SUMMIT IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW OEA/Ser.E

GROUP (SIRG) GRIC/O.5/INF.7/18

Fifth Regular Meeting of 2018 12 September 2018

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Welcoming remarks

Ambassador Marco Vinicio Balarezo Lizarzaburu

Peru National Coordinator for the
Summits of the Americas Process

National coordinators of the Summits process,

Permanent representatives of the participating states,

Mr. Assistant Secretary General of the OAS,

Mr. Secretary for Hemispheric Affairs,

Summits Secretariat,

Representatives of the institutions of the Joint Summit Working Group,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning:

It is my particular pleasure to welcome you to this meeting of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG), as this is the first opportunity that I have had to address you as my country’s national coordinator for the Summits process.

As the agenda and schedule for this meeting indicate, we will be considering the document containing the Mechanism for Follow-up and Implementation of the Lima Commitment “Democratic Governance against Corruption,” which the Summits Secretariat distributed on August 28.

It is worth recalling that the proposed Mechanism was originally shared with the delegations on May 29 this year and formally submitted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru at the second ministerial-level meeting of the SIRG held in Washington, D.C., on June 5.

On that occasion states at the meeting made some valuable contributions. In addition, a number of delegations subsequently submitted input in writing. All these contributions have been included in the version that will be under consideration today.

As part of the Mechanism document, in the annexes you have also received a document containing proposed indicators for each commitment. It is worth highlighting that the proposal includes technical comments received from the United Nations office responsible for follow-up on the Convention against Corruption.

Annex 2 to the document contains a table that links the various components of the Lima Commitment to the corresponding provisions in the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and the United Nations Convention against Corruption. In addition, in Annex 3 you have received a standard form for presenting information on best practices, based on the methodology used by the MESICIC.

The Chair will also present a video on the **prototype of the virtual platform** that Peru has been developing as part of the Mechanism. It should be mentioned that the platform is still at an early stage of development since, as the States have requested, the final contents still have to be approved in November. In that regard, delegations will be able to continue presenting their comments in keeping with the schedule that has been distributed.

I would like to thank the MESICIC Secretariat and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), which is in charge of follow-up on the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), for the invaluable technical advice that they have provided the Chair for developing the draft Mechanism.

On a separate note, at this meeting, the Secretariat will report on the meeting of High Authorities of the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG) due to be held this afternoon at OAS headquarters, after which they will sign a Memorandum of Understanding. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the entities of the JSWG for their commitment and support for the Summits process, as well as to underscore the importance of their participation in the implementation stage of the Lima Commitment.

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Finally, four of the organizations that belong to the JSWG will deliver presentations on their current or potential institutional offerings for advancing implementation of the Lima Commitment. Specifically, we will hear presentations from the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the International Labour Organization (ILO).

At the next meeting of the SIRG we will have the opportunity to hear proposals from other organizations of the JSWG. We hope that the meetings of the SIRG will help to advance the identification of institutional offerings and collaboration between JSWG entities and States, in line with the assistance needs expressed by the latter.