



Colombia and CARICOM State Parties reaffirm their commitment in the fight against transnational organized crime

- *Representatives of Colombia and the Caribbean police institutions renew their commitment to strengthen mechanisms and efforts in the fight against transnational organized crime.*
- *The meeting held on October 6th and 7th in the city of Barranquilla, Colombia, foresees the exchange of best practices, successful experiences and training on investigation and pursuit of criminal organizations.*

Barranquilla, October 6th, 2021. Representatives of Colombia and The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) State Parties and other invited countries, are attending the meeting “Knowledge Transfer and technical cooperation in the fight against Transnational Organized Crime (TOD).” The objective of this meeting is to coordinate international cooperation, and to draft a regional police strategy to dismantle and discourage criminal activities.

27 experts from 12 countries, will gather to discuss matters related to transnational organized crime, such as models for the police institutional transformation, crime forecasting, citizen security, as well as a regional strategic assessment in the fight against drug trafficking and other associated crimes.

According to the Director of the Colombian Agency for International Cooperation “Colombia and the Caribbean States have been strengthening their actions and acknowledging the need to cooperate in regional security. As mentioned in the First CARICOM-Colombia Ministerial Meeting held in June 2019, the role of the Colombian Police was well recognized in the history of security and defense.”

The Deputy Director of the Colombian Police, Major General Hoover Penilla, stated that "International cooperation between police officers is essential to identify trends in transnational organized crime, facing a post-pandemic scenario where it is evident the increasing trends of criminal incidence in several countries worldwide. Our job is to restrain crime manifestations, based on the design and strengthening of police strategies to promote international synergy and coordination ".



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Representatives from Belize, Curaçao, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago and United Arab Emirates, will be participating in this meeting, as well as two international organizations.

This dialogue is possible thanks to the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Colombia, the Colombian Agency for International Cooperation, and the Colombian Police, which is part of the projects approved in the Joint Commission for Technical, Cultural, and Educational and Sports Cooperation between Colombia and the Caribbean countries.

Colombia has a long history through its police forces, national defense entities, and security system in the fight against the phenomenon organization of transnational organized crime.

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