



Organization of
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COMMUNIQUE FROM THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS
TO CONFRONT AND COMBAT TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME IN THE
HEMISPHERE

The Heads of State and Government of the Americas, within the framework of the Sixth Summit of the Americas and its political declaration:

Deeply concerned that the activities of transnational organized crime constitute one of the greatest threats to the safety and welfare of our people, since: i) it has moved beyond the sphere of drug trafficking to engage in other criminal activity, ii) its financial resources and powers of corruption, as well as its wide access to large quantities of high-power weapons, have increased levels of violence and affected the social fabric of many countries in the Americas, and iii) these negative effects impact territories of production, transit and consumption of illicit drugs.

Convinced of the need to strengthen hemispheric cooperation to confront and combat more effectively this scourge;

Concerned that national responses to this threat, by themselves, are insufficient;

Recalling the conclusions of, among other meetings, the High Level Hemispheric Meeting against Transnational Organized Crime held in Mexico City on March 1 and 2, 2012:

1. Reaffirm their willingness to join forces and capabilities to confront this common challenge.
2. Commit, at the highest political level, to the establishment of a hemispheric approach against transnational organized crime.
3. For this purpose, the hemispheric community will implement a coordinating entity to harmonize the strategies and actions of the States of the Americas against transnational organized crime.
4. The aforementioned entity will determine its contacts with existing fora and universal, regional and subregional mechanisms aimed at international cooperation against organized crime in its various forms.
5. To this end, leaders will instruct their relevant government institutions to carry out technical consultations and other aspects, in order to develop this hemispheric cooperation approach. The proposals arising from this process will be presented at an international conference to be held in Mexico, this year.

6. Such consultations will address the objectives, mandate, scope, means of funding and operational mechanisms of the hemispheric approach.