MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON SECURITY COOPERATION MATTERS BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF SECURITY OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Ministry of Security of the Argentine Republic
and the Department of State of the United States of America,
Hereafter, referred to as the *"Participants"*:

Convinced of the need to grant a common framework to pre-existing cooperation programs and activities in order to further strengthen their bilateral relations in security matters, as well as to establish and develop their future cooperation;

Sharing the goal of guaranteeing peaceful and safe communities in which the freedom, life, and patrimony of the inhabitants, their rights and guarantees, and the full validity of the institutions of the democratic system are protected;

Convinced that addressing both simple and complex crimes, through adequate prevention and investigation, contributes to the peace and security of people and to socioeconomic development and institutional functioning in both Participants' countries;

Eager to share experiences and good practices and coordinate efforts to combat transnational organized crime and increase security in a comprehensive manner;

Taking into account respective applicable domestic laws and regulations, and international obligations and commitments, including relevant bilateral and multilateral agreements, as well as the need to respect fundamental rights and freedoms; and

Convinced that bilateral dialogue in matters of security at a strategic political level, within the scope of their respective internal laws, will contribute to joint efforts in pursuit of the aforementioned goals,

The Participants have reached the following understandings:

Section 1

Areas of Cooperation

The priority areas of exchange and cooperation in matters of security between the Participants are expected to include, but are not limited to the following:

- Rule-of-law institution building and quality (transparency, welfare, accountability)
- Citizen security, including crime prevention and investigation (simple and complex crimes)
- Fight against Transnational Organized Crime

Section 2

Forms of Cooperation

The Participants intend to cooperate through the following actions, without these actions being exhaustive:

- Bilateral meetings:
  - at a strategic political level, for planning activities of mutual interest, and establishing goals and methodologies for the evaluation of achievements. The Participants plan to meet at least once every 12 months and to coordinate the meetings through the points of contact (POCs) established in this Memorandum of Understanding (Memorandum).
  - at a tactical and operational level, for the implementation of the mutually decided activities and with the necessary frequency to meet goals.
- Exchange of strategic, tactical, and operational information, in accordance with their respective domestic laws and regulations and international obligations
- Education and training activities
- Exchange of professional experience, knowledge, and good practices
- Mutual visits

- Mutual assistance to research programs
- Technical and scientific assistance
- Exchange of specialized equipment
- Any other form of cooperation consistent with Section 1 that are decided by the Participants.

Section 3

Liaison Officer / Security Attachés

In order to facilitate a fast and secure exchange of information related to the prevention and control mentioned in this Memorandum, each Participant may maintain expedited communication channels by establishing Liaison Officers or Security Attachés with the counterpart, in accordance with their internal regulations.

Section 4

Costs

This Memorandum does not impose any financial obligation on either Participant. Unless subsequently decided otherwise in writing, each Participant intends to pay for its own expenses associated with its participation in the activities resulting from the cooperation within the framework of this Memorandum, in accordance with its available budgets and domestic laws and regulations.

Section 5

Confidentiality of the information

1. The Participants intend to protect and maintain the confidentiality of information received under this Memorandum, to the extent consistent with the receiving Participant's domestic laws and

regulations.

2. Information received under this Memorandum is expected not to be disclosed to any third party outside of the government of the receiving Participant without the prior written consent of the providing Participant, unless such disclosure is required by the receiving Participant's domestic laws and regulations.

Section 6

Coordination, supervision, and evaluation

The Participants designate the following units as points of contact for the coordination, monitoring and evaluation of this Memorandum:

- For the Ministry of Security of the Argentine Republic:
  Secretariat of International Cooperation
  Gelly y Obes 2289, Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires
  Tel.: +54 9 11 5278 9800
  E-mail: internacional@minseg.gob.ar
- For the Department of State of the United States of America:
  Embassy of the United States in Buenos Aires
  Av. Colombia 4300, Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires
  Tel.: +54 9 11 5777 4533
  E-mail: BUE_POL_R@state.gov

The Participants intend to inform each other in a timely manner regarding any change in the points of contact.

The units designated for the coordination and implementation of this Memorandum are expected to be in direct contact through the technical and technological means that they consider most efficient and dynamic to achieve the objectives of this Memorandum.

Section 7

Modifications

This Memorandum may be modified by mutual written decision of the Participants. Any modifications are intended to become effective on the date decided by the Participants.

Section 8

Consultations

Any controversy derived from the interpretation, application, or execution of this Memorandum is expected to be addressed by mutual consultations of the Participants, under the principle of good faith and mutual consent.

Section 9

Duration and Status

This Memorandum becomes effective on the day it is signed by the latter of the two Participants and remains in effect indefinitely.

No provision of this Memorandum creates any rights or obligations arising under international law. This Memorandum is intended to be interpreted and applied consistently with any applicable agreements between the Participants or their Governments. In the event of a conflict between this Memorandum and such an agreement, the terms of the agreement are to apply.

Each Participant may discontinue its participation in this Memorandum and should provide written notice to the other Participant THIRTY (30) days prior to such discontinuation. The cooperation measures that were in progress at the time of discontinuation are intended not to be affected and may be executed until their completion.

Signed in two copies in English and Spanish, both texts being equally official. In case of divergence between the texts, the text in English is expected to prevail.

For the Ministry of Security
of the Argentine Republic

For the Department of State of the
United States of America

Date: 20 September 2023
Place: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Date: September 20, 2023
Place: Buenos Aires, Argentina