



# The Joint Summit Working Group

## Collaborating to Implement the Inter-American and Summits Agendas

### Strengthening Public Security

In Paragraph 73 of the Declaration of Commitment, **OAS** Member States expressed their wish to advance further cooperation on public security via the *Meetings of Ministers Responsible for Public Security in the Americas or MISPA*. As a result, the OAS supported MISPA II, which was held in November 2009 in Santo Domingo and focused on analyzing the causes of violence and addressing it in a multidisciplinary way in order to prioritize policies. The OAS is contributing to the work outlined in MISPA II by developing data and statistics for efficient public security policies.

Since the second half of 2009, the CIM Executive Secretariat has been working with the GS/OAS Department of Public Security on a project to train police officers in dealing with cases of violence against women within the framework of the human trafficking program. The project works for the implementation of current legislation and international instruments dealing with this topic by promoting, supporting, and adapting the police response to this pandemic.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of December 2009, the CICTE Secretariat, in conjunction with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Inter-American Commission on Drug Abuse Control organized the “Second Sub-regional Workshop on the Interdiction and Investigation of Cross Border Bulk Cash Smuggling.” The workshop was held in Lima and was to enhance the capability of participating countries to effectively apply the national and international legal framework on bulk cash smuggling, as well as the investigation of violations of their local cash declaration laws/regulations. There was also an exchange of best practices with respect to special analysis, investigative and prosecution techniques, and the importance of international cooperation on those matters

The OAS, in collaboration with the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) and the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica organized the 3-7 August 2009 in Roseau, Dominica the Third Meeting of National Observatories on Drugs in the Caribbean. The meeting gathered practitioners from the Caribbean to discuss the latest research in the region on drug use and also discuss the policy recommendations for the region in light of results of new surveys and other studies as well as recent activities in the region. The aim was to develop recommendations on how to improve



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the approach to drug use prevention and to determine the best practices that can be applied.

In response to mandate 74, **PAHO** implemented and strengthened the information systems for general injuries in Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Colombia, Peru, and the countries of the Caribbean. It also strengthened observatories for violence and gender in collaboration with the Inter-American Coalition for the Prevention of Violence in countries including Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Panama, and Brazil. PAHO participated with and supported other agencies of the United Nations system in programs to promote citizen security and prevent violence in countries including Guatemala, El Salvador, Colombia, Brazil, and Suriname. It also trained officials from health and other ministries in the prevention of violence and injuries using the TEACH-VIP (Training, Educating, and Advancing Collaboration in Health on Violence and Injury Prevention) module. PAHO consolidated Brazil's youth violence prevention network and supported its "*Núcleo de Estudos da Violência*" (NEV) initiative, which focuses on home visits to teenage mothers in disadvantaged neighborhoods to prevent child abuse and promote health. It also supported the initiative to develop a model for the re-education of women victims of violence and their male assailants in four Mexican states, carried out in conjunction with Mexico's National Public Health Institute (INSP), and it consolidated the Inter-American Coalition for the Prevention of Violence, which involves the OAS and other agencies.

**IOM** has been working to combat human trafficking since 1994. The Organization has implemented more than 500 projects in some 100 countries. While much of the focus of IOM's work is on capacity building and prevention campaigns, IOM has provided direct assistance to more than 15,000 trafficked individuals throughout the world.

IOM's approach places concern for the victim of trafficking at the centre of all its activities. The overall objectives are to provide protection and empower trafficked women, men, girls and boys; raise awareness and understanding of the issue; and bring justice to victims. The four guiding principles are respect for human rights; gender sensitivity and empowerment; physical, mental and social well-being of the individual and their community; and sustainable capacity building and ownership of governments and civil society.



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IOM's capacity building work to combat human trafficking includes training and the development of specialized tools for government officials, including law enforcement, NGOs and other stakeholders working with victims of trafficking. In Argentina, IOM and its partners developed a publication on the new anti trafficking law and its application to help prosecutors and law enforcement working on human trafficking cases.

In response to the paucity of available and reliable data on human trafficking, IOM carries out research, which leads to effective policy and program development. In 2009, IOM launched a website focusing on Counter Trafficking efforts in Spanish-speaking countries in the Western Hemisphere. The site [www.contralatrata.org](http://www.contralatrata.org) contains information on human trafficking and IOM projects in 17 countries. It was developed as a tool for IOM counter-trafficking experts, partners, media and the general public to readily find information on activities in the Spanish speaking countries of the Americas.

IOM's *Caribbean Counter-Trafficking Model Legislation and Explanatory Guidelines* is a technical resource for stakeholders in government and civil society to improve domestic legislation and policy that criminalizes human trafficking. For this initiative, IOM brought together legal experts from 10 countries and CARICOM to develop comprehensive anti-trafficking legislation that upholds the international standards and guidelines for implementation.

As part of its work to build capacity and to provide technical support, IOM Washington created the *IOM Counter-Trafficking Training Modules*. The content of the *Modules* draw on IOM's extensive knowledge on the subject, offering a 'how to' approach on issues relating to victims' protection and assistance. The seven *Modules* topics include Information Campaigns, Return and Reintegration, Capacity Building, Cooperation and Networking, Victim Identification and Interviewing Techniques, Direct Assistance, and Children.

In Central America and Mexico, IOM is working to raise awareness amongst governments, civil society organizations and the public at large on the existence, characteristic, dynamics and impact of human trafficking in the region, and to encourage a greater and more effective counter trafficking response. IOM develops projects focused on victim protection, assistance and reintegration. IOM also works with its partners to develop national public polices, including legislative changes, mass



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information campaigns and capacity building thru activities such as workshops, seminars and virtual learning.

In the United States, IOM provides case-by-case assistance to victims of trafficking. Since 2005, IOM has assisted more than 300 immediate family members to resettle to the U.S.

To prevent the sexual exploitation of children via the Internet, IOM Uruguay developed a guide for parents and teachers to prevent sexual abuse and to promote safe Internet use for children.

In Haiti, IOM is working to raise awareness and reintegrate children victims of trafficking. The plight of approximately 173,000 Haitian children that are victims of trafficking for domestic servitude, known as *Restaveks* has been the focus of IOM's counter-trafficking program in the country. Since 2005, IOM has assisted more than 300 *Restavek* children to reunite with their families.

The **UNDP's** recent launching of the Human Development Report focusing on Citizen Security is an example of its contribution to the Summit commitments towards public security. The report proposes as remedies for the heightened levels of insecurity in the region the application of "smart authority" within the context of respect for democracy and adherence to the rule of law. The Report provides detailed analysis for policy makers and includes a presentation of policy options and actions that can lead to a reduction of violence and a significant contribution to strengthen public security throughout the Region. UNDP also increased financial commitments for Regional initiatives related to Citizen Security and small arms control action in Central America.