

<p>RESOLUTION AGN/62/RES/10</p> <p>SUBJECT: Authentication of documentary evidence</p>	<p>TO BE CLASSIFIED AS FOLLOWS:</p> <p>1 copy in the CHRONOLOGICAL SERIES: Year 1993</p> <p>1 copy in the SUBJECT SERIES: Heading: Procedure, Penal and Police</p> <p>1 copy in the SUBJECT SERIES: Heading: Rules: General Rules governing international co-operation between police departments or agencies carrying out police duties</p>
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TEXT OF RESOLUTION

AWARE, on the one hand, that information obtained by the law enforcement authorities of requested States is often in the form of documents which would be valuable evidence were they admitted in the tribunal of the State asking for the assistance in obtaining the documents,

NOTING, on the other hand, that the ICPO-Interpol telecommunications network, which allows the transmission of images, operates as an excellent medium for law enforcement authorities of one Member State to request the investigative assistance of the authorities in another Member State,

NOTING, finally, that there are certain instruments, such as the Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents (The Hague, 1961) and the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, which facilitate the transmission of foreign documentary evidence,

RECALLING Resolution AGN/61/RES/13, adopted in Dakar, Senegal, inviting members of the Organization to send experts to participate in a Working Group set up to study legal means of accomplishing a uniform regime for the authentication, certification and transmittal of certain documentary evidence through the Interpol system,

TAKING NOTE of Report No.17 submitted by the Working Group,

IN VIEW OF the wide variety of national and international provisions prescribing or abolishing authentication of documents, and, when authentication is required, the considerable range of procedures for authenticating, certifying or legalizing documents,

NOTING that the Working Group is now prepared to report its progress and has completed its review of the existing mechanisms for authenticating documentary evidence and has determined that further experience with the existing regimes is necessary before the Working Group can recommend that a new regime be adopted by Interpol,

RESOLUTION No. AGN/62/RES/10

PAYING TRIBUTE to the work done by the Working Group,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Oranjestad from 29th September to 5th October 1993 at its 62nd session:

INVITES the National Central Bureaus:

- (a) to contact their appropriate national authorities to encourage that where they have not already done so, they join such international conventions as meet their needs facilitating the transmission of documentary evidence, such as the Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents (The Hague, 1961) and the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters;
- (b) to ensure that the transmission systems set up by international conventions, bilateral agreements or national laws make it possible to obtain a wide variety of documentary evidence, ranging from official documents and administrative documents to documents drawn up by private individuals;
- (c) to impress upon their appropriate national authorities the need for any authentication system set up to be as simple and rapid as possible;
- (d) to encourage any measures aimed at speeding up the international transmission of requests from one authority to another so that intermediary stages are eliminated wherever possible;
- (e) to offer the use of Interpol channels for transmitting documentary evidence to and from places where such use is authorized;
- (f) to comply with the requirements of countries asking for specific procedures to be followed when documentary evidence is collected and transmitted, to the extent that this is compatible with their national legislation;
- (g) to send the General Secretariat, which will collate the information received, a short memorandum listing the central authorities which should be contacted when requesting the transmission of authenticated evidence and the formalities to be complied with in such cases.
