to improve private-public coordination, develop risk management strategies, adopt emergency response plans, and equip local officials with proper crime and terrorism prevention training. Securing tourist destinations and critical infrastructure are among the most effective security investments.
- The shift towards integrated border management systems presents both opportunities and risks for nations. Opportunities for accessing increasing amounts of information about travelers - including high risk travelers and potential threats - in real time, and even in advance of arrival - can increase the State's ability to mitigate security risks. But governments must ensure that those systems are properly configured; that they are used as a tool to facilitate and not replace the use of effectively trained and deployed personnel; and that they are supported by the appropriate policy and legal frameworks.

- In this context, States are challenged to implement border management systems that are functionally appropriate and in line with their delineation of authorities, roles and responsibilities; that are sustainable but sufficiently adaptable as migration trends, needs, and risks evolve; and that, to the extent possible, are well linked to their other systems for national identity, passport issuance, and civil registry management.
- The international community and organizations like CICTE, ICAO, IOM, and others have a lot to offer in the way of support - both technical and material. It is the responsibility of donors and technical assistance providers to coordinate their efforts for maximum impact and minimal redundancy - and the responsibility of states to take a strategic approach to seeking out and receiving this support in a way that is absorbable, implementable, and in line with a clear assessment of needs and priorities.
- For its part the OAS, through the CICTE Secretariat, has been helping its Member States strengthen national capacity in this field since 2006.
- Specifically, CICTE's Document Security and Fraud Prevention Program aims to enhance security in the issuance and control of travel and identity documents by encouraging the development of integrated and secure national identity management systems, as well as more effective control over the use of these documents. The program aims to strengthen the national capacity of OAS Member States to comply with ICAO security standards. The program also focuses on increasing the capacity of migration, customs, and other personnel responsible for controlling the movement of people across national borders to

detect fraudulent documents and prevent their counterfeiting, forgery or fraudulent use.

- The Aviation Security Program aims at building the capacity of Member States to comply with the standards and recommended practices set out in the Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation, its annexes (particularly Annex 17), and other International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) recommendations, with respect to safeguarding international civil aviation and its facilities, to prevent and combat potential acts of terrorism as well as others of unlawful interference.
- Through these border management programs and others, CICTE stands ready to collaborate with you. CICTE is committed to supporting our Member States in establishing strong and secure borders and in ensuring the efficient and safe movement of goods and people within and across those borders. We want to deepen and broaden our relationships with international organizations such as ICAO and others present here today.
- In conclusion, we know that without the sustained commitment of all actors at all levels to improve border security, our Hemisphere will be less secure for trade, investment and tourism. Threats are constantly evolving and becoming every day more complex. Terrorists and criminals today have considerable resources and use sophisticated communications technologies. They are increasingly mobile and adaptable and also, unfortunately, increasingly brutal.
- As a result we must work together with our strategic partners and take advantage of important events such as this, to raise awareness and create

synergies so that as a region we work together to create strong and secure borders and ensure the efficient and safe movement of our citizens. On behalf of the CICTE Secretariat let me reiterate our sincere interest in strengthening the important relationships with have with our regional and international partners so that we can work more effectively together to maximize coordination and cooperation in this critical area.

- Again, special thanks and gratitude to the Government of Jamaica for its continued support, and to ICAO for bringing us here today.