

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY



THIRTIETH REGULAR SESSION  
WINDSOR, CANADA  
June 4-6, 2000

# PROCEEDINGS VOLUME I

AG/DEC. 23 - AG/DEC. 24 (XXX-O/00)  
AG/RES. 1698 - AG/RES. 1764 (XXX-O/00)

CERTIFIED TEXTS OF THE DECLARATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

GENERAL SECRETARIAT  
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

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ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES  
**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**



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Volume 1

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VOLUME I

AG/DEC. 23 – 24 (XXX-O/00)

AG/RES. 1698 – 1764 (XXX-O/00)

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I hereby certify that this volume contains the official texts of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States at its thirtieth regular session, held in Windsor, Canada, from June 4 to 6, 2000.

César Gaviria  
Secretary General  
Organization of American States

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DECLARATION ON THE QUESTION OF THE MALVINAS ISLANDS

Comment [KFC1]:

(Declaration adopted at the fourth plenary session,  
held on June 6, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING its repeated statements that the question of the Malvinas Islands is a matter of enduring hemispheric concern;

Comment [KFC2]:

RECALLING its resolution AG/RES. 928 (XVIII-O/88), adopted by consensus on November 19, 1988, which requests the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to resume negotiations in order to find, as soon as possible, a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute;

Comment [KFC3]:

BEARING IN MIND that, in its resolution AG/RES. 1049 (XX-O/90), it expressed its satisfaction with the resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries, and that, in its declaration AG/DEC. 5 (XXIII-O/93), it emphasized the excellent state achieved in their bilateral relations;

Comment [KFC4]:

RECOGNIZING that accreditation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, under resolution CP/RES. 655 (1041/95), as a permanent observer to the OAS reflects principles and values shared by that country and OAS member states, which facilitate greater mutual understanding;

Comment [KFC5]:

NOTING with satisfaction that the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland continue to reinforce political, trade, and cultural ties, and are also engaging in close cooperation both bilaterally and in international forums; and

HAVING HEARD the presentation by the head of the delegation of the Argentine Republic,

WELCOMES the reaffirmation of the will of the Argentine Government to continue exploring all possible avenues for peaceful settlement of the controversy and its constructive approach towards the inhabitants of the Malvinas Islands;

REAFFIRMS the need for the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to begin, as soon as possible, negotiations on the sovereignty dispute, in order to find a peaceful solution to this protracted controversy; and

DECIDES to continue to examine the question of the Malvinas Islands at its subsequent sessions until a definitive settlement is reached thereon.

Comment [KFC6]:



AG/DEC. 24 (XXX-O/00)

DECLARATION OF WINDSOR:  
STRENGTHENING THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

(Declaration adopted at the fourth plenary session,  
held on June 6, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING that, at the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, 1998), the Heads of State and Government recognized the important and positive role played by hemispheric institutions, especially the Organization of American States (OAS), and instructed their ministers to examine ways to strengthen and modernize those institutions;

BEARING IN MIND the difficult financial situation currently facing the Organization;

HAVING SEEN the report of the Special Joint Working Group of the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development on the Strengthening and Modernization of the OAS and the reports of the General Secretariat on the financial situation of the Organization; and

HAVING HEARD the ideas put forward by the foreign ministers and heads of delegation on the strengthening of the Organization, its financial situation, and priorities for its working agenda,

REITERATES the importance of providing the Organization with the funds it needs to fulfill its essential function as a forum for political dialogue and cooperation in the Hemisphere;

INSTRUCTS the Secretary General to present to member states, as promptly as possible, an action plan to resolve the financial crisis currently facing the Organization and to give it a budgetary structure that will prevent such a situation from recurring and will enable the Organization to carry out its mandates; and

URGES member states in arrears to work out with the General Secretariat a plan for bringing their payments up to date as soon as possible.



AG/RES. 1698 (XXX-O/00)

MEETING OF MINISTERS OF JUSTICE OR OF MINISTERS  
OR ATTORNEYS GENERAL OF THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Final Report of the Third Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA-III/doc.14/00 rev. 2), held in San José, Costa Rica, from March 1 to 3, 2000;

BEARING IN MIND that, in the Plan of Action adopted at the Second Summit of the Americas, support was given to "the convening of periodic meetings of Ministers of Justice and Attorneys General of the Hemisphere within the framework of the Organization of American States"; and

Comment [EB7]:

CONSIDERING:

That, in resolution AG/RES. 1615 (XXIX-O/99), the General Assembly convened the Third Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas;

That, in the same resolution, the General Assembly thanked the Government of Trinidad and Tobago for its generous offer to host the Fourth Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas and accepted that offer; and

That the Permanent Council, at its meeting of April 5, 2000, took note of the Final Report of the Third Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Costa Rica for hosting the Third Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas and for its excellent organization of the deliberations.

2. To transmit the conclusions and recommendations of the Third Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA-III/doc.14/00 rev. 2), as applicable, to the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system, for their implementation as appropriate.

3. To instruct the Permanent Council to follow up on the implementation of said conclusions and recommendations, giving special emphasis to those that are to be implemented within the framework of the OAS.

4. To instruct the Permanent Council to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session with a view to convening the Fourth Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas, to take place in Trinidad and Tobago pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1615 (XXIX-O/99) and in accordance with the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources.



AG/RES. 1699 (XXX-O/00)

SIXTH INTER-AMERICAN SPECIALIZED CONFERENCE ON  
PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW (CIDIP-VI)

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Report of the Permanent Council on the Sixth Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law (CIDIP-VI) (CP/doc.3291/00);

BEARING IN MIND that, through resolution AG/RES. 1393 (XXVI-O/96), it convened CIDIP-VI;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that, through resolution CP/RES. 744 (1185/99), the Permanent Council approved the agenda for CIDIP-VI and resolved to convene two meetings of experts prior to the aforementioned specialized conference;

CONSIDERING:

That, through resolution AG/RES. 1613 (XXIX-O/99), it instructed the Permanent Council to set, in collaboration with the General Secretariat, the date and place for the two meetings of government experts convened through resolution CP/RES. 744 (1185/99) to examine the documentation and prepare studies on the topics identified in that resolution; and

That, in the same resolution, AG/RES. 1613 (XXIX-O/99), it instructed the Permanent Council to set the date for CIDIP-VI;

CONSIDERING FURTHER that the Meeting of Government Experts to Prepare for CIDIP-VI was held at OAS headquarters from February 14 to 18, 2000; and

HAVING EXAMINED the Report of the Meeting of Government Experts to Prepare for CIDIP-VI (REG/CIDIP-VI/doc.6/00 corr. 2),

RESOLVES:

1. To express its satisfaction with the outcome of the preparatory Meeting of Government Experts and with the progress being made in preparing for the Sixth Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law (CIDIP-VI).
2. To instruct the Permanent Council to take into account the conclusions and recommendations of the preparatory Meeting of Government Experts and to continue carrying out the tasks it considers necessary to prepare for CIDIP-VI.

3. To instruct the Permanent Council to set a date in 2001 for CIDIP-VI, in accordance with the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources, bearing in mind the status of preparations for the Conference and the Government of Guatemala's offer to host the meeting.

4. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1700 (XXX-O/00)

FREE TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN THE HEMISPHERE

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING resolution AG/RES. 1364 (XXVI-O/96), "Free Trade and Investment in the Hemisphere," in which it instructed the Inter-American Juridical Committee to examine and decide upon the validity under international law of the Helms-Burton Act;

RECOGNIZING the opinion of the Inter-American Juridical Committee (CJI/RES.II-14/96), in which the Committee unanimously concluded that "the bases and potential application of the legislation which is the subject of this Opinion," in the important areas referred to above, "are not in conformity with international law";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT resolutions AG/RES. 1447 (XXVII-O/97), AG/RES. 1532 (XXVIII-O/98), and AG/RES. 1614 (XXIX-O/99); and

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on free trade and investment in the Hemisphere (CP/doc.3297/00 corr. 1),

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Permanent Council on free trade and investment in the Hemisphere, presented pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1614 (XXIX-O/99).
2. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on developments in this regard.



AG/RES. 1701 (XXX-O/00)

EVALUATION OF THE WORKINGS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM FOR THE  
PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WITH A VIEW  
TO ITS IMPROVEMENT AND STRENGTHENING

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The report of the Permanent Council on the evaluation and improvement of the inter-American system for the protection and promotion of human rights, submitted pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1633 (XXIX-O/99) (CP/doc.3302/00); and

The report of the Chair of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs concerning the dialogue on the inter-American system for the protection and promotion of human rights (CP/CAJP-1610/00 rev. 2), held under the aegis of the Committee, which identifies the various items addressed, as well as the points of agreement and disagreement on those items;

BEARING IN MIND that the member states of the Organization of American States have proclaimed, in Article 3 of the OAS Charter, as one of the principles of the Organization, the fundamental rights of the individual, without distinction as to race, nationality, creed, or sex;

Comment [MOL8]:

AWARE that the international promotion and protection of human rights enhances and complements the protection afforded under the domestic law of the member states and is based on the freedom and dignity of the individual; and

CONSIDERING:

That, in the Plan of Action of the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, 1998), the Heads of State and Government affirmed the need to strengthen and improve the inter-American human rights system through concrete initiatives;

That, in that connection, the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs began a dialogue on the inter-American system for the protection and promotion of human rights, the participants in which comprised, in addition to the member states of the Organization, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights, as well as representatives of nongovernmental organizations engaged in the protection of human rights;

Comment [MOL9]:

That, in November 1998, in a letter addressed to the ministers of foreign affairs of the OAS member states, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights requested ideas and suggestions on the reform process from all parties involved in the inter-American human rights system, and that, at a seminar held in San José, Costa Rica, in November 1999, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights also invited suggestions as to the reform of its procedures;

That the significant progress in that dialogue was made possible, in part, by the openness, transparency, and constructive participation of the states, and the decision to include in the dialogue the organs of the system, the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights, and representatives of nongovernmental organizations, whose participation was also distinguished by its objectivity, balance, and spirit of cooperation;

That, on February 10 and 11, 2000, in San José, Costa Rica, a meeting was held of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Human Rights, created by the ministers of foreign affairs taking part in the celebrations marking the anniversary of the American Convention on Human Rights and the establishment of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; and bearing in mind the conclusions reached at that meeting;

That the consolidation of a sound and effective human rights system capable of addressing future challenges requires, among other things, implementation of the decisions of the inter-American bodies for the protection of human rights, in accordance with the American Convention, as well as the building of a political environment of mutual trust among the various players that will facilitate ongoing, continuous, and open dialogue aimed at the identification and implementation of measures and actions needed to improve and strengthen the inter-American system for the protection and promotion of human rights;

That it is vital, therefore, that the dialogue on the inter-American human rights system continue among member states of the Organization, with the participation of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and the nongovernmental organizations involved, so that they may continue to gradually build consensus on the improvement and strengthening of the inter-American human rights system;

That government efforts in the Hemisphere to improve and strengthen the inter-American human rights system, including the possibility of evaluating the pertinent legal instruments and the methods and working procedures of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, should be designed to strengthen the effective exercise and protection of human rights in the Hemisphere; and

That, to that end, it is essential that all member states sign, ratify, or accede to, as appropriate, the American Convention on Human Rights; the Additional Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights in the Area of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights; the Additional Protocol to the American Convention to Abolish the Death Penalty; and the following inter-American human rights instruments: the Inter-American Convention to Prevent and Punish Torture; the Inter-American Convention on Forced Disappearance of Persons; the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women; and the Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities,

RESOLVES:

1. To continue to improve and strengthen the inter-American system, through systematic and ongoing dialogue among the states, the organs of the system, and other parties involved, aimed at gradually building consensus on the current status of the system and on the obstacles and deficiencies to be overcome, with a view to guaranteeing the effective exercise and protection of human rights in the Hemisphere.

2. To instruct the Permanent Council to continue to engage in a dialogue on the inter-American human rights system with a view to improving and strengthening that system by ensuring the participation of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and by also inviting other bodies, such as the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights, and representatives of interested nongovernmental organizations to continue their contributions to that process.

3. To instruct the Permanent Council to promote, in the context of the dialogue on the inter-American system, participation by national institutions involved in the promotion of human rights, such as defenders of the people, defenders of the population, human rights ombudsmen, or others with an equivalent role.

4. To instruct the Permanent Council to promote a substantial increase in the allocation of resources to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in the coming fiscal years, in recognition of the fact that the protection and promotion of human rights is a central priority of the Organization.

5. To urge the OAS member states to:

- a. Attach the highest political priority to the universal adoption of the inter-American system through the signature and ratification of, or accession to, by all member states of the Organization, the American Convention on Human Rights and the other inter-American human rights instruments, giving consideration to the recognition of the binding jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court, and encourage the states that have not yet done so to adopt the domestic measures required for the signature and ratification of, or accession to, those instruments;
- b. Adopt the necessary legislative or other measures, as applicable, to ensure the application of inter-American human rights provisions within the states;
- c. Adopt the necessary measures to implement the decisions or judgments of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, pursuant to the provisions of Article 68 of the American Convention, in the case of those states that recognize the binding jurisdiction of the Court;
- d. Do their utmost, in good faith, to implement the recommendations of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; and

- e. Take appropriate action in connection with the annual reports of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, in the context of the Permanent Council and the General Assembly of the Organization, in order to fulfill their duty as states to guarantee compliance with the obligations set forth in the instruments of the system.

6. To recommend to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, in connection with its request for ideas and suggestions on the reform process, in accordance with the provisions governing its areas of competence, and in the context of the regulatory autonomy conferred upon it by the American Convention on Human Rights in terms of the procedures followed in processing individual cases, that it consider the possibility of:

- a. Defining the criteria it follows for the opening of cases;
- b. Resolving questions pertaining to the admissibility of individual petitions by opening a separate, mandatory procedure and issuing its findings by way of concise resolutions, the publication of which shall not prejudice the responsibility of the state;
- c. Making all necessary efforts to ensure that individual cases are processed as expeditiously as possible and that each procedural stage, in particular the admissibility phase, is governed by reasonable deadlines; and considering the definition of the criteria to be followed in determining when a case should be closed because of inaction on the part of the petitioner;
- d. Continuing to promote the friendly settlement procedure as a suitable mechanism for the successful resolution of individual cases;
- e. Establishing minimum criteria that petitioners must meet for the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to request a state to adopt precautionary measures, bearing in mind the circumstances and nature of a case;
- f. Defining the criteria the Commission follows for referral of cases to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; and
- g. Establishing a frame of reference enabling the Commission to establish a new rapporteur function, define clearly the mandates of such a rapporteur, and appoint an individual to the position.

7. To recommend to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, in connection with its request for ideas and suggestions on the reform process, in accordance with the provisions governing its areas of competence, and in the context of the regulatory autonomy conferred upon it by the American Convention on Human Rights in terms of the procedures followed in processing individual cases, that it consider the possibility of:



- a. Allowing direct participation by the victim as a party to proceedings, from the time that the case is first submitted to its jurisdiction, bearing in mind the need to maintain procedural equity and to redefine the role of the Commission in such proceedings (*locus standi*); and
  - b. Developing procedural rules to prevent the duplication of procedures in cases submitted to its jurisdiction, in particular the production of evidence, bearing in mind the differences in nature between the Court and the Commission.
8. To transmit this resolution to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.
9. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.



AG/RES. 1702 (XXX-O/00)

SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF THE INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE  
OF HUMAN RIGHTS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on support for the work of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (CP/doc.3303/00);

CONSIDERING its resolutions AG/RES. 1334 (XXV-O/95), AG/RES. 1405 (XXVI-O/96), and AG/RES. 1665 (XXIX-O/99) on support for the work of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights;

NOTING the outstanding work of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights in promoting human rights by creating educational programs to inform the public about the rights internationally recognized by their states;

RECOGNIZING the specialized training and technical assistance provided by the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights to judges, electoral tribunals, ministries of education, government human rights offices, police forces, and armed forces, and to civil society organizations, educators, jurists, and political parties;

RECOGNIZING the participation of the Institute in the dialogue on the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights, held under the aegis of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs; and

EXPRESSING ITS APPRECIATION for the work of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights in the countries of the Hemisphere over the 20 years since its foundation in building democracy and in the observance of human rights, as well as its technical assistance in drafting modern legislation and incorporating international law into domestic law,

RESOLVES:

1. To support the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights so that it may continue to carry out promotional, educational, and specialized training activities in the field of human rights at the national, regional, and hemispheric levels, so as to strengthen the effective exercise of those rights.

2. To encourage the states and international and regional financial institutions to support the various programs of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights and to contribute to its financing.

3. To pay tribute to the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights on the 20th anniversary of its creation in 1980 and to commend it on its tireless efforts over two decades in the area of human rights promotion and education.

4. To instruct the Permanent Council to invite the Institute to continue to participate in the dialogue on the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights.

AG/RES. 1703 (XXX-O/00)

SPECIAL PROGRAM OF SUPPORT FOR GUATEMALA

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Secretary General on the Special Program of Support for Guatemala (CP/doc.3298/00);

CONSIDERING:

That the peace accords signed in Guatemala City on December 29, 1996, put an end to over three decades of internal armed conflict; and

The firm commitment of the Government of Guatemala to adopt the accords as a matter of state policy, so as to continue to strengthen peace, national reconciliation, and democracy in Guatemala;

BEARING IN MIND the solidarity of the international community, expressed in its commitment to continue supporting Guatemala in its efforts to carry out those accords fully; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the progress made in implementing the accords, especially in the area of human rights, which is essential to strengthening peace and democracy, and in other areas of paramount importance, in accordance with the decisions adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution AG/RES. 1672 (XXIX-O/99),

RESOLVES:

1. To commend the efforts of the Government of Guatemala and the progress made in fulfilling the commitments of the peace accords, which have taken the form of projects to foster dialogue and negotiation, to promote democratic values and political leadership, to strengthen legislative action by the state, to encourage citizen participation at the national level, and to lessen the threat and danger posed by explosive devices and antipersonnel mines, thereby reclaiming farmland and ranchland in the affected areas.

2. To convey to the Government of Guatemala its pleasure at the achievements made in the area of human rights, which have been acknowledged by the organs of the inter-American and international systems.

3. To request the General Secretariat to continue to support the efforts to strengthen democracy and peace, to rebuild, and to achieve reconciliation in Guatemala, through the Special Program of Support for Guatemala, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution AG/RES. 1378

(XXVI-O/96), and through the components of the Program, within the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources.

4. To acknowledge in particular the Governments of the United States of America, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, the United Kingdom, and Sweden, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and the Soros-Guatemala Foundation for their financial contributions to the various components of the Special Program of Support for Guatemala.

5. To renew its request to the General Secretariat that it continue its coordination with the United Nations Secretariat and with other international organizations for the purposes of this resolution.

6. To request the international community to continue its financial assistance to projects under the Special Program of Support for Guatemala.

7. To request the General Secretariat to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session.

AG/RES. 1704 (XXX-O/00)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN JURIDICAL COMMITTEE

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Juridical Committee (CJI) (CP/doc.3312/00) and the presentation of the report by the Chair of the CJI; and

CONSIDERING:

That Article 54.f of the Charter of the Organization of American States establishes that one of the powers of the General Assembly is to consider the observations and recommendations presented by the Permanent Council, in accordance with Article 91.f of the Charter, on the reports of the organs and entities of the Organization;

Comment [KRL10]:

That Article 53 of the OAS Charter establishes the CJI as one of the organs of the Organization; and

That the CJI has presented its annual report to the Permanent Council, which has submitted its observations and recommendations thereon to the General Assembly,

RESOLVES:

1. To accept and forward to the Inter-American Juridical Committee (CJI) the observations and recommendations made by the Permanent Council of the Organization on that Committee's annual report.

2. To express its satisfaction with the work of the CJI in dealing with the priority concerns of the Organization in the area of law and, especially, to recognize the support the CJI provides to the General Assembly, the Permanent Council, and that Council's Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs in preparing draft conventions, model legislation, and other studies requested of it.

3. To thank the CJI for preparing document CJI/doc.21/99, which, with its annexes, consolidates the final reports on illicit enrichment and transnational bribery.

4. To request the CJI to continue studying the different aspects of the enhancement of the administration of justice in the Americas, maintaining the necessary coordination and the highest possible degree of cooperation with other organs of the Organization that work in this area, especially with the Justice Studies Center of the Americas.

5. To request the CJI to continue its studies on inter-American cooperation against terrorism, in particular with respect to strengthening mechanisms for legal and judicial cooperation, especially in the area of extradition, and to cooperate with the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) when CICTE so requests.

6. To note that the CJI has included the topic of human rights and biomedicine on its agenda, and to request it to continue its studies in this area, with the initial focus on determining, in coordination with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the current status of international law and the principal trends of legal thought on the subject.

7. To note that the CJI has included on its agenda the topic of application by the states in the Hemisphere of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and to request it to continue its studies and to send document CJI/doc.48/99, "Rights and Duties of States under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982," to the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea for comment.

Comment [PB11]:

Comment [PB12]:

8. To note that the CJI has included on its agenda the topic of the legal aspects of hemispheric security, and to request it to continue its studies, with a focus on examining the current status of the OAS Charter, the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance (Rio Treaty), and the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement, "Pact of Bogotá."

Comment [PB13]:

9. To request the CJI to issue in due course the opinion requested by the General Assembly through resolution AG/RES. 1691 (XXIX-O/99), "International Abduction of Minors by One of Their Parents."

Comment [PB14]:

10. To welcome the decision of the CJI to hold its 56th regular meeting at OAS headquarters from March 20 to 31, 2000, and, in special cases, to consider holding future regular meetings in other member states, in keeping with Article 105 of the OAS Charter, in order to further disseminate information on and awareness of the CJI's work, bearing in mind that any regular meetings that the CJI decides to hold away from its headquarters must be funded through its regular budget.

11. To reiterate the need for closer ties between the CJI and the political organs of the OAS, especially the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs of the Permanent Council.

12. To thank the CJI for holding the Fourth Joint Meeting with Legal Advisers of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of OAS Member States on March 23 and 24, 2000, at OAS headquarters, in the framework of its 56th regular meeting, and to encourage the CJI to continue holding meetings of this type.

13. To underscore once again the importance of holding the Course on International Law, organized each year by the CJI and the OAS General Secretariat, as a contribution to better understanding and dissemination of legal topics of concern to the inter-American system, and to support every effort made to include more professors in the Course and increase the number of fellowship-holders attending, urging member states to take steps to encourage horizontal cooperation for this purpose.



14. To take note of the agenda adopted by the CJI for its next regular meeting, and to recommend that it eliminate or not include topics that may not reflect the priorities of the Organization.

15. To emphasize the need to extend the necessary administrative and budgetary support to enable the CJI to address properly the topics on the current inter-American legal agenda and issue recommendations thereon.



AG/RES. 1705 (XXX-O/00)

INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT  
OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1617 (XXIX-O/99), "Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law" (CP/CAJP-3313/00);

CONSIDERING:

That the General Assembly, in resolution AG/RES. 1471 (XXVII-O/97), adopted the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law, which calls for various activities by the Organization to promote continued progress in the areas of training, dissemination, application, and strengthening of international law developed in the context of the inter-American system;

That, at its most recent regular session, the General Assembly reaffirmed, in resolution AG/RES. 1617 (XXIX-O/99), "the necessity of continuing to carry out the various activities listed in the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law as an indispensable means of strengthening international law";

That the Permanent Council, at its meeting of July 23, 1999, transmitted to the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs the study and follow-up on activities carried out by the General Secretariat in fulfillment of the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law;

That multilateral treaties adopted in the OAS context are a valuable legal heritage that must be preserved and given broad dissemination;

That dissemination of current issues among the political bodies of the OAS facilitates the study, discussion, negotiation, and development of new legal instruments in the framework of the inter-American system; and

That promotion of cooperation in the development, dissemination, and teaching of legal issues under the inter-American system is essential for strengthening both the valuable legal heritage of the Organization and joint cooperation; and

BEARING IN MIND the activities that the General Secretariat has been carrying out in implementing this inter-American program,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm the importance of the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law for the dissemination, awareness, application, and strengthening of international law developed within the framework of the inter-American system.
2. To support the activities carried out by the Permanent Council of the Organization and by the General Secretariat in compliance with the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law.
3. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue, through the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, to implement the aforesaid Program, according priority to the projects and activities relating to the teaching of inter-American international law, promotion of an awareness of the inter-American legal system, and the legal publications program, and to report thereon periodically to the Permanent Council.
4. To promote, pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (c) of the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law, a comprehensive legal information program for the consolidation and development of the Inter-American System of Legal Information, in particular with respect to the dissemination of knowledge and experience via electronic media and to the creation and broadening of electronic networks on legal issues.
5. To strengthen the legal publications program, especially by printing treaties that have yet to be published and by publishing the Inter-American Juridical Yearbook, in accordance with paragraphs (k), (l), and (m) of the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law; and, in particular, to direct that such budgetary measures as may be necessary to accomplish that goal be adopted.
6. To promote, in keeping with paragraphs (f), (g), (j), and (q) of the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law, the design of programs and projects for training human resources, by putting into practice a strategy that includes the current fellowships system, the participation of universities and training institutes, and the development of pilot programs on specialized issues, fostering institutional conditions that will ensure lasting results.
7. To continue to conduct regional refresher courses on international law, in accordance with paragraphs (f), (g), and (j) of the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law and, in particular, to organize over the coming year a course for the Caribbean region.
8. To continue, with external financial support, to promote the regional education program on inter-American legal instruments in the area of legal and judicial cooperation, with the participation of judges, prosecutors, law professors, attorneys, and international jurists and specialists, in pursuance of the mandates contained in paragraphs (f), (g), and (j) of the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law.

9. To request the Permanent Council to monitor the implementation of this resolution, which shall be carried out within the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources; and to request the Council to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-second regular session.



AG/RES. 1706 (XXX-O/00)

PROMOTION OF AND RESPECT FOR INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

**Comment [KFC15]:** All from AG/RES. 1619

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING its resolutions AG/RES. 1270 (XXIV-O/94), AG/RES. 1335 (XXV-O/95), AG/RES. 1408 (XXVI-O/96), AG/RES. 1503 (XXVII-O/97), AG/RES. 1565 (XXVIII-O/98), and AG/RES. 1619 (XXIX-O/99);

**Comment [KFC16]:**

HAVING CONSIDERED the report of the Secretary General on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1619 (XXIX-O/99) (CP/CAJP-1649/00) and the report of the Permanent Council on the promotion of and respect for international humanitarian law (CP/doc.3314/00);

DEEPLY CONCERNED over the persistent violations of international humanitarian law occurring throughout the world and, in particular, over the fate of the civilian population, which is increasingly subject to attacks that contravene the applicable fundamental rules;

**Comment [KRL17]:**

RECALLING that it is the obligation of all states to observe and enforce in all circumstances the standards established in the 1949 Geneva Conventions and, where applicable, for the states that are parties thereto, those contained in the 1977 Additional Protocols to those conventions;

**Comment [KFC18]:**

UNDERSCORING the need to strengthen the principles of international humanitarian law by achieving its universal acceptance, its widest possible dissemination, and its application;

**Comment [KFC19]:**

AWARE of the need to punish those responsible for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and other grave breaches of international humanitarian law;

**Comment [KFC20]:**

**Comment [KRL21]:**

**Comment [KFC22]:**

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT IN THIS CONTEXT the historic significance of the adoption in Rome of the Statute of the International Criminal Court;

**Comment [KRL23]:**

**Comment [KFC24]:**

RECOGNIZING ONCE MORE the ongoing efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to promote and disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law and the activities it carries out as an organization that is impartial, neutral, and independent under any and all circumstances;

**Comment [KFC25]:**

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION the recommendations made in 1995 by the Group of Experts to study practical means of promoting full respect for and compliance with international humanitarian law, in particular, regarding the establishment of national committees or commissions to advise and assist governments regarding the dissemination and application of international humanitarian law;

**Comment [KRL26]:**

**Comment [KRL27]:**

RECOGNIZING the important part that these national committees or commissions play in ensuring that the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto, as well as the other instruments of international humanitarian law, are incorporated into the domestic law of the member states, so that compliance with those instruments and the dissemination thereof are ensured; and

EXPRESSING its satisfaction with the increasing cooperation between the General Secretariat of the Organization and the ICRC, resulting from the agreement signed on May 10, 1996, which has furthered efforts to disseminate international humanitarian law in the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To welcome the increase in the number of member states that, in the past year, have ratified or acceded to various instruments of international humanitarian law, particularly the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction.

Comment [KFC28]:

2. To urge the member states that have not yet done so to consider ratification of, or, if applicable, accession to the 1977 Additional Protocols I and II to the 1949 Geneva Conventions.

Comment [KFC29]:

Comment [KFC30]:

3. Also to urge the members states that have not yet done so to consider signing or ratifying, as appropriate, the Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Comment [KRL31]:

Comment [KRL32]:

4. Further, to urge the member states that have not yet done so to consider ratification of, or, if applicable, accession to, the following instruments relating to weapons which may be excessively injurious or have indiscriminate effects:

- a. The 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (and the Protocols thereto);
- b. The 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction; and
- c. The 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

Comment [KFC33]:

5. To underscore that it is important for states, in implementing the body of international humanitarian law, to pay special attention to the following provisions:

Comment [KRL34]:

- a. The widest possible dissemination of international humanitarian law among the armed forces and security forces, by including it in official instruction programs and in the training of permanent armed forces staff in this area (Article 83 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions);
- b. The enactment of criminal legislation required to punish those responsible for war crimes and other grave breaches of international humanitarian law (Article 86 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions);

Comment [KRL35]:

Comment [KRL36]:



- c. The enactment of legislation to regulate the use of emblems protected under international humanitarian law and to punish the improper use thereof (Article 38 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions and its Annex containing the regulations thereto); and
- d. The obligation, in the study, development, acquisition, or adoption of a new weapon, to determine whether its employment would violate international humanitarian law, and, if it would, not to adopt it for use within the armed forces or security forces or manufacture it for other purposes (Article 36 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions).

Comment [KRL37]:

Comment [KRL38]:

Comment [KRL39]:

Comment [KRL40]:

6. To urge the member states that have not yet done so to study, with the support of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the advisability of establishing national committees or commissions to implement and disseminate international humanitarian law.

7. To urge the member states and all parties to an armed conflict to respect the impartiality, neutrality, and independence of humanitarian action in accordance with the guiding principles adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 46/182, dated December 19, 1991, and to ensure that the staff of humanitarian organizations are protected.

Comment [KFC41]:

8. To invite the member states to continue to cooperate with the ICRC in its various spheres of responsibility and to facilitate its work, in particular, by using its advisory services to support states' efforts to apply international humanitarian law.

Comment [KFC42]:

9. To request the Secretary General to report to the Permanent Council prior to the thirty-first regular session of the General Assembly on the implementation of this resolution.

Comment [KFC43]:



AG/RES. 1707 (XXX-O/00)

THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES AND CIVIL SOCIETY

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions AG/RES. 1661 (XXIX-O/99), "The Organization of American States and Civil Society," and AG/RES. 1668 (XXIX-O/99), "Strengthening Cooperation between Governments and Civil Society" (CP/doc.3318/00);

Comment [KRL44]:

Comment [KRL45]:

RECALLING:

The establishment, in 1999, of the Committee on Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities, under the aegis of the Permanent Council; and

Comment [KRL46]:

The mandate of the Permanent Council contained in the \*\*aforementioned resolution regarding the preparation and adoption, prior to December 31, 1999, of guidelines for civil society participation in OAS activities;

Comment [KRL47]:

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION that on December 15, 1999, the Permanent Council adopted resolution CP/RES. 759 (1217/99), which contains the Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities; and

Comment [KRL48]:

RECOGNIZING:

The growing importance of the role of civil society organizations in the public life of all member states of the Organization of American States; and

The significant contribution of civil society organizations to the activities of the Organization of American States and of the related organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system,

RESOLVES:

1. To endorse the Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities, approved by the Permanent Council on December 15, 1999 [CP/RES. 759 (1217/99)], noting in particular the functions assigned to the Committee on Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities and the General Secretariat.

Comment [KRL49]:

2. To take note of the register of civil society organizations (CSOs), in accordance with the procedures established in the Guidelines.

Comment [KRL50]:

3. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue to take the necessary steps for the implementation and dissemination of the Guidelines.

4. To reiterate the importance of collaboration between governments and CSOs and, in that context, once again to encourage them to establish and continue to strengthen cooperation at national, state, provincial, and municipal levels.

5. Also to reiterate the mandates assigned to the General Secretariat in resolution AG/RES. 1668 (XXIX-O/99), and to request it to report, if applicable, to the Permanent Council, through the Committee on Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities, on the implementation of that resolution.

6. To instruct the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on CSO participation in the context of the Guidelines and on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1708 (XXX-O/00)

PROPOSED AMERICAN DECLARATION ON THE  
RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING its resolutions AG/RES. 1022 (XIX-O/89), AG/RES. 1479 (XXVII-O/97), AG/RES. 1549 (XXVIII-O/98), and AG/RES. 1610 (XXIX-O/99);

BEARING IN MIND the Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities, approved by the Permanent Council in its resolution CP/RES. 759 (1217/99);

CONVINCED that the adoption of a declaration on the rights of indigenous populations will enhance the recognition, promotion, and protection of the rights of those populations, and will contribute to the development of pertinent activities by the Organization of American States in this area;

CONSIDERING that, in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 1610 (XXIX-O/99), the Working Group to Prepare the Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Populations met from November 8 to 12, 1999; and

HAVING STUDIED the report of the Chair of the Working Group to Prepare the Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Populations (GT/DADIN/doc.5/99),

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Permanent Council to renew the mandate of the Working Group so that it may continue to consider the Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Populations and hold at least a second meeting before the thirty-first regular session of the General Assembly, in accordance with the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources.

Comment [EG51]:

2. To recommend to the Working Group that it follow the procedures agreed upon for suitable participation in its work by representatives of indigenous communities, so that their observations and suggestions may be considered.

3. To request the Inter-American Indian Institute and the Inter-American Juridical Committee to continue to advise the Working Group as necessary.

4. Also to request the General Secretariat to publicize the efforts of the Working Group as necessary and consider the necessary measures to promote more representative involvement in the Working Group by the Hemisphere's indigenous community organizations.

Comment [EG52]:

Comment [EG53]:

5. To request the Permanent Council to present a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1709 (XXX-O/00)

CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICTS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING its resolution AG/RES. 1667 (XXIX-O/99), in which it instructed the Inter-American Children's Institute to deal systematically with the problem of the participation of children in armed conflicts;

Comment [KRL54]:

ALARMED by the recruitment of children and their participation and use in armed conflicts, and noting that more than 300,000 children under 18 years of age are currently participating in armed conflicts worldwide;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that too often children are the intended or collateral victims of hostilities in the context of armed conflicts, suffering long-term physical, emotional, and psychological trauma;

RECOGNIZING that, in such situations, children are deprived, *inter alia*, of their right to due protection;

NOTING the recommendations contained in the Declaration adopted by the Latin American and Caribbean Conference on the Use of Children as Soldiers, held in Montevideo, from July 5 to 8, 1999;

Comment [KRL55]:

WELCOMING recent international efforts to address the issue of the forced recruitment of children, including the adoption in 1998 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court; the adoption in 1999 of Convention No. 182 of the International Labour Organization (ILO) on the prohibition of the worst forms of child labor, including the forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflicts; and the adoption in 2000 of the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child regarding the participation of children in armed conflicts;

Comment [KRL56]:

Comment [KRL57]:

Comment [JC58]:

Comment [KRL59]:

Comment [KRL60]:

Comment [KRL61]:

RECALLING the rules of international humanitarian law that protect children in situations of armed conflicts; and

HAVING CONSIDERED the Annual Report of the Inter-American Children's Institute (CP/doc.3278/00) and, in particular, the resolutions of its Directing Council in this area,

Comment [KRL62]:

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the member states to consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child regarding the participation of children in armed conflicts.
2. Also to urge the member states that have not yet done so to sign and ratify without delay Convention No. 182 of the International Labour Organization on the prohibition of the worst forms of child labor.
3. To call upon all parties in armed conflicts, with due urgency, to observe the rules of international humanitarian law that protect children.
4. To support the efforts of the countries concerned to demobilize child soldiers, and to rehabilitate and reintegrate into society children affected by armed conflicts.
5. To request the Inter-American Children's Institute to continue to work actively in this area and identify a body to assume responsibility for following up on this resolution.



AG/RES. 1710 (XXX-O/00)

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES  
AND THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the General Secretariat on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1639 (XXIX-O/99), “Cooperation between the Organization of American States and the United Nations System” (CP/doc.3304/00),

Comment [KFC63]:

RESOLVES:

1. To express its appreciation for the activities carried out jointly by the two organizations under the OAS/UN Cooperation Agreement.
2. To request the Secretary General of the OAS to continue and to strengthen activities involving cooperation between the two organizations; to facilitate increased intersectoral contacts among the heads of the technical areas of the two organizations, within the context of the OAS/UN Cooperation Agreement; and to report on these actions to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session.



AG/RES. 1711 (XXX-O/00)

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS IN THE AMERICAS:  
SUPPORT FOR THE INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND ORGANIZATIONS OF CIVIL SOCIETY  
WORKING TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN resolution AG/RES. 1671 (XXIX-O/99), ““Human Rights Defenders in the Americas’ Support for the Individuals, Groups, and Organizations of Civil Society Working to Promote and Protect Human Rights in the Americas,” which instructs the Permanent Council to continue studying, in coordination with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), the matter addressed therein;

HAVING EXAMINED the report of the Permanent Council on this matter;

CONSIDERING:

That during the presentation of the 1999 Annual Report of the IACHR there was an exchange of opinions and points of view between the Commission and the member states on the situation of human rights defenders in the region;

That in the above-mentioned Annual Report the IACHR stated that “in 1999, acts of intimidation, disappearances, and assaults, some leading to fatalities, continued to be perpetrated against persons and organizations engaged in the defense of human rights,” expressed grave concern regarding this matter, and indicated “that the member states should take the necessary steps to protect the life, personal security, and freedom of expression of those who work to ensure respect for fundamental rights, in accordance with the collective commitment expressed in OAS General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 1671 (XXIX-O/99)”; and

Comment [JC64]:

Comment [JC65]:

That the IACHR has been engaging in activities and adopting measures designed to protect the fundamental rights of the defenders;

RECALLING:

That at the Summits of the Americas the Heads of State and Government affirmed that “respect for and promotion of human rights and the fundamental freedoms of all individuals is a primary concern of our governments”; and

That the OAS General Assembly has previously expressed its views on this subject along the same lines, reiterating its recommendation that the governments of member states “grant the necessary guarantees and facilities to enable nongovernmental human rights organizations to continue

contributing to the promotion and protection of human rights, and that they respect the freedom and safety of the members of such organizations” [AG/RES. 1044 (XX-O/90)];

RECOGNIZING the important work, at both the national and regional levels, of human rights defenders in the Americas, as well as their valuable contribution to the protection and promotion of fundamental rights and freedoms;

CONCERNED over the persistence in the Americas of situations that directly or indirectly prevent or hamper the work of individuals, groups, or organizations working to promote and protect fundamental rights; and

AWARE of the importance of promoting respect for the essential aims, principles, and standards set forth in inter-American and international instruments on this matter,

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate its support for the work carried out, at both the national and regional levels, by human rights defenders; and to recognize their valuable contribution to the promotion, protection, and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Americas.

2. To deplore acts that directly or indirectly prevent or hamper the work of human rights defenders; and to urge member states to intensify their efforts to adopt the necessary measures, in keeping with their national laws, to guarantee the life, humane treatment, and freedom of expression of human rights defenders, in keeping with internationally accepted principles and standards.

3. To invite the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to continue to pay due attention to the situation of human rights defenders in the Americas; and to invite the Permanent Council to promote the examination of this matter in the context of the dialogue on strengthening and enhancing the inter-American human rights system.

4. To urge member states and the organs and agencies of the inter-American human rights system to intensify their efforts to publicize the inter-American instruments and OAS resolutions that protect and safeguard the work of human rights defenders, as well as the United Nations Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups, and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

5. To instruct the Permanent Council to follow up on this resolution and to report on its implementation to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session.

Comment [066]:

Comment [067]:

AG/RES. 1712 (XXX-O/00)

PREPARATION OF A DRAFT INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST RACISM  
AND ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AND INTOLERANCE

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING that Article II of the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, signed in Bogotá in 1948, states that all persons are equal before the law and have the rights and duties established therein, without distinction as to race, sex, language, creed, or any other factor;

Comment [EJY68]:

HAVING SEEN the American Convention on Human Rights, signed in San José, Costa Rica, in 1969, Articles 1 and 2 of which prohibit discrimination for reasons of race, color, sex, religion, social origin, or any other condition;

Comment [EJY69]:

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that operative paragraph 3 of resolution AG/RES. 1271 (XXIV-O/94) calls on the various organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS to adopt timely and effective measures to foster tolerance and eliminate racist and discriminatory behavior;

RECALLING that the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination was adopted by the United Nations in 1965 and that plans are being made to hold the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance, in South Africa in 2001, as well as regional and subregional meetings in preparation for that Conference;

FURTHER TAKING INTO ACCOUNT resolution AG/RES. 1695 (XXIX-O/99), which urges member states to support the efforts to organize the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance;

CONSIDERING that it is imperative that the international legal framework be expanded and that national legislation be reinforced with a view to eliminating all forms of discrimination still existing in the Hemisphere;

BEARING IN MIND the diversity of ethnic groups and cultures that enhance societies in the Hemisphere as well as the advisability of promoting harmonious relations among all of them; and

CONSIDERING that the Organization should send a clear political signal in favor of eliminating all forms of discrimination,

RESOLVES:

1. To entrust the Permanent Council with studying the need to prepare a draft inter-American convention to prevent, punish, and eradicate racism and all forms of discrimination and intolerance, with a view to submitting the matter to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session for consideration; and to direct that, for this purpose, the Permanent Council may consult the organs of the inter-American system and take into account the contributions of civil society, as well as the preparatory work for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance.
2. To urge member states to support activities for organizing the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance, which will be held in South Africa in 2001.
3. To recommend to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights that it continue to give special attention to this topic within the framework of inter-American legal instruments in force.
4. To instruct the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1713 (XXX-O/00)

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE  
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES AND THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT  
OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN INTEGRATION SYSTEM

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Secretary General on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1629 (XXIX-O/99), "Cooperation between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System" (CP/doc.3310/00),

Comment [KRL70]:

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Secretary General on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1629 (XXIX-O/99).
2. To request the Secretary General to continue and to intensify efforts to pursue joint activities between the General Secretariat of the OAS and the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System (SICA).
3. To express to the Secretary General its satisfaction with the activities that the OAS technical areas are coordinating with SICA, which have made it possible to join forces in the pursuit of common objectives.
4. To request the Secretary General to present a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.





AG/RES. 1714 (XXX-O/00)

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF  
THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES AND  
THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1675 (XXIX-O/99), "Cooperation between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the General Secretariat of the Caribbean Community" (CP/doc.3309/00),

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Secretary General on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1675 (XXIX-O/99).
2. To renew its request to the Secretary General to continue and to strengthen activities involving technical cooperation between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the General Secretariat of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).
3. To express its satisfaction with the efforts of the Assistant Secretary General to coordinate the promotion and follow-up of joint activities conducted by the two organizations.
4. To request the General Secretariat to continue implementing the recommendations of the OAS/CARICOM General Meeting held at OAS headquarters in 1998.
5. To request the Secretary General to present a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.



AG/RES. 1715 (XXX-O/00)

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the annual report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and the presentation by the Chair of the Commission, as well as the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the annual report of the IACHR (CP/doc.3325/00); and

CONSIDERING:

That the member states of the Organization of American States have proclaimed in the Charter of the Organization, as one of its principles, respect for the fundamental rights of the individual without distinction as to race, nationality, creed, or sex;

Comment [KRL71]:

That, under the OAS Charter and the American Convention on Human Rights, one of the principal functions of the IACHR is to promote the observance and protection of human rights;

Comment [KRL72]:

That the Heads of State and Government expressed in the Declaration of the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, 1998) that “respect for and promotion of human rights and the fundamental freedoms of all individuals is a primary concern of our governments”; and

Comment [KRL73]:

Comment [KRL74]:

That the member states have reaffirmed the inextricable link between human rights, democracy, and development,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of and express its appreciation for the annual report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR).

2. To receive with satisfaction the report of the Permanent Council on the observations and recommendations of the member states on the annual report of the IACHR and to transmit that report to the Commission.

3. To urge the IACHR to continue to promote the observance and protection of human rights, in keeping with the American Convention on Human Rights.

4. To recognize the work of the Commission in this area; and to urge the member states to continue their collaboration with the Commission and their support for those efforts.

5. To urge those member states of the OAS that have not yet done so to accord the highest political priority to consideration of the signature or ratification of, or accession to, as appropriate, the American Convention on Human Rights and to consider recognizing the binding jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

6. To instruct the Permanent Council to promote, in the coming fiscal periods, a substantial increase in the resources allocated to the Commission, given that the promotion and protection of human rights is a fundamental priority of the Organization.

7. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly in due course on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1716 (XXX-O/00)

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MEMBER STATES ON THE  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS<sup>1/</sup>

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the annual report of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (CP/doc.3326/00) and the presentation of that report by the President of the Court;

Comment [KFC75]:

CONSIDERING:

That Article 54.f of the Charter of the Organization of American States establishes that it is a function of the General Assembly to consider the observations and recommendations presented by the Permanent Council on the reports of the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization in accordance with Article 91.f of the Charter;

Comment [KFC76]:

That Article 65 of the American Convention on Human Rights, "Pact of San José, Costa Rica," establishes that the Court shall submit to the OAS General Assembly for consideration a report on its work during the previous year and shall specify, in particular, the cases in which a state has not complied with the Court's judgments and make any pertinent recommendations; and

That the Inter-American Court of Human Rights presented its annual report to the Permanent Council, which has forwarded observations and recommendations thereon to the General Assembly;

Comment [KFC77]:

BEARING IN MIND that the denunciation of inter-American legal instruments on human rights and the withdrawal of recognition of the Court's binding jurisdiction affect the regional system as a whole, due to its particular nature; and

CONSIDERING that acceptance of the adjudicatory jurisdiction of the Court may only be made unconditionally or on condition of reciprocity for a specified period, or for specific cases, pursuant to Article 62.2 of the American Convention,

RESOLVES:

1. To receive and transmit to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights the observations and recommendations of the OAS Permanent Council on the annual report;

Comment [KFC78]:

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1. The delegation of Trinidad and Tobago has stated that it does not support this resolution. The reservation of Trinidad and Tobago has been recorded in the minutes of the corresponding meeting (CP/ACTA 1234/00).

2. To reiterate that the judgments of the Court are final and may not be appealed and that the states parties to the Convention undertake to comply with the rulings of the Court in all cases to which they are party.

3. To urge the states that have denounced the American Convention on Human Rights “Pact of San José, Costa Rica” or that have withdrawn their recognition of the binding jurisdiction of the Court to reconsider their decisions.

4. To urge those member states of the OAS that have not yet done so to accord the highest political priority to consideration of the signature or ratification of, or accession to, as appropriate, the American Convention on Human Rights, and to consider recognizing the binding jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

Comment [KFC79]:

5. To instruct the Permanent Council to promote, in the coming fiscal periods, a substantial increase in the resources allocated to the Court, given that the promotion and protection of human rights is a fundamental priority of the Organization.

6. To thank the Inter-American Court of Human Rights for its work during the period covered by this report.

AG/RES. 1717 (XXX-O/00)

THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF ALL MIGRANT WORKERS  
AND THEIR FAMILIES<sup>2/</sup>

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The Report of the Permanent Council on the human rights of all migrant workers and their families (CP/doc.3327/00), presented in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 1611 (XXIX-O/99); and

The annual report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR);

CONSIDERING:

That the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man proclaims that all persons are equal before the law and have the rights and duties established in that declaration, without distinction as to race, sex, language, creed, or any other factor;

That the American Convention on Human Rights recognizes that essential human rights are not derived from one's being a national of a certain state, but are based upon attributes of the human personality, and therefore justify international protection;

That the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families establishes the duty of states to ensure to all migrant workers and members of their families within their territory or subject to their jurisdiction the rights provided for in the Convention without distinction as to sex, race, color, language, religion or conviction; political opinion; national, ethnic, or social origin; nationality; age; economic position; property; marital status; birth; or other status;

That many migrant workers and their families are compelled to leave their places of origin in search of better opportunities; and

Advisory Opinion OC-16, issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, on the right to information on consular assistance, within the framework of due process, in cases of foreign nationals detained by authorities of a receiving state;

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2. The delegation of Trinidad and Tobago has stated that it does not support operative paragraph 2 of this resolution. Trinidad and Tobago's reservation has been recorded in the minutes of the corresponding meeting (CP/ACTA 1234/00).

AWARE of the vulnerable situation in which migrant workers and their families find themselves because, *inter alia*, they move between countries; they do not live in their states of origin; they face difficulties as a result of cultural differences, especially with respect to language and customs; and their circumstances often lead to the breakdown of the family;

BEARING IN MIND the Declaration and the Plan of Action of the Second Summit of the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm that the principles and standards set forth in the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man and in the American Convention on Human Rights apply to all persons, including migrant workers and their families.
2. To urge those member states that have not yet done so to accord the highest political priority to consideration of the signature or ratification of, or accession to, as appropriate, the American Convention on Human Rights and to give serious consideration to signing, ratifying, or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.
3. To urge the member states to take the necessary measures to guarantee the human rights of all migrants, including migrant workers and their families, as envisaged in the above-mentioned instruments.
4. To reaffirm, emphatically, the duty of states to ensure full respect and observance of the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, particularly with regard to the right of foreign nationals, regardless of their immigration status, to communicate with a consular official of their own state in case of detention and the obligation of the state in whose territory the detention occurs to inform the foreign national of that right.
5. To recommend to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) that it continue to pay the utmost attention to cases in which the human rights of migrant workers or their families have been violated.
6. To request the IACHR, in light of the notable progress made thus far, to present the report on the status of the rights of all migrant workers and their families to the General Assembly prior to its thirty-first regular session, and to invite the member states to continue to cooperate with the IACHR to that end.
7. To request the IACHR to provide the Special Rapporteur for the rights of all migrant workers and their families with the necessary and appropriate means to perform his or her duties.
8. To call upon the member states, the permanent observers, the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system, and other sources to contribute to the voluntary fund of the Office of the Special Rapporteur for the rights of all migrant workers and their families.



9. To recommend to the Inter-American Council for Integral Development that it support projects and activities to benefit all migrant workers and their families, as an expression of inter-American solidarity, an essential element in the integral development of the member states.

10. To request the councils of the Organization to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution in their respective areas of competence.



AG/RES. 1718 (XXX-O/00)

REFORM OF THE INTER-AMERICAN INDIAN INSTITUTE

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECOGNIZING the progress made by the Working Group on the Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Populations, including the valuable contribution made by representatives of indigenous populations;

CONVINCED that inter-American cooperation can contribute to solving the problems faced by indigenous populations throughout the Hemisphere;

CONSIDERING the growing strength of indigenous-to-indigenous linkages and the importance of harmonious relations between indigenous populations and their respective governments; and

HAVING EXAMINED the Annual Report of the Inter-American Indian Institute to the General Assembly (CP/doc.3281/00),

RESOLVES:

1. To support the work of the Inter-American Indian Institute (III); and to urge the member states of the Institute to participate in its reform process on the basis of consultations among the organs of the inter-American system, including the General Secretariat, the other OAS member states, and representatives of indigenous communities of the Hemisphere.

2. To request the III to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the progress achieved in its reform process.



AG/RES. 1719 (XXX-O/00)

THE SITUATION OF THE PERMANENT OBSERVERS AND THEIR  
PARTICIPATION IN THE COOPERATION ACTIVITIES  
AND PROGRAMS OF THE ORGANIZATION

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING its resolution AG/RES. 50 (I-O/71), through which it established the status of permanent observer to the Organization of American States, and its other resolutions on this topic, in particular resolution AG/RES. 1491 (XXVII-O/97), in which it expressed the advisability of establishing criteria recognizing the diverse forms of participation by permanent observers in the activities and programs of the Organization;

BEARING IN MIND the pertinent resolutions of the Permanent Council, in particular resolution CP/RES. 407 (573/84);

HAVING SEEN the report of the General Secretariat of the Organization (CP/CAJP-1641/00), presented in compliance with resolutions AG/RES. 1555 (XXVIII-O/98) and AG/RES. 1662 (XXIX-O/99);

CONSIDERING that, among the states that have permanent observer status, special recognition should be given to those that have a history of close and ongoing cooperation with the Organization in its activities and programs and have shown particular interest in strengthening their ties with the inter-American community; and

CONVINCED of the need to encourage all permanent observers to increase their participation in the cooperation activities and programs of the Organization,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its appreciation to all the permanent observers that contribute to the cooperation activities and programs of the Organization.

2. To give special recognition to the Kingdom of Spain and the French Republic as states which, by way of their permanent observer missions, each headed by an ambassador accredited exclusively to the OAS, have shown a firm commitment to the Organization.

3. To request the General Secretariat to take the additional administrative measures necessary to facilitate still further the participation of the permanent observers in the cooperation activities and programs of the Organization.



AG/RES. 1720 (XXX-O/00)

TRADE AND INTEGRATION IN THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Report of the Permanent Council and the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI) on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1689 (XXIX-O/99);

RECALLING resolutions AG/RES. 1689 (XXIX-O/99), AG/RES. 1581 (XXVIII-O/98), AG/RES. 1516 (XXVII-O/97), AG/RES. 1430 (XXVI-O/96), CIDI/RES. 99 (V-O/00), CIDI/RES. 63 (IV-O/99), and CIDI/RES. 46 (III-O/98), entitled “Trade and Integration in the Americas”; AG/RES. 1534 (XXVIII-O/98), “Support for and Follow-up to the Summits of the Americas Initiatives”; AG/RES. 1438 (XXVI-O/96), “Relationship between the Special Committee on Trade and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development”; AG/RES. 1349 (XXV-O/95), “Inter-American Summits Management”; and resolution AG/RES. 1220 (XXIII-O/93), “Establishment of the Special Committee on Trade (SCT),” in which the member states noted that the Organization of American States is an appropriate hemispheric forum for dialogue on trade matters;

BEARING IN MIND the Declaration of Santiago of the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, 1998), in which the Heads of State and Government of the Hemisphere directed their ministers responsible for international trade to begin negotiations for the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and reaffirmed their determination to conclude the negotiation of the FTAA no later than 2005, and in which they also reaffirmed their determination to make concrete progress by the end of the 20th century, and expressed their appreciation for the significant contribution of the Tripartite Committee;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION the Ministerial Declaration of San José adopted by the Ministers of Trade at their Fourth Ministerial Meeting in San José, Costa Rica (March 1998), in which they recommended to their Heads of State and Government that they initiate negotiation of the FTAA in accordance with the objectives, principles, structure, venue, and other decisions set forth in the Declaration; acknowledged and again expressed their appreciation to the Tripartite Committee for the technical and logistical support given during the preparatory phase of the FTAA negotiations; and requested that the respective institutions of the Tripartite Committee continue to provide the appropriate existing resources necessary to respond positively to requests for technical support from FTAA entities, including reallocation for this purpose if necessary;

NOTING the Ministerial Declaration of Toronto adopted by the Ministers of Trade at their Fifth Ministerial Meeting, held in Toronto, Canada, in November 1999, in which they “recognize and appreciate the analytical, technical, and financial support that continues to be provided by the institutions comprising the Tripartite Committee.... This support has been essential to the conduct of

the negotiations to date, and we ask the institutions of the Tripartite Committee to continue to provide such assistance for FTAA-related matters”;

CONSIDERING that economic diversification and integration, trade liberalization, and market access constitute one of the priorities established in the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001 and that the process of creating the FTAA is a fundamental element in this context; and

REAFFIRMING the commitment of the Organization of American States to support the process of free trade and economic integration in the Hemisphere and to reiterate the importance of the contribution of the General Secretariat and, in particular, the Trade Unit to this process,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the Report of the Permanent Council and the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI) on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1689 (XXIX-O/99), “Trade and Integration in the Americas.”
2. To accept the recommendation of the Chair of the Special Committee on Trade (SCT), based on his consultations with member states of the SCT, to maintain the *status quo*, that is, to maintain the existence of the SCT without convening it.
3. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue providing analytical support and technical assistance through the Trade Unit, and conducting related studies as part of the Tripartite Committee or as requested by the respective bodies established in the Ministerial Declaration of San José, under the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) process.
4. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue providing technical assistance related to FTAA issues to member countries that request it, particularly the smaller economies, as requested by the Trade Ministers in the Ministerial Declaration of San José.
5. To reiterate its support for the collaborative activities on trade and integration of the Tripartite Committee, and to recognize the contribution to those activities of other specialized regional, subregional, and multilateral organizations and of regional and subregional institutions.
6. To instruct the Permanent Council to continue to provide the appropriate existing resources necessary to respond positively to requests for technical support from FTAA entities, including reallocation for this purpose if necessary.
7. To instruct the General Secretariat to submit, by November 15, 2000, the 2001 annual Work Plan of the Trade Unit to CEPCIDI for its consideration and approval.
8. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue providing semiannual written progress reports on the activities of the Trade Unit, including information on its level of budget execution, to the Permanent Council and CEPCIDI for their review.



9. To instruct the Foreign Trade Information System (SICE) to continue its work in providing trade and trade-related information to the Hemisphere through its Internet Web site; to continue its work in support of the FTAA process by maintaining, as a member of the Tripartite Committee, the official FTAA Web site; to maintain, as a member of the Tripartite Committee, on an ongoing basis a calendar of the deadlines established by the negotiating groups for inputs from delegations; and to manage, as a member of the Tripartite Committee, the Document Distribution System (DDS), a secure, confidential, real-time, and reliable distribution system and historical archive of the FTAA negotiation process documents.

10. To recognize the important achievements of SICE, in particular the measures taken to broaden its trade and trade-related information and its client base and to support its continued operations.

11. To direct that the mandates in the preceding paragraphs be executed within the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources.

12. To request the Permanent Council and CEPCIDI to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.



AG/RES. 1721 (XXX-O/00)

PROMOTION OF DEMOCRACY

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND that the Charter of the Organization of American States establishes in its preamble “that representative democracy is an indispensable condition for the stability, peace and development of the region” and that one of its essential purposes is “to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention”;

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Permanent Council (AG/doc.3848/00) and the Report of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CP/CAJP-1664/00 rev. 2) as it relates to the promotion of representative democracy;

CONSIDERING:

Resolution AG/RES. 1063 (XX-O/90), which requested the Secretary General “to establish within the General Secretariat a Unit for the Promotion of Democracy,” and resolution CP/RES. 572 (882/91), in which the Permanent Council adopted the Program of Support for the Promotion of Democracy; and

That, pursuant to resolution CP/RES. 572 (882/91), the Unit “will be available to perform such tasks as the competent authorities may entrust to it in support of democracy in the Hemisphere”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT its resolutions on representative democracy: AG/RES. 1080 (XXI-O/91), AG/RES. 1402 (XXVI-O/96), AG/RES. 1475 (XXVII-O/97), AG/RES. 1551 (XXVIII-O/98), AG/RES. 1648 (XXIX-O/99), and AG/RES. 1696 (XXIX-O/99);

TAKING NOTE of the report of the Working Group on Representative Democracy and the rapporteur’s report on the Seminar for Analysis and Reflection on Participatory Democracy (CP/CAJP-1638/00 corr. 1), held at OAS headquarters on April 10 and 11, 2000, pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1684 (XXIX-O/99), “Participatory Democracy”; and

Comment [KFC80]:

HAVING CONSIDERED the report of the Chair of the Working Group on Representative Democracy on the Seminar for Analysis and Reflection on Participatory Democracy;

Comment [JC81]:

Comment [KFC82]:

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Permanent Council on the promotion of representative democracy;

Comment [KFC83]:

2. To take note, with satisfaction, of the Seminar for Analysis and Reflection on Participatory Democracy, held at OAS headquarters on April 10 and 11, 2000.

3. To take note of the presentation to the Working Group on Representative Democracy of the revised version of the Manual for the Organization of Election Observation Missions in the Framework of the OAS, which had been requested so that it would take into account the observations made by the Working Group.

Comment [KFC84]:

4. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue, through the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD) and in accordance with the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources, to conduct studies and seminars and to promote or sponsor efforts on democracy-related topics adopted at the Summits of the Americas.

Comment [KFC85]:

5. To instruct the Permanent Council, acting through the Working Group on Representative Democracy, to:

- a. Study the updated annual inventory of activities related to the promotion of democracy;
- b. Consider presenting the report on activities related to execution of the mandates of the Summits of the Americas related to democracy;
- c. Examine the progress reports on the activities carried out by the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, including information on the level of budget execution, for which projects will be presented to the Working Group by the General Secretariat within 45 days following the end of each quarter, and include its comments and observations in its annual report;
- d. Consider periodically inviting experts to give presentations on topics selected by the Working Group, including electoral participation, political parties, decentralization, institutional weaknesses, and access to information; and
- e. Study and approve, by the end of 2000, the UPD Work Plan for 2001, ensuring that said plan includes activities in support of the mandates related to the promotion and defense of democracy, and assigned to the OAS, that arose out of the plans of action of the Summits of the Americas.

6. To request the General Secretariat to:

- a. Regularly update, through the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, the annual inventory on the activities related to the promotion of representative democracy carried out in the Organization and to do so with collaboration from different organs, agencies, and entities working in this area;
- b. Foster closer cooperation between the UPD and the various organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS working in areas related to the promotion and defense of representative democracy; and

Comment [KFC86]:

Comment [KFC87]:

- c. Give semiannual presentations to the Permanent Council on its activities with regard to the democracy-related mandates from the Summits of the Americas.

7. To instruct the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.



AG/RES. 1722 (XXX-O/00)

PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK OF THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on the topic “Parliamentary Network of the Americas,” presented in fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 1673 (XXIX-O/99) (CP/doc.3332/00);

RECALLING:

The Declaration of Santiago of the Second Summit of the Americas, which reaffirms the willingness of the Heads of State and Government to enhance dialogue and inter-American cooperation in a spirit of cooperation and solidarity; and

The mandates contained in resolutions AG/RES. 1599 (XXVIII-O/98) and AG/RES. 1673 (XXIX-O/99), “Parliamentary Network of the Americas”;

HAVING EXAMINED the report of the Secretary General on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1673 (XXIX-O/99) and its appendixes (CP/CAJP-1663/00); and

CONSIDERING that, in the inter-American context, interparliamentary dialogue plays an important part in promoting, *inter alia*, mutual awareness and cooperation through the exchange of experience on matters of common interest,

RESOLVES:

1. To welcome the holding of the Meeting of Chairs of the Foreign Affairs Committees or Equivalent Bodies of the National Congresses or Parliaments of the OAS Member States, at the Organization’s headquarters, on March 29 and 30, 2000.
2. To take note of the report of the Secretary General on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1673 (XXIX-O/99) and its appendixes (CP/CAJP-1663/00).
3. To note with satisfaction the decision of the legislators to hold the meeting “Interparliamentary Forum of the Americas” in Canada, before the Summit of the Americas to be held in Quebec City, Canada, in April 2001.
4. To request the General Secretariat to offer, taking into account budgetary constraints and the priorities established by the Permanent Council, technical advice in the preparatory work for the meeting mentioned in the preceding paragraph, mindful that on this occasion the legislators will consider, among other matters, the question of a possible tie with the Organization.

5. To instruct the Secretary General to keep the Permanent Council informed with respect to the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session.



AG/RES. 1723 (XXX-O/00)

ENHANCEMENT OF PROBITY IN THE HEMISPHERE AND FOLLOW-UP  
ON THE INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM FOR COOPERATION  
IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on enhancement of probity in the Hemisphere and follow-up on the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption (CP/doc.3333/00);

UNDERSCORING that, in its preamble, the Charter of the Organization of American States affirms that “representative democracy is an indispensable condition for the stability, peace and development of the region” and that “juridical organization is a necessary condition for security and peace founded on moral order and on justice”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the purposes of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption are to promote and strengthen the development, by each of the States Parties, of the mechanisms needed to prevent, detect, punish, and eradicate corruption, and to promote, facilitate, and regulate cooperation among the States Parties to ensure the effectiveness of measures and actions to combat acts of corruption in the performance of public functions and those specifically related to such performance;

RECALLING that, through resolution AG/RES. 1649 (XXIX-O/99), "Enhancement of Probity in the Hemisphere and Follow-up on the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption," the Permanent Council was instructed to promote the exchange of experiences and information among public institutions and international organizations and, in following up on the Inter-American Program on the Fight against Corruption, adopted by the General Assembly through resolution AG/RES. 1477 (XXVII-O/97), to consider "specific measures to encourage ratification and implementation of the Convention, strengthen cooperation, and provide technical assistance to member states which request it, and exchange information and experiences regarding implementation of the Convention, taking into account the conclusions and recommendations of the Symposium on Enhancement of Probity in the Hemisphere";

Comment [EB88]:

Comment [JC89]:

Comment [EB90]:

CONSIDERING that the Inter-American Convention against Corruption has been signed by 26 member states and ratified by 19;

ACKNOWLEDGING WITH SATISFACTION the work of the Working Group on Probity and Public Ethics, particularly the Special Meeting on the Enhancement of Probity and the Fight against Corruption in the Americas, held on March 31, 2000—a meeting attended by representatives of international and regional organizations, the private sector, and civil society;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the important efforts being made in the prevention of and fight against corruption by, *inter alia*, the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations agencies, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and the Council of Europe, as well as bilateral cooperation agencies and other entities of the private sector and civil society;

RECOGNIZING the increasing worldwide attention to the concept of "corporate social responsibility" and that issues connected with that subject, including, *inter alia*, the role of companies in the prevention of and fight against corruption, are being addressed in various forums at the multilateral level, such as the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, and the OECD, in the framework of their respective mandates;

BEARING IN MIND that the Plan of Action of the Second Summit of the Americas expressed resolute support for the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption and its implementation, as well as for carrying out, in the framework of the OAS, appropriate follow-up of the progress achieved under the Inter-American Convention against Corruption; and

Comment [SW91]: OK

FURTHER BEARING IN MIND that the Third Western Hemisphere Finance Ministers Meeting called "upon all member governments to ratify and implement the OAS Anti-Corruption Convention and to support establishment of a follow-up OAS mechanism for multilateral and mutual review and evaluation of progress towards effective prevention and punishment of corruption,"

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the member states of the OAS that have not yet done so to sign or ratify the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.

2. To urge the States Parties to the Convention to take any measures they deem appropriate to adapt their domestic law to the commitments they undertook upon ratification of the Convention.

3. To invite states that are not members of the Organization, in particular the OAS permanent observers, to accede to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, in accordance with Article XXIII thereof.

Comment [SW92]: Spanish says *adhiera* (sing) should be *adhieran* (pl)

Comment [EB93]:

4. To request the countries that have not done so to reply to the "Questionnaire on Ratification and Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption" (CP/GT/PEC-68/99 rev. 3), so that the Permanent Council may continue to examine replies from the member states in order to consider specific measures for implementing the Convention, strengthening cooperation, and providing technical assistance to those that request it.

5. To instruct the Permanent Council to continue to foster the exchange of experiences and information among the OAS and international organizations, the private sector, and civil society organizations, among other pertinent entities, in order to coordinate, strengthen, and identify cooperation activities in the area among the member states.

6. To request the Permanent Council to promote the establishment of a specific voluntary fund to finance activities aimed at providing the necessary institutional support to the States Parties for implementing the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.

7. To instruct the Permanent Council, in following up on the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption, to study corporate social responsibility with a view to defining precisely its scope and content in the inter-American context, to examining and disseminating national and international experiences undertaken to address the issue, and to promoting the exchange of information and experiences among the member states with international financial institutions, other international organizations, the private sector, and civil society organizations.

8. To instruct the Permanent Council, in following up on the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption, to address, *inter alia*, the following subjects: training, experience acquired by national institutions, public sector procurement, incompatibilities between public office and private sector interests, and analysis of criminal laws on corruption and related offenses.

9. To request the Permanent Council to analyze existing regional and international follow-up mechanisms with a view to recommending, by the end of the year, the most appropriate model that States Parties could use, if they think fit, to monitor implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption. That recommendation will be transmitted to the States Parties to the Convention for them to choose the course of action they deem most appropriate.

10. To invite the Inter-American Juridical Committee to continue to support the Permanent Council in its efforts to fulfill the mandates conferred in this resolution.

11. To request the General Secretariat to continue carrying out, through the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, the technical cooperation activities designed to contribute to the signing or ratification of, or accession to, the Inter-American Convention against Corruption; to strengthen exchanges of information and experiences, including those of the inter-American network against corruption; and to support implementation of the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption, the conclusions and recommendations of the Symposium on Enhancement of Probity in the Hemisphere, adopted in Santiago, Chile, in November 1998, and the measures set forth in this resolution, within the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources.

12. To instruct the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.



AG/RES. 1724 (XXX-O/00)

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY: SPECIAL FUND

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

That the strengthening and consolidation of representative democracy is one of the fundamental aims of the Organization of American States;

That the region still faces serious political, social, and economic threats that can undermine the stability of democratic governments in the member states;

That one of the essential purposes of the Organization is to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention;

That it is advisable to strengthen hemispheric cooperation and solidarity, recognizing that the democratic system is developed and consolidated according to the specific characteristics of each member state; and

That the elimination of extreme poverty is an essential part of the promotion and consolidation of representative democracy and is the common and shared responsibility of the American states;

RECALLING:

That resolution AG/RES. 1696 (XXIX-O/99), "Strengthening Representative Democracy," instructs the Permanent Council to "continue to examine, within the framework of the principles of the Charter, of international law including the Charter of the United Nations, and of the relevant declarations and resolutions of the Organization, measures to consolidate and strengthen representative democracy";

Comment [EJY94]:

Comment [EJY95]:

That in recent years a set of resolutions has been adopted, including as resolution AG/RES. 1080 (XXI-O/91), "Representative Democracy"; resolution AG/RES. 1352 (XXV-O/95), "Mechanism for Executing and Financing Special Activities Arising from Application of Resolution AG/RES. 1080 (XXI-O/91)"; and resolution AG/RES. 1476 (XXVII-O/97), "Regulations Governing the Use of Resources under the Mechanism for Executing and Financing Special Activities Arising from Application of Resolution AG/RES. 1080 (XXI-O/91)," in accordance with the aforementioned purposes and principles;

Comment [EJY96]:

Comment [EJY97]:

That the Santiago Commitment to Democracy and the Renewal of the Inter-American System states that the OAS is the political forum for dialogue, understanding, and cooperation among all countries of the Hemisphere; and

That the Declaration of Managua [(AG/DEC. 4 (XXIII-O/93))] states that “the Organization’s mission does not exhaust itself in the defense of democracy wherever its fundamental values and principles have collapsed, but also calls for ongoing and creative work to consolidate democracy and a continuing effort to prevent and anticipate the very causes of the problems that work against democratic rule”; and

CONSIDERING:

That activities to preserve, strengthen, and consolidate the democratic system are necessary as part of a joint hemispheric effort; and

That the necessary financial resources are needed to promote such activities,

RESOLVES:

1. To establish a permanent specific fund financed by voluntary contributions, to be called the Special Fund for Strengthening Democracy, which will support activities to preserve, strengthen, and consolidate representative democracy in the Hemisphere.

2. To instruct the Secretary General, subject to prior consideration by the Permanent Council, to use the resources of the Special Fund to respond in a timely fashion, with strict respect for the principle of nonintervention embodied in the Charter of the Organization, to a request for assistance by a member state affected by situations that, in the view of the state involved, affect the development of the democratic process or the exercise of power by its democratically elected government.

3. To instruct the Secretary General to administer the Special Fund in accordance with the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat and other provisions and regulations of the Organization.

4. To invite all member states, permanent observers, and other donors, as defined in Article 68 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat and other provisions and regulations of the Organization, to contribute to the Special Fund for Strengthening Democracy.

AG/RES. 1725 (XXX-O/00)

PERSONNEL POLICY REFORM

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING the report presented by the Special Joint Working Group of the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development on the Strengthening and Modernization of the OAS (CP/doc.3334/00);

RECALLING:

That the General Assembly, through resolution AG/RES. 1603 (XXVIII-O/98), "Modernization of the OAS and Renewal of the Inter-American System," established the Special Joint Working Group of the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (GETC), "for the purpose of identifying the aspects with regard to which it is necessary to foster and intensify the process of strengthening and modernizing the OAS by defining strategies, procedures, and concrete actions with a view to promoting a comprehensive renewal of the inter-American system, on the basis of the dialogue of foreign ministers and heads of delegation of the General Assembly";

That the General Assembly, through the aforementioned resolution AG/RES. 1603 (XXVIII-O/98), authorized the Permanent Council to adopt such organizational and structural measures as it considered suitable in pursuit of the aims set forth in that resolution, including the adoption *ad referendum* of decisions requiring authorization from the General Assembly, and to report on its efforts to the Assembly;

That, through resolution AG/RES. 1685 (XXIX-O/99), the General Assembly renewed the mandates contained in resolution AG/RES. 1603 (XXVIII-O/98);

That, prior to the aforementioned resolutions, the General Assembly, through resolution AG/RES. 1596 (XXVIII-O/98), had instructed the General Secretariat to improve the Organization's existing employment mechanisms where necessary, focusing in particular on increasing transparency and simplifying the various hiring mechanisms of the Organization and to present to the GETC a proposal on the administrative, budgetary, personnel, and management needs of the Organization; and

That the General Assembly, through resolution AG/RES. 1596 (XXVIII-O/98), also requested the Permanent Council to prepare, with the assistance of the General Secretariat, a study with recommendations on the career service policy of the General Secretariat, for review by the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth regular session; and that the General Assembly, through resolution AG/RES. 1647 (XXIX-O/99), instructed the Permanent Council to continue its study of the

**Comment [CP98]:** The resolution reads "General Secretariat" not "Secretary General."

General Secretariat's career service policy and other personnel policy matters, and to adopt such measures as might be appropriate, *ad referendum* of the General Assembly;

BEARING IN MIND:

That the Permanent Council assigned the topic of personnel policy reform [AG/RES. 1647 (XXIX-O/99)] to the Special Joint Working Group of the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development on the Strengthening and Modernization of the OAS;

That, pursuant to the aforementioned resolutions, the Secretary General submitted documents GETC/FORMOEA-29/98, GETC/FORMOEA-52/98, and GETC/FORMOEA-131/99 rev. 4 on proposed amendments to the Organization's personnel policy, as well as documents CP/doc.3187/99, CP/doc.3198/99, and GETC/FORMOEA-150/00 on the career service;

That Staff Rule 113.4 stipulates that the Secretary General "may amend the Staff Rules, provided that such amendments are consistent with the General Standards"; however, he must "inform the Permanent Council of any changes or modifications of the Staff Rules; and any such change or modification having budgetary implications shall enter into force only with the Permanent Council's approval"; and

That the Permanent Council, at its meeting of December 15, 1999, approved *ad referendum* of the General Assembly the amendments to the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat, by way of resolution CP/RES. 761 (1217/99), and, at the same meeting, approved the proposed amendments to the Staff Rules that had budgetary implications; and

NOTING that the Secretary General has initiated consultations with General Secretariat staff representatives to explore the possibility of presenting a common position on the matter of the career service,

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the amendments to the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat, which the Permanent Council approved on December 15, 1999, *ad referendum* of the General Assembly, by way of resolution CP/RES. 761 (1217/99), which is attached hereto.

2. To support the initiative of seeking a common position on the part of the General Secretariat and the representatives of its staff concerning the Organization's career service and to request the Secretary General to make efforts to present a proposal on the matter as soon as possible.

3. To instruct the Permanent Council to complete the study of possible changes in the career service and related aspects of personnel policy, and to adopt, *ad referendum* of the General Assembly, such amendments to the General Standards and the Staff Rules as are necessary to implement a career service system and a personnel policy more in keeping with the needs and interests of the Organization and with the principles established in the Charter.



4. To instruct the Secretary General to maintain, without prejudice to the future of the career service, the freeze on all vacant slots in the career service until such time as the General Assembly takes a definitive decision.



APPENDIX I

OEA/Ser.G  
CP/RES. 761 (1217/99)  
15 December 1999  
Original: Spanish

CP/RES. 761 (1217/99)

PERSONNEL POLICY REFORM

THE PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES,

CONSIDERING the report on personnel policy reform submitted by the Chair of the Special Joint Working Group of the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development on the Strengthening and Modernization of the OAS;

RECALLING:

That the General Assembly, through the resolution “Modernization of the OAS and Renewal of the Inter-American System” [AG/RES. 1603 (XXVIII-O/98)], established the Special Joint Working Group of the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (GETC), “for the purpose of identifying the aspects with regard to which it is necessary to foster and intensify the process of strengthening and modernizing the OAS by defining strategies, procedures, and concrete actions with a view to promoting a comprehensive renewal of the inter-American system, on the basis of the dialogue of foreign ministers and heads of delegation of the General Assembly”;

That the General Assembly, through the aforementioned resolution, AG/RES. 1603 (XXVIII-O/98), authorized the Permanent Council to adopt such organizational and structural measures as it considers suitable in pursuit of the aims set forth in that resolution, including the adoption *ad referendum* of decisions requiring authorization from the General Assembly; and to report to that organ on the work carried out;

That through resolution AG/RES. 1685 (XXIX-O/99) the General Assembly renewed the mandates contained in resolution AG/RES. 1603 (XXVIII-O/98); and

That prior to the aforementioned resolutions, the General Assembly, through resolution AG/RES. 1596 (XXVIII-O/98), had instructed the General Secretariat “to improve the Organization’s existing employment mechanisms where necessary, focusing in particular on increasing transparency and simplifying the various hiring mechanisms of the Organization” and to present to the GETC a

**Comment [CP99]:** The resolution reads “General Secretariat” not “Secretary General.”

proposal on the administrative, budgetary, human resource, and management needs of the Organization; and

BEARING IN MIND:

That pursuant to the aforementioned resolutions, the Secretary General submitted documents GETC/FORMOEA-29/98 and GETC/FORMOEA-52/98 on proposed reforms to the Organization's personnel policy, in order to modernize current systems and facilitate the hiring of personnel under competitive terms and conditions;

That the GETC has thoroughly examined and reviewed the proposals presented by the Secretary General and has adopted the recommendations indicated in the appendix to this resolution;

That Staff Rule 113.4 stipulates that the Secretary General "may amend the Staff Rules, provided that such amendments are consistent with the General Standards"; however he must "inform the Permanent Council of any changes or modifications to the Staff Rules; and any such change or modification having budgetary implications shall enter into force only with the Permanent Council's approval"; and

That the GETC proposals attached as an appendix require amendments to the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat and to the Staff Rules, which must be approved by the Permanent Council,

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt *ad referendum* of the General Assembly the amendments to the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat contained in the appendix to this resolution.
2. To adopt the proposed amendments to the Staff Rules that have budgetary implications.
3. To request that the Secretary General take the necessary steps to ensure that the amendments to the General Standards and to the Staff Rules enter into force on January 1, 2000.
4. To underscore the interest expressed repeatedly by the member states regarding the need for a transparent hiring policy that reflects the mandates in Article 120 of the OAS Charter and that guarantees compliance with the standards and regulations governing the operation of the General Secretariat.
5. To request the Secretary General to report to the Permanent Council each quarter on the hiring of personnel, including appointments to positions of trust.
6. To highlight the work carried out by the GETC and thank that Group for its efforts.

## APPENDIX II

### PERSONNEL POLICY REFORM

#### I. LENGTH OF CONTRACTS

A. Article 40 of the General Standards is amended as follows:

Article 40. Selection to fill vacant posts. The following provisions shall govern selection of staff members to fill vacant posts, in accordance with Articles 113 and 120 of the Charter:

- a. Except as provided in Section b. below, the Secretary General shall fill all vacant posts in the General Secretariat by competition, with the advice of the Advisory Committee on Selection and Promotions referred to in Article 18.
- b. The Secretary General may fill the following posts without competition:
  - i. Positions of trust;
  - ii. Posts to be filled by staff members under contract for a limited time for up to three years; and
  - iii. Posts financed by funds other than the Regular Fund and which are to be filled by staff members under contract for a limited time for a period of more than three years, when a competition is not convenient.

Any person who has served under contracts for a limited time financed by the Regular Fund for a total of three years is ineligible to continue serving the General Secretariat under such contracts, unless that person is selected through competition.

#### II. INDEMNITIES

A. Articles 56 and 57 of the General Standards are amended as follows:

Article 56. Separation indemnity. Except as provided in Article 57, the General Secretariat shall provide a separation indemnity to all members of the career service and to all other staff members who are separated from service after having been employed continuously for more than three years under contracts for a limited time. Such indemnity shall be calculated and paid in accordance with the pertinent Staff Rules.

Article 57. Inapplicability of indemnity provisions. A separation indemnity shall not be paid when:

- a. A staff member's services are terminated during the probationary period of Article 42 of these Standards;
- b. A staff member resigns;
- c. A staff member under contract for a limited time is separated from service by way of termination or expiration of contract before completing more than three years of service under contracts for a limited time;
- d. A staff member's appointment to a position of trust is terminated or otherwise expires in accordance with Article 20;
- e. The staff member's services are terminated or the staff member is dismissed for serious misconduct, including, but not limited to:
  - i. Abandonment of post;
  - ii. Having made serious false statements related to the staff member's employment; and
- f. The staff member is retired in accordance with the provisions for compulsory retirement of the Retirement and Pension Plan.

B. Staff Rule 110.7 is amended as follows:

- a. Except as provided in paragraph (d) below, members of the career service and all other staff members with more than three years of continuous service under contracts for a limited time are entitled to a separation indemnity upon separation from service, in accordance with the following provisions:
  - i. Career staff members shall receive an indemnity of one month of basic salary per year of service up to a maximum of nine months.
  - ii. The maximum separation indemnity payable to a staff member who is contracted under a contract for a limited time shall be six months of basic salary, and shall be computed as follows:
    - (a) When the contract expires without renewal, one week of basic salary for each year served; and
    - (b) When the contract is terminated prior to its expiration date, one month of basic salary for each year remaining until the expiration date, and one week of basic salary for each year of service.

- iii. A staff member whose long term contract began before January 1, 2000, and has since been renewed without interruption may, upon separation from service, choose between the separation indemnity provided under Staff Rule 110.7 and Article 53 (d) of the General Standards effective as of December 31, 1999, and the separation indemnity provided for under this Rule.
- ...
- d. No indemnity shall be paid to a staff member when this is prohibited by the General Standards and, specifically, in the following cases: ...
  - i. When a staff member's appointment to a position of trust is terminated by the Secretary General or expires, in accordance with Staff Rule 104.1 (a) (iii).
  - ii. When a staff member under a contract for a limited time is separated from service by way of termination or expiration of contract before completing more than three years of continuous service under contracts for a limited time.<sup>3/</sup>

### III. SUPPORT STAFF AWAY FROM THE HEADQUARTERS

#### A. Insert a new paragraph "e" to Article 17 of the General Standards, which shall state:

- e. Temporary Support Personnel who are contracted locally and, to the extent feasible, in accordance with the conditions of the duty station in which they serve, for the sole purpose of providing support services to temporary projects, observer missions, and other temporary activities carried out by the General Secretariat in the member states.

#### B. Insert a new Article 22 of the General Standards, which shall state:

Article 22. Temporary Support Personnel. Appointments of individuals as Temporary Support Personnel ("TSP") shall be governed by the following provisions:

- a. TSPs are not funded by Regular Fund resources; however, under exceptional circumstances as determined by the Secretary General, they may be funded under a specific temporary project supported in part by the Regular Fund. The General Secretariat shall include in the amount budgeted for each TSP the necessary reserves for all benefits required under the local laws of the duty station, including, but not limited to, termination benefits, accumulated vacation, and termination notice.
- b. Periods of employment under a TSP shall not be counted for determining eligibility for career service or for any other purpose.

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1. The former sections (iv) and (v) become sections (v) and (vi) respectively.

- c. TSPs shall not be participants in the OAS Retirement and Pension Fund; however, they shall participate in the social security system provided under the laws of the duty station. In the event such participation is unfeasible, TSPs shall be provided a monthly lump-sum payment equal to the value of the required contributions to the national social security system, or, alternatively, and as determined by the Secretary General, TSPs shall participate in the Provident Plan or other retirement-savings plans established by the General Secretariat for temporary employees and in insurance programs provided by the General Secretariat for temporary employees.
- d. Salaries for TSPs shall be established in accordance with market conditions at a level no lower than the amount paid for work of a similar nature under the corresponding national legislation of the duty station, and no greater than the salaries paid by the United Nations Development Programme for work of a similar nature.
- e. The following articles of the General Standards shall not apply to TSPs, unless otherwise stated in their individual employment contracts: Article 18 (Career Service); Article 35 (Classification of Posts); Article 37 (Salaries); Article 40 (Medical Examination); Article 41 (Selection to Fill Vacant Posts); Article 43 (Probationary Period); Article 45 (Vacations); Article 46 (Leave); Article 47 (Social Security); Article 48 (Travel, Installation, and Repatriation Expenses); Article 54, last paragraph (Separation from Service - Notice), and Article 57 (Separation Indemnity).<sup>4/</sup>
- f. Unless otherwise provided by Executive Order or the express terms of the Contract Document under which a TSP is contracted, the Staff Rules shall not apply to TSPs.

#### IV. TERMINATION NOTICE

A. Article 53 of the General Standards is amended as follows:

All staff members whose services are terminated under this article shall be entitled to a termination notice given prior to the effective termination date. Notice period shall be sixty days for career staff members. For all other staff members, the notice period shall be no less than seven days and no more than sixty days prior to the effective termination date, as determined by the General Secretariat and stated in the staff member's Document of Appointment.

B. Staff Rule 110.4 is amended as follows:

Every staff member whose services are terminated under this article shall be entitled to prior notice of the effective termination date as follows:

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2. The numbers of the articles are the numbers that would correspond if this new Article 22 is adopted.



- i. For career staff members, the notice period shall be sixty days prior to the effective termination date.
- ii. For all other staff members, the notice period shall be no less than seven days and no more than sixty days prior to the effective termination date, as determined by the General Secretariat and stated in the staff member's Document of Appointment.
- iii. The notice period shall not be considered interrupted for any reason.
- iv. In lieu of actual days of notice, the General Secretariat may instead pay the staff member the salary and benefits that correspond to the days of notice not given.
- v. For all staff members under long-term contracts as of December 31, 1999, the termination period will be the same as that provided to members of the career service.



AG/RES. 1726 (XXX-O/00)

CONTINUING PARTICIPATION IN THE INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR  
INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT BY MEMBER STATES THAT HAVE NOT  
RATIFIED THE PROTOCOL OF MANAGUA

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN resolution AG/RES. 2 (XXII-E/96), "Participation of Member States That Have Not Ratified the Protocol of Managua in the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) When Said Protocol Enters into Force," and resolutions AG/RES. 1442 (XXVI-O/96), AG/RES. 1507 (XXVII-O/97), AG/RES. 1575 (XXVIII-O/98), CIDI/RES. 42 (III-O/98), CIDI/RES. 83 (IV-O/99), and CIDI/RES. 94 (V-O/00) on continuation of the aforementioned participation;

EMPHASIZING the amendments made to the Charter of the Organization American States to incorporate the elimination of extreme poverty as a basic objective of integral development (Protocol of Washington) and to establish an Inter-American Council for Integral Development to promote cooperation among the American states for the purpose of achieving their integral development and, in particular, helping to eliminate extreme poverty (Protocol of Managua); and

CONSIDERING that as of the date of this resolution there are still member states that have not ratified the Protocol of Managua,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the member states that have signed and not ratified the Protocol of Washington, which incorporates the elimination of extreme poverty as a basic objective of development, and the Protocol of Managua, which establishes the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), to consider doing so as soon as possible.

2. To extend the period during which its resolution AG/RES. 2 (XXII-E/96), "Participation of Member States That Have Not Ratified the Protocol of Managua in the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) When Said Protocol Enters into Force," will remain in force until the next regular session of the General Assembly, which will review the situation if at that time there are still member states that have not ratified the Protocol of Managua.



AG/RES. 1727 (XXX-O/00)

TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH AG/RES. 1628 (XXIX-O/99)  
AND AG/RES. 1653 (XXIX-O/99) TO THE INTER-AMERICAN AGENCY FOR  
COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution AG/RES. 3 (XXVI-E/99), "Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development";

Resolution AG/RES. 1628 (XXIX-O/99), "Fellowship and Training Programs";

Resolution AG/RES. 1653 (XXIX-O/99), "Plan of Action of the General Secretariat to Extend the Special Fellowships for the Caribbean Program to Other States"; and

Resolution CIDI/RES. 91 (V-O/00), "Transfer of Responsibilities Associated with AG/RES. 1628 (XXIX-O/99) and AG/RES. 1653 (XXIX-O/99) to the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD)";

CONSIDERING:

That resolution AG/RES. 1628 (XXIX-O/99) requests the Permanent Council to: (i) review and approve the Statutes of the Capital Fund for OAS Fellowship, Scholarship, and Training Programs by October 1, 1999; (ii) consider the advisability of holding and, if deemed appropriate, of convening, in the second half of the year 2000, a special meeting of authorities of the member states responsible for training and fellowships; and (iii) present a report on compliance with that resolution to the General Assembly at its thirtieth regular session; and

That resolution AG/RES. 1653 (XXIX-O/99) instructs the General Secretariat to: (i) present to the Permanent Council by October 31, 1999, at the latest, a detailed plan of action for identifying external funds to enable the Special Fellowships for the Caribbean Program to be extended to other member states, in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 1387 (XXVI-O/96); (ii) present to the Permanent Council progress reports on the plan of action, beginning in April 2000, including details on external resources obtained and the activities undertaken to implement resolution AG/RES. 1387 (XXVI-O/96); and (iii) present a report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its thirtieth regular session; and

BEARING IN MIND:

That the IACD Statutes establish that the IACD, through the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), shall administer the Fellowship, Scholarship, and Training Program, under standards governing the program and in accordance with policies and priorities adopted by the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI) and other applicable regulations, and shall report thereon to CEPCIDI; and

That some mandates of resolutions AG/RES. 1628 (XXIX-O/99) and AG/RES. 1653 (XXIX-O/99) have specific deadlines for compliance which are no longer appropriate,

RESOLVES:

1. To transfer to the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) responsibility for implementation of the following mandates:

- (i) To make recommendations on the Statutes of the Capital Fund for OAS Fellowship, Scholarship, and Training Programs and other instruments for mobilizing resources for fellowship and training programs and to submit them to the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI) for approval by no later than October 1, 2000;
- (ii) To develop by October 1, 2000, a plan of action for identifying external funds to enable the Special Fellowships for the Caribbean Program to be extended to other member states; and
- (iii) To fulfill, by no later than November 2000, the mandate given in operative paragraph 5 of resolution AG/RES. 1628 (XXIX-O/99) regarding fundraising activities.

2. To instruct CEPCIDI to consider the advisability of holding and, if deemed appropriate, of convening in the year 2001, a special meeting of authorities of the member states responsible for training and fellowships, with a view to proposing a plan of action for the more effective use of the resources of the OAS Fellowship and Training Programs and increasing their impact on human resource development in the region in the 21st century, taking into account the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development and the inter-American programs.

3. To request the IACD and CEPCIDI to present a report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session.

AG/RES. 1728 (XXX-O/00)

STRENGTHENING AND REVITALIZING TIES BETWEEN THE INTER-AMERICAN  
INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION ON AGRICULTURE AND OTHER OAS ORGANS  
TO ADDRESS AGRICULTURAL ISSUES OF HEMISPHERIC CONCERN

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on  
Agriculture (CP/doc.3282/00); and

CONSIDERING:

That, prior to the transformation of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on  
Agriculture (IICA) under the 1979 Inter-American Convention on Agriculture, the Inter-American  
Conference of Ministers of Agriculture (ICMA) was established as a forum for discussion of  
agricultural issues and policies in the Hemisphere;

That the 1979 Convention established the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA), the  
supreme organ of IICA, to serve, in part, as a forum “for the exchange of ideas, information, and  
experience related to the improvement of agriculture and rural life;”

That the last ICMA, held in 1987 and 1991, respectively, were held in conjunction with  
regular meetings of the IABA and attended by the very same delegations;

That, in resolution IICA/JIA/RES. 341 (X-O/99), the IABA requested the OAS General  
Assembly to adopt a resolution eliminating the ICMA, recognizing the IABA as the primary  
ministerial forum within the OAS for analyzing and building consensus on policies and strategic  
priorities for the improvement of agriculture and rural life in the Hemisphere, and encouraging  
cooperation between IICA and the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system in the  
activities of the inter-American system and the Summits of the Americas process;

That priorities established at the Summits of the Americas—particularly sustainable  
development and environment, education, the elimination of extreme poverty, and trade—raise issues  
which relate closely to the improvement of agriculture and rural life;

That there is a need to integrate the expertise and experience of IICA, as the inter-American  
specialized agency on agriculture, into the policy-making and programming activities and issues  
relating to agriculture within the framework of the inter-American system and the agenda of the  
Summits of the Americas; and

That, at its twenty-ninth regular session, the General Assembly recognized that need by designating the Director General of IICA as a member of the Committee to Coordinate Cooperation Programs of the Inter-American System, created under resolution AG/RES. 1666 (XXIX-O/99),

**Comment [EJY100]:**

RESOLVES:

1. To abolish the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Agriculture and recognize the Inter-American Board of Agriculture as the primary ministerial forum within the OAS for analyzing and building consensus on policies and strategic priorities for the improvement of agriculture and rural life in the Hemisphere.

2. To instruct the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture to develop and strengthen mechanisms for cooperation and exchange with other organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system for proposing, coordinating, and executing policies and programs relating to the improvement of agriculture and rural life in the context of the inter-American system and the Summits of the Americas process.



AG/RES. 1729 (XXX-O/00)

SEVENTH BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON COMPLIANCE  
WITH RESOLUTION AG/RES. 829 (XVI-O/86), "FULL AND EQUAL PARTICIPATION  
OF WOMEN BY THE YEAR 2000"

Comment [EG101]:

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) and, in particular, those that refer to the Seventh Biennial Report of the Secretary General on Compliance with Resolution AG/RES. 829 (XVI-O/86), "Full and Equal Participation of Women by the Year 2000," which reflects the measures taken to increase the effective incorporation of women into the development process;

RECALLING that resolution AG/RES. 829 (XVI-O/86) called for the integration of the strategies and goals identified in the Plan of Action of the Inter-American Commission of Women, "Full and Equal Participation of Women by the Year 2000," into the future programming of the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system, and for the establishment of appropriate mechanisms and procedures for the ongoing review and evaluation thereof, in coordination with the CIM;

HAVING NOTED the biennial reports presented by the OAS Secretary General by way of resolutions AG/RES. 933 (XVIII-O/88), AG/RES. 1061 (XX-O/90), AG/RES. 1192 (XXII-O/92), AG/RES. 1303 (XXIV-O/94), AG/RES. 1431 (XXVI-O/96), and AG/RES. 1588 (XXVIII-O/98); and

CONSIDERING the results reflected both in the previous reports and in this final report, presented in fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 829 (XVI-O/86), covering the period from 1986 to 2000,

RESOLVES:

1. To note the Seventh Biennial Report of the Secretary General on Compliance with Resolution AG/RES. 829 (XVI-O/86), "Full and Equal Participation of Women by the Year 2000."

Comment [EG102]:

2. To recognize the efforts of those organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system which, since the adoption of resolution AG/RES. 829 (XVI-O/86), have included the gender perspective in their strategies, objectives, programs, and projects.

3. To urge the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system to continue working to achieve full and equal participation by women in development and in the decision-making process, in coordination with the Inter-American Commission of Women.

4. To instruct the Secretary General of the OAS to increase his efforts to guarantee equal opportunity for women's access to senior executive positions in the OAS, taking into account the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality.

AG/RES. 1730 (XXX-O/00)

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ANNUAL REPORT OF  
THE INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) (AG/doc.3848/00 add. 2) (CP/ACTA 1228/00), presented pursuant to Article 91.f of the Charter of the Organization of American States;

RECOGNIZING the importance of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere, approved by CICAD in Buenos Aires, Argentina, at its twentieth regular session, and signed in Montevideo, Uruguay, in December 1996, as a frame of reference to guide inter-American cooperation in addressing the problems of illicit drug production, trafficking, use, and distribution, and related offenses;

BEARING IN MIND that the activities and programs of the Commission are governed by the Inter-American Program of Action of Rio de Janeiro against the Illicit Use and Production of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Traffic Therein; the Declaration and Program of Action of Ixtapa; the Inter-American Program of Quito: Comprehensive Education to Prevent Drug Abuse; and the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere;

BEARING IN MIND ALSO the mandates issued in the plans of action adopted at the First and Second Summits of the Americas, in particular the development of a single, objective process of multilateral governmental evaluation to monitor the progress of individual and collective anti-drug efforts in the Hemisphere;

RECOGNIZING WITH SATISFACTION that CICAD, at its twenty-sixth regular session, fulfilled that mandate with the establishment of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), based on the principles of respect for the sovereignty and territorial jurisdiction of states, reciprocity, shared responsibility, and a comprehensive and balanced approach to the subject;

CONVINCED that the MEM will strengthen mutual confidence, dialogue, and hemispheric cooperation for purposes of greater efficiency and effectiveness in dealing with the various aspects of the worldwide drug problem;

CONSIDERING that multilateral cooperation is the only way to ensure objective evaluation of efforts by the states to address the drug problem; and

RECOGNIZING ALSO the role played by CICAD in strengthening hemispheric cooperation in the fight against illicit drug production, trafficking, use, and distribution, and related offenses,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its approval of the establishment of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) through resolution CICAD/RES. 1/99 (XXVI-O/99), adopted by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) at its twenty-sixth regular session, held in Montevideo, Uruguay, from October 5 to 7, 1999.

2. To express its full support for the first evaluation round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism, whose Governmental Experts Group (GEG) held its first meeting from April 10 to 14, 2000.

3. To urge member states to support the funding of the MEM through voluntary contributions and provide their firm political support to the process.

4. To take note of the cooperation projects and programs, fellowships, training, information exchange, and research carried out in 1999 by the CICAD Executive Secretariat in accordance with its work plan, funded through voluntary contributions from OAS member states and permanent observers, the Inter-American Development Bank, international organizations, and public and private institutions.

5. To urge the Executive Secretariat to redouble its efforts to increase the amount of contributions and diversify sources of funding.

6. Also to urge the OAS member states and permanent observers, the Inter-American Development Bank, international organizations, and public and private institutions to continue to support the CICAD work program.

7. To endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the CICAD Group of Experts on Money Laundering (CICAD/doc.1024/99) on the advisability of an inter-American convention in this area, and to transmit those conclusions and recommendations to the Permanent Council.

8. To welcome the establishment of the CICAD Inter-American Observatory on Drugs, whose objective, *inter alia*, will be to assist member states with the collection of statistics and to promote interdisciplinary research in this area.

9. To urge the member states to take account, when drafting their respective national legislation, of the Commission's Model Regulations Concerning Laundering Offences Connected to Illicit Drug Trafficking and Related Offences; its Model Regulations to Control Chemical Substances Used in the Illicit Production of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances; and its Model Regulations for the Control of the International Movement of Firearms, Their Parts and Components, and Ammunition.

Comment [KRL103]:

Comment [KRL104]:

Comment [KRL105]:

10. To urge the international community, and the financial institutions in particular, to contribute financial resources to implement comprehensive demand reduction and alternative development programs in member states requesting such resources from CICAD, because of their crucial importance for a comprehensive and balanced approach to drug abuse control.

11. To recognize the contribution made by specialized trade preference systems, such as the Andean Trade Preference Act, the Caribbean Basin Initiative, the special provisions of the Generalized System of Preferences of the European Union (EU) for the Andean and Central American countries, and the agreement between the European Union and the African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries (Lomé Convention), and to urge the member states and permanent observers to seek to maintain trade opportunities that support regional alternative development programs.

12. To invite CICAD to continue its collaboration with the Consultative Committee of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials so as to promote its full application.

13. To underscore the importance of collaboration and coordination between the CICAD Executive Secretariat and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and other international organizations having competence in this area.

14. To endorse the observations and recommendations made by the Permanent Council on the CICAD Annual Report (AG/doc.3848/00 add. 2) (CP/ACTA 1228/00) and to transmit them to CICAD for its due consideration.



AG/RES. 1731 (XXX-O/00)

SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION  
ON TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Permanent Council (AG/doc.3848/00) and the Annual Report of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) (CP/doc.3286/00);

BEARING IN MIND the need to reinforce the fight against transnational organized crime in accordance with the commitment undertaken by the Heads of State and Government at the Second Summit of the Americas;

BEARING IN MIND FURTHER the link between illicit trafficking in drugs and phenomena such as corruption, trafficking in illicit firearms, and transnational organized crime;

UNDERSCORING that the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials; the Inter-American Convention against Corruption; and the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) of CICAD represent a significant contribution to the fight against transnational organized crime in the Hemisphere;

CONSIDERING that a Convention on Transnational Organized Crime is being negotiated at the United Nations together with three protocols related to trafficking in firearms, trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and the illegal smuggling of migrants;

RECOGNIZING that the said United Nations Convention and its three protocols would contribute to the fight against transnational organized crime in the Hemisphere; and

AWARE that the member states of the OAS can play a fundamental role in the strengthening of international cooperation against transnational organized crime,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the member states of the OAS to support and participate actively in the ongoing negotiations to conclude, in 2000, the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and its three protocols.

2. To request the General Secretariat to transmit this resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.





AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00)

ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM  
ON THE PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS  
AND GENDER EQUITY AND EQUALITY

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN resolution AG/RES. 1625 (XXIX-O/99), "Status of Women in the Americas and Strengthening and Modernization of the Inter-American Commission of Women," which convenes a meeting of ministers or of the highest-ranking authorities responsible for the advancement of women in the member states and requests the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), as coordinator for the aforementioned meeting, to prepare a draft agenda that will include approval of the Draft Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Rights and Gender Equity;

BEARING IN MIND that the above-mentioned meeting of ministers took place in Washington, D.C., on April 27 and 28, 2000, and that it adopted resolution CIM/MINS/doc.19 rev. 1, which approved, with a change in title, the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality;

RECALLING that the OAS has furthered the development and implementation of hemispheric initiatives on the promotion of women's human rights and gender equity and equality;

CONSIDERING that the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality will require active participation by the OAS, in particular by the CIM as the principal hemispheric policy-generating forum for gender equity and equality, as well as cooperation between the OAS and the various regional and subregional agencies and entities; and

EMPHASIZING that the above-mentioned program reasserts the commitment undertaken by the governments to fight all forms of discrimination and to promote equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women, with a gender perspective,

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality, annexed hereto.

2. To instruct the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) to serve as the organ for follow-up, coordination, and evaluation of the Inter-American Program and the actions taken to implement it.

3. To urge the OAS General Secretariat to see that the gender perspective is incorporated into all work, projects, and programs of the organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS in fulfillment of the Program.

4. To instruct the Permanent Council to propose to the General Assembly, at its thirty-first regular session, the allocation of technical, human, and financial resources, within the program-budget of the Organization, so that both the General Secretariat and the CIM may implement this Program.

5. To urge the CIM Permanent Secretariat to include in the proposed program-budget for 2002 a breakdown of the activities needed for implementation of and follow-up to the Inter-American Program.

6. To urge the General Secretariat to allot to the CIM, in the program-budget for 2001, the human and material resources needed to implement both the Inter-American Program and resolution AG/RES. 1592 (XXVIII-O/98), "Status of Women in the Americas and Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women."

7. To urge the organs of the OAS and specialized organizations of the inter-American system to provide the support necessary to implement the Inter-American Program.

8. To request the General Secretariat of the Organization to present annual reports to the General Assembly on the implementation of the Inter-American Program.

9. To express its satisfaction at the holding of the First Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States.

10. To commend the CIM and its Permanent Secretariat for successfully fulfilling the mandates assigned through resolution AG/RES. 1625 (XXIX-O/99).

## APPENDIX

### INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM ON THE PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUITY AND EQUALITY

#### I. BACKGROUND

The Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), established in 1928 through a resolution of the Sixth International Conference of American States, was the first intergovernmental agency in the world created specifically to fight for the civil and political rights of women in the Americas. From its inception, one of its basic purposes has been to protect women's rights in the Hemisphere so that women and men may participate in all spheres of society on an equal footing, in order to fully and equitably enjoy the benefits of development.

It is important to emphasize the work done by the CIM to establish systematic standards on behalf of women's rights, such as the Convention on the Nationality of Women (Uruguay, 1933), the Inter-American Convention on Granting of Political Rights to Women (Colombia, 1948), the Inter-American Convention on the Granting of Civil Rights to Women (Colombia, 1948), and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, "Convention of Belém do Pará" (Brazil, 1994).

In 1994, the Assembly of Delegates of the CIM adopted its Strategic Plan of Action for 1995-2000, which established strategies for securing and strengthening the role of women through the year 2000. That same year, the First Summit of the Americas was held in Miami. The Plan of Action adopted at the Summit referred explicitly to the need to strengthen policies and programs to improve and expand the participation of women in all spheres of society (Item 18, "Strengthening the Role of Women in Society") and to strengthen the CIM.

Following up on efforts to implement the Plan of Action of the First Summit of the Americas (Miami, 1994), the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, 1998) entrusted the Organization of American States (OAS) with specific mandates regarding its lines of action. Pursuant to those initiatives, the OAS General Assembly, at its twenty-eighth regular session, adopted resolution AG/RES. 1592 (XXVIII-O/98), inviting the CIM to conduct various activities, including the preparation of an inter-American program on the promotion of women's rights and gender equity.

In November 1998, the Twenty-ninth Assembly of Delegates of the CIM adopted the Declaration of Santo Domingo [CIM/RES. 195 (XXIX-O/98)], which recognizes the rights of women throughout their entire life cycle as an inalienable, integral, and indivisible part of universal human rights. It also reaffirms the importance of protecting women's human rights and eliminating all forms of discrimination against women, drawing on strategies aimed at strengthening the CIM and its relations with other institutions in the inter-American system.

The Twenty-ninth Assembly of Delegates of the CIM later adopted resolution CIM/RES. 209 (XXIX-O/98), "Strengthening and Modernization of the Inter-American Commission of Women." On the basis of that resolution, the OAS General Assembly, at its twenty-ninth regular session,

adopted resolution AG/RES. 1625 (XXIX-O/99), "Status of Women in the Americas and Strengthening and Modernization of the Inter-American Commission of Women," in which it calls a meeting of ministers or of the highest-ranking authorities responsible for the advancement of women in the member states. It further requests that the CIM, acting as coordinator for the aforementioned meeting, prepare a draft agenda that will include, among other topics, the approval of a draft inter-American program on the promotion of women's rights and gender equity and consideration of the commitments adopted at the Summits of the Americas.

## II. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

In the mid-1970s, the gender perspective began to emerge in response to theoretical and methodological issues arising from an awareness of clear gender-based imbalances and inequalities between men and women.

Gender can be defined as a cultural, social, and historical construct which, on the biological basis of sex, determines the values that society attaches to being masculine and feminine as well as the nature of collective subjective identities. Gender also shapes the difference in social value assigned to men and to women and the balance of power between them.

Gender relations also cut across other social relationships: production, ethnicity, nationality, religion, and generational relationships. Gender relations, rather than existing in isolation, are linked to other systems of social relations.

Gender equality means that women and men enjoy the same status and have equal opportunities to realize their full human rights and their potential to contribute to political, economic, social, and cultural development and benefit from the results. Gender equality is therefore the impartial valuing by society of both the similarities and the differences between women and men and the varying roles that they play.

This means that, if gender equality is to be achieved, a series of gender equity measures must be taken to offset the historical and social disadvantages that prevent women's equal enjoyment of the benefits of development and equal participation in public and private decision-making and in power structures. Gender equity is, thus, a path that leads to gender equality. The Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality is intended to further this process.

Incorporation of the gender perspective is "a strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal sphere, so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated."\*

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\* United Nations Economic and Social Council, Agreed Conclusions, 1997/2, July 18, 1997.

### **III. OBJECTIVES**

The Inter-American Program has the following objectives:

#### **GENERAL**

1. To systematically integrate a gender perspective in all organs, organizations, and entities of the inter-American system.
2. To encourage OAS member states to formulate public policies, strategies, and proposals aimed at promoting women's human rights and gender equality in all spheres of public and private life, considering their diversity and their life cycles.
3. To make international cooperation and horizontal cooperation among the member states one of the instruments for implementing this program.
4. To strengthen relations and foster joint cooperation and coordination activities with other regional and international bodies and civil society organizations active in the Americas, with a view to guaranteeing policy effectiveness and optimal use of resources.
5. To promote the full and equal participation of women in all aspects of economic, social, political, and cultural development.

#### **SPECIFIC**

To promote gender equity and equality and women's human rights by strengthening and fostering:

1. Women's real and formal legal equality.
2. Women's full and equal access to the benefits of economic, social, political, and cultural development.
3. Full and equal access for women to employment and productive resources.
4. Women's full and equal participation in political life in their countries and in decision-making at all levels.
5. Women's full and equal access to education at all levels and to the various fields of study.
6. Women's full access to health services during their entire life cycle, which, as required, shall include physical, emotional, and mental health.
7. Women's right to a life free of any form of abuse or violence, in both the public and private spheres.

8. The elimination of cultural patterns or stereotypes that denigrate the image of women, particularly in educational materials and those disseminated in the media.

#### **IV. LINES OF ACTION**

Responsibility for implementing this program will fall to the governments of member states and to the OAS. Furthermore, implementation shall be coordinated with national units in charge of women's policies and draw on the contributions of civil society, depending on the different activities to be undertaken. The following lines of action assist in fulfilling those arising from the mandates of the Summits of the Americas, the Strategic Plan of Action of the CIM, the Biennial Work Program of the CIM, the CIM Plan of Action on Women's Participation in Power and Decision-making Structures, the mandates of the OAS General Assembly, the Beijing Platform for Action, and the 1995-2001 Regional Program of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

##### **1. TO RECOMMEND THAT THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS**

- 1.1. Formulate public policies and strategies, and take steps to promote women's human rights and gender equality in all spheres of public and private life, bearing in mind their diversity and their life cycles, by incorporating a gender perspective.
- 1.2. Promote the study and, if appropriate, the revision of national laws, to ensure that they meet the obligations set out in the international conventions and treaties on women's human rights adopted and ratified by the member states, together with the adoption of measures to guarantee their effective enforcement.

The goal will be to achieve, through redoubled effort and by all possible means, legal equality between men and women. To that end, efforts will be made to eliminate laws still in force that discriminate against women and to achieve real and effective application of laws already in force that establish equal rights for women. Progress made in this area will be evaluated in 2002.

- 1.3. Promote also the study and, if applicable, the revision of national law in order to encourage full compliance with other international commitments adopted by regional and global conferences in which the member states have participated, or which have been approved by their legislatures, with the objective of ensuring equality and gender equity.
- 1.4. Create or, where appropriate, strengthen national institutions responsible for women's development, provide them with sufficient human, financial, and material resources, and invest them with authority at the highest levels of administration, so as to ensure that a gender perspective and equality of opportunity between men and women are integrated into public policies relating to all spheres of society and government.

- 1.5. Incorporate a gender perspective as an integral part of the programs, actions, instruments, and agendas of national and international events, especially at the ministerial-level meetings.
- 1.6. Step up public awareness campaigns on the human rights of women, including those enshrined in international conventions, so that women will have the awareness they need to demand respect for those rights. The information will be disseminated in appropriate language and formats, also adapted to the needs of women with disabilities and tailored to the situation of women in each country of the region: *inter alia*, women in urban and rural areas, indigenous women, women of different ethnic groups and ages, and migrant women.
- 1.7. Strengthen the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) as the principal forum for generating hemispheric policy to advance women's rights and gender equality, and provide it with technical, human, and financial resources, including through voluntary contributions, with which to promote the initiatives required to attain program objectives and follow up on this program.
- 1.8. Implement the Plan of Action of the CIM on Women's Participation in Power and Decision-making Structures.
- 1.9. Encourage the adoption of affirmative action measures of a legislative, administrative, or legal nature, as appropriate, to achieve equal opportunities for women in all structures of society.
- 1.10. Develop mechanisms to give women ready and timely access to justice, in particular women with little or no income, by adopting measures to render judicial proceedings more transparent, efficient, and effective.
- 1.11. Systematize and support the exchange of information on issues relating to women's human rights and gender equality and facilitate the direct exchange of experience among countries, institutions, and organizations working in these areas.
- 1.12. Launch awareness campaigns and implement programs to promote gender equality and equal opportunities at all levels in national education systems, both formal and nonformal.
- 1.13. Support the provision of continuing gender education and training for judiciary and legislative staff and for law enforcement officers of both sexes, within the objectives of this program.
- 1.14. Develop strategic linkages with civil society organizations for the exchange of information and sharing of best practices related to gender mainstreaming.
- 1.15. Include, where necessary, the objectives and lines of action of this inter-American program in the national programs or plans of the member states on women.

- 1.16. Ensure women's equal access to employment and productive resources, such as credit and land.
- 1.17. Promote policies designed to ensure equal pay for equal work by women and men, as well as equal pay for work of equal value.
- 1.18. Encourage recognition of the economic value of unremunerated labor, including work done in the home by women.
- 1.19. Promote a cultural change whereby all sectors of society will become involved in the empowerment of women and in the pursuit of gender equality, in particular, by engaging men as an active and integral part of this change.

## 2. INTER-AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS

### 2.1 ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY THE OAS GENERAL SECRETARIAT

- 2.1.1. Disseminate this program among the member states so as to contribute to the fulfillment of the mandates issued in resolution AG/RES. 1625 (XXIX-O/99), "Status of Women in the Americas and Strengthening and Modernization of the Inter-American Commission of Women," adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth regular session.
- 2.1.2. Ensure that a gender perspective is consistently mainstreamed into the preparation and application of international instruments, mechanisms, and procedures within the framework of the OAS, and particularly on the agendas of ministerial-level meetings.
- 2.1.3. Adopt, in coordination with the CIM, the measures needed to integrate the gender perspective into the execution of programs and activities by all organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS, and promote the incorporation of this perspective into the work of the agencies of the inter-American system.
- 2.1.4. Provide all organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS system with the necessary training to incorporate the gender perspective into their work and to prepare suitable tools for attaining this program's main objectives, tapping, where applicable, the experience of other international organizations, cooperation agencies, and member states.
- 2.1.5. Strengthen the Executive Secretariat of the CIM by providing it with adequate human and financial resources and supporting it in its efforts to raise funds from private sources.
- 2.1.6. Implement measures to ensure full and equal access by men and women to all categories of posts in the OAS system, particularly in decision-making positions [AG/RES. 1627 (XXIX/O-99)].



- 2.1.7. Support the integration of the gender perspective into the overall programs of the Organization and the inter-American system, including their budget allocations.
- 2.2 ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN
  - 2.2.1. Play a pivotal role, as the principal forum for generating hemispheric policy to advance women's human rights and gender equality in carrying out the Inter-American Program, and to forge closer ties with other international forums and civil society.
  - 2.2.2. Report to the OAS General Assembly and the CIM Assembly of Delegates on progress made in executing the Inter-American Program.
  - 2.2.3. Invite all organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system that have not yet done so to share with the CIM information on the progress made by each of them in activities designed to incorporate a gender perspective, implement this program, and promote gender equality.
  - 2.2.4. Invite all international bodies, organizations, and institutions to share information, including lessons learned and best practices on promotion and protection of women's human rights and the incorporation of the gender perspective to achieve gender equality.
  - 2.2.5. Undertake actions with civil society organizations to:
    - a. Promote joint efforts with government agencies and civil society organizations to establish effective means of implementing, monitoring, and evaluating policies, programs, and projects designed to promote women's human rights and gender equality.
    - b. Study and analyze the status of observance of women's human rights in the various countries.

## **V. HUMAN AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

Request the General Secretariat of the OAS to:

- a. Take short-term measures to comply with item 2.1.5 of this program.
- b. Encourage its specialized organizations to examine their budgets to determine if any existing allocations could be channeled toward the implementation of this inter-American program.

## **VI. PROGRAM MONITORING ACTIVITIES**

It will be incumbent upon the CIM to monitor this inter-American program and to coordinate and evaluate, in coordination with governmental mechanisms pertaining to women, the actions taken to implement it, including support for the formulation of policies to promote women's human rights and gender equality.

The Secretary General of the OAS shall report annually to the General Assembly of the OAS on implementation of this program by the organs and agencies of the inter-American system.

AG/RES. 1733 (XXX-O/00)

INTER-AMERICAN YEAR OF THE CHILD AND THE ADOLESCENT

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI) to the General Assembly (CP/doc.3278/00) on the work of the 74th Regular Meeting of its Directing Council and the Eighteenth Pan American Child Congress, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in September 1999;

CONSIDERING resolution AG/RES. 1667 (XXIX-O/99), "Inclusion of Children's Issues on the Hemispheric Agenda," which states that it is absolutely essential that children's issues be given priority consideration in inter-American political forums, especially in the General Assembly of the OAS and at the Third Summit of the Americas;

BEARING IN MIND that it is advisable that children's issues included on the hemispheric agenda be accompanied by other initiatives that reinforce cooperation in the Hemisphere in areas related to children and adolescents; and

NOTING that, resolution CD/RES. 05 (74-R/99), adopted at the 74th Regular Meeting of the Directing Council of the IACI, established the Inter-American Preparatory Committee for Children's Issues for the 2001 Summit of the Americas, chaired by the Director General of the IACI,

RESOLVES:

1. To declare the year 2001 "Inter-American Year of the Child and the Adolescent."
2. To urge member states to promote activities to establish, strengthen, and implement public policies to ensure the well-being and integral development of children and adolescents.
3. To request the General Secretariat and the Inter-American Children's Institute to assist the member states in conducting conferences, seminars, and other activities relating to issues of children and adolescents throughout 2001, by providing advisory services, within the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources.
4. To invite member states, permanent observers, international organizations, multilateral financial institutions, the Inter-American Preparatory Committee for Children's Issues for the 2001 Summit of the Americas, and civil society organizations to cooperate in efforts and activities carried out in the context of the activities set forth in this resolution.



AG/RES. 1734 (XXX-O/00)

**OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM**

**Comment [KFC106]:**

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

**HAVING SEEN** the Annual Report of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) to the General Assembly (CP/doc.3268/00) and the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council thereon (AG/doc.3848/00 add. 2) (CP/ACTA 1224/00);

**Comment [KFC107]:**

BEARING IN MIND that the General Assembly, through its resolution AG/RES. 1650 (XXIX-O/99), "Hemispheric Cooperation to Prevent, Combat, and Eliminate Terrorism," created the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), approved its Statute, and convened its first regular session; and

CONSIDERING:

That the first regular session of CICTE was held in Miami, Florida, on October 28 and 29, 1999; and

That, at its first regular session, CICTE approved its work plan, which was based on the recommendations contained in the Commitment of Mar del Plata, adopted at the Second Inter-American Specialized Conference on Terrorism, held on November 23 and 24, 1998, in Mar del Plata, Argentina,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the OAS General Secretariat to report to the **Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE)**, at its second regular session, on the fulfillment of the tasks entrusted to it by CICTE, which are set forth in the Work Program of CICTE, attached to document CP/doc.3268/00 as **Annex C**.

**Comment [KFC108]:**

**Comment [KRL109]:**

2. To urge the OAS member states to comply with the recommendations contained in the Work Program of CICTE.

3. To request CICTE, in its annual report, to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.



AG/RES. 1735 (XXX-O/00)

**OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ANNUAL REPORTS  
OF THE ORGANS, AGENCIES, AND ENTITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION**

**Comment [KFC110]:**

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations made by the Permanent Council on the annual reports presented by the Pan American Health Organization (CP/doc.3275/00), the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CP/doc.3269/00), the Inter-American Commission of Women (CP/doc.3276/00), the Inter-American Children's Institute (CP/doc.3278/00), the Inter-American Indian Institute (CP/doc.3281/00), the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CP/doc.3286/00), the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CP/doc.3268/00), the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (CP/doc.3279/00), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (CP/doc.3283/00), the Administrative Tribunal (CP/doc.3280/00 corr. 1 add. 1), and the Secretary General (CP/doc.3294/00);

**Comment [KFC111]:**

CONSIDERING:

That the observations and recommendations made by the Permanent Council on the annual reports of the aforementioned organs, agencies, and entities appear in minutes CP/ACTA 1223/00, 1224/00, 1225/00, 1226/00, 1228/00, and 1232/00 (AG/doc.3848/00 add.2); and

**Comment [KFC112]:**

That the Permanent Council's recommendations and observations recognize the successful efforts of the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization to further the principles and objectives of the Organization and the inter-American system; and

**Comment [KFC113]:**

BEARING IN MIND that these reports have been presented pursuant to Article 91.f of the OAS Charter and resolution AG/RES. 1452 (XXVII-O/97), and that the draft resolution attached to the Annual Report of the Inter-American Children's Institute was replaced by another, which was approved by the Permanent Council and forwarded to the General Assembly,

RESOLVES:

1. To note the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the annual reports and to transmit them to the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization.

**Comment [KFC114]:**

2. To thank the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization that complied with the statutory deadline for presentation of annual reports, and once again to urge all organs, agencies, and entities to present their reports in accordance with Article 35 of the Rules of Procedure of the Permanent Council.



AG/RES. 1736 (XXX-O/00)

THE SOCIOECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS  
OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE COUNTRIES OF THE HEMISPHERE

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The Declaration of Santa Cruz de la Sierra and the Plan of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Americas; and

The Declaration of Santiago and the Plan of Action of the Second Summit of the Americas;

RECOGNIZING:

That climate change is a common concern of humankind; and

The continuing need for scientific research into the sources and effects of climate change and its possible adverse impacts, including the socioeconomic and environmental consequences for the countries of the Hemisphere;

NOTING:

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol, and the Buenos Aires Plan of Action; and

The Barbados Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island States, including the five-year review which took place at the United Nations in September 1999;

ACKNOWLEDGING:

The urgent need by all member states to begin the process of planning for adaptation to global climate change and to put in place measures to mitigate the possible adverse effects of climate change on the countries of the Hemisphere; and

The active participation by the governments of the member states of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in the Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change Project, funded by the Global Environment Facility through the World Bank and executed by the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States with the University of the West Indies Center for Environment and Development; and

RECALLING:

That resolution AG/RES. 1674 (XXIX-O/99) instructed the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) to examine ways to address climate change in the Americas; and

That, in resolution AG/RES. 1682 (XXIX-O/99), the member states established the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction and resolved “to promote the exchange of technical and scientific personnel in the area of research into adverse events” that have harmful socioeconomic and environmental impacts on the countries of the Hemisphere,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), through its appropriate subsidiary bodies, to keep this topic under review, bearing in mind the need to avoid duplication of work in other forums.
2. To instruct the General Secretariat to seek to mobilize resources to assist member states in their efforts to adapt to climate change.
3. To instruct CIDI to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1737 (XXX-O/00)

AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING that resolution AG/RES. 1603 (XXVIII-O/98), "Modernization of the OAS and Renewal of the Inter-American System," established the Special Joint Working Group of the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) "for the purpose of identifying the aspects with regard to which it is necessary to foster and intensify the process of strengthening and modernizing the OAS by defining strategies, procedures, and concrete actions with a view to promoting a comprehensive renewal of the inter-American system, on the basis of the dialogue of foreign ministers and heads of delegation of the General Assembly";

RECALLING ALSO that resolution AG/RES. 1603 (XXVIII-O/98) authorized the Permanent Council to adopt such organizational and structural measures as it considered suitable in pursuit of the aims set forth in that resolution, including the adoption *ad referendum* of decisions requiring authorization from the General Assembly, and to report to the Assembly on the work carried out;

CONSIDERING the report presented by the Chair of the Special Joint Working Group of the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development on the Strengthening and Modernization of the OAS (CP/doc.3331/00); and

BEARING IN MIND that, at its meeting of December 15, 1999, the Permanent Council adopted, by resolution CP/RES. 760 (1217/99), *ad referendum* of the General Assembly, amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly,

RESOLVES:

To adopt the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, which are attached to this resolution:



## APPENDIX

### RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### I. NATURE AND COMPOSITION

Article 1. The General Assembly is the supreme organ of the Organization of American States and is composed of the delegations accredited by the governments of the member states.

#### II. PARTICIPANTS

##### Delegations

Article 2. The delegations of the member states shall be composed of the representatives, advisers, and other persons whom the governments accredit. Each delegation shall have a head of delegation, who may delegate his duties to any other member of his delegation.

##### Credentials

Article 3. The members of each delegation and the permanent observers to the Organization of American States shall be accredited to the General Assembly by their respective governments through written communication to the Secretary General of the Organization.

##### Precedence

Article 4. The order of precedence of the delegations for each session shall be established by lot by the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly. The order of precedence of the permanent observers shall be established in the same manner.

##### General Secretariat

Article 5. The Secretary General of the Organization, or his representative, may participate with voice but without vote in the deliberations of the General Assembly.

##### Organs of the OAS

Article 6. The chairs or representatives of the following organs or agencies of the inter-American system may attend the General Assembly with the right to speak:

Inter-American Juridical Committee;  
Inter-American Commission on Human Rights;  
Inter-American Court of Human Rights;

Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development; and  
Inter-American specialized organizations.

#### United Nations

Article 7. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, or his representative, may attend the sessions of the General Assembly and may speak if he so desires.

#### Permanent observers

Article 8. Permanent observers or their respective alternates, as the case may be, may attend the public meetings of the plenary General Assembly and the General Committee. They may likewise attend any closed meetings when invited by the corresponding presiding officer. Permanent observers may also request the floor and the corresponding presiding officer will decide on the request.

#### Other observers

Article 9. The following may also send observers to the General Assembly:

- a. Governments of American states that are not members of the Organization, with the authorization of the Permanent Council;
- b. Governments of non-American states that are members of the United Nations or of its specialized agencies, when they express an interest in attending, with the authorization of the Permanent Council;
- c. Inter-American regional or subregional governmental entities or agencies that are not included among the organs or agencies of the Organization, with the authorization of the Permanent Council;
- d. The specialized agencies of the United Nations and other international agencies, when agreements concluded with the Organization and in force so establish.

The observers referred to in this article may request to speak at meetings, and the corresponding presiding officer shall decide whether to recognize the observer.

For the purposes of this article, the Secretary General of the Organization shall transmit the appropriate communications.

#### Special guests

Article 10. With the authorization of the Permanent Council and the consent of the government of the country in which the Assembly session is to be held, representatives of the specialized agencies of the United Nations and other governmental or nongovernmental international agencies and organizations not included in the previous article may attend the General Assembly as special guests, as long as they have expressed interest in doing so.

For the purposes of this article, the Secretary General of the Organization shall extend the appropriate invitations.

Requests to attend General Assembly sessions as special guests shall be presented to the General Secretariat of the Organization at least 30 days in advance of the opening of the Assembly session.

### III. PRESIDENT

Article 11. The head of the delegation indicated by the order of precedence established under these Rules of Procedure shall serve as provisional president until the General Assembly elects its president.

Article 12. At the first plenary session, the General Assembly shall elect a president, who shall hold office until the close of the Assembly session. The election shall be by the vote of a majority of the member states.

Article 13. The heads of delegation shall be vice presidents ex officio of the Assembly and shall replace the president in the event of his disability, in accordance with the order of precedence.

Article 14. When the officer presiding over a session wishes to take part in the discussion or in the voting on a matter, he shall request the appropriate representative, in accordance with Article 13, to preside.

#### Powers of the president

Article 15. The president shall call the plenary sessions; decide on the order of business thereof; open and close the plenary sessions; direct the discussions; recognize speakers in the order in which they request the floor; submit points under discussion to a vote and announce the results thereof; decide on points of order in accordance with the provisions of Article 57; install the General Committee of the Assembly; and, in general, comply with and enforce the provisions of these Rules of Procedure.

#### IV. SECRETARIAT

Article 16. The General Secretariat, as the central and permanent organ of the Organization, is the Secretariat of the General Assembly. To this end, the Secretary General shall, on a permanent basis, provide it with adequate Secretariat services and shall carry out the duties and assignments given him by the Assembly.

Article 17. The General Secretariat shall provide the delegations with the official documents of the General Assembly. It shall also provide these documents, except those for which it has been decided to limit distribution, to the permanent observers, other observers, and special guests.

Article 18. The president of the General Assembly shall establish the maximum duration of the statements of the heads of delegation.

#### V. COMMITTEES

##### Preparatory Committee

Article 19. The Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly shall be governed by Articles 60 and 91.c of the Charter and by the applicable provisions of these Rules of Procedure.

Article 20. No later than 15 days before the opening of the General Assembly session, the Preparatory Committee shall adopt recommendations on the following topics:

- a. Agreement on the draft agenda;
- b. Agreement on the proposed program-budget;
- c. Agreement on the time limit for the presentation of proposals;
- d. Agreement on the duration of the Assembly session;
- e. Agreement on the minutes of the meetings.

Article 21. The chair of the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, or his representatives, may participate in the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee, with the right to speak.

The Committee may invite representatives of other entities of the inter-American system to participate in its deliberations when it considers matters directly related to the activities of those entities.

##### General Committee

Article 22. The General Assembly may establish a General Committee, which may establish such subcommittees and working groups as it deems necessary. Each subcommittee and working group shall elect a chair, who shall present a report to the General Committee containing its conclusions.



Article 23. At each special session, the General Assembly may establish a General Committee, which may establish such subcommittees and working groups as it deems necessary.

Article 24. The General Committee shall be composed of representatives of all the member states participating in the General Assembly. The General Committee shall elect a chair, a vice chair, and a rapporteur. The chair shall have, as appropriate, the same powers as those indicated for the president of the Assembly in Article 15. In the event of the absence of the chair, the vice chair shall assume that position. In the event of the absence or incapacity of the latter, a representative of a delegation selected according to the order of precedence shall preside.

Article 25. The rapporteur of the General Committee shall present to the plenary General Assembly a report on the topics assigned to that committee, which shall include the conclusions reached by the committee and the results of the votes taken. The duration of the report may not exceed five minutes, unless the president gives express authorization to that effect. The plenary Assembly shall take cognizance of the report and consider the proposals recommended therein.

#### Work of the General Assembly

Article 26. The president of the General Assembly shall see that the work of the General Assembly proceeds satisfactorily and, to this end, shall present such recommendations as he considers appropriate. The president, if necessary, shall coordinate the draft declarations, recommendations, and resolutions adopted by the General Committee before they are submitted to a plenary session. The president shall also perform the other duties assigned by these Rules of Procedure and any others assigned by the General Assembly itself.

#### Credentials

Article 27. The Secretary General shall receive the credentials presented to him under the provisions of Article 3 and shall submit a report on the matter to the General Assembly.

#### Style Committee

Article 28. The Permanent Council of the Organization shall constitute a Style Committee composed of delegations appointed at the last regular meeting it holds before each regular or special session of the General Assembly, and each such delegation shall represent one of the four official languages of the Organization.

The Style Committee shall receive the resolutions, declarations, and recommendations issued by the General Assembly, shall correct their defects of form, and shall ensure equivalency among the versions in the official languages. If it notes defects of form that it cannot correct, the Style Committee shall submit the matter to the Permanent Council for resolution.

## VI. AGENDA

### A. Regular sessions

Article 29. For each regular session of the General Assembly, the Preparatory Committee shall prepare a preliminary draft agenda that will be sent with a report by that committee to the governments of the member states, so that they may have an opportunity to make the observations they deem pertinent or to propose the inclusion of additional topics within whatever time period the Committee may set. In preparing this preliminary draft agenda, the Committee shall take into account the provisions of the Charter, the topics proposed by the governments of the member states, those agreed to by the Assembly at previous sessions, and, if such is the case, by the Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, those recommended by other organs of the Organization, and matters that, in the opinion of the Secretary General, might threaten the peace and security of the Hemisphere or the development of the member states.

Article 30. The agenda for each regular session of the General Assembly shall include the following matters, in addition to those mentioned in the previous article:

- a. Adoption of the agenda;
- b. The observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the reports of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, the Inter-American Juridical Committee, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the General Secretariat, the specialized organizations and conferences, and the other organs, agencies, and entities;
- c. Determination of the place and date of the next regular session;
- d. Election of officers of organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization;
- e. Approval of the annual program-budget of the Organization;
- f. Determination of the quotas of the member states.

Article 31. Taking into account the observations and proposals referred to in Article 29, the Preparatory Committee shall prepare the draft agenda, which shall be transmitted to the governments at least 45 days before the opening date of each regular session of the General Assembly. The Preparatory Committee may recommend that, in view of their importance, certain topics be considered on a priority basis at the opening of the regular session of the Assembly. The draft agenda shall be accompanied by a report of the Committee, which shall contain such factual and legal background information and, when appropriate, other criteria as may facilitate consideration of the topics.

Article 32. Once the Preparatory Committee has approved the draft agenda, new topics may be included only by the vote of two thirds of the members of that committee, at least 30 days prior to the opening date of the session of the General Assembly.

Article 33. Once the regular session of the General Assembly has begun, only urgent and important matters may be added to the agenda. The admission of such topics shall require the vote of two thirds of the member states.

Article 34. The General Assembly shall adopt the agenda by the vote of two thirds of the member states, following a report by the Preparatory Committee.

B. Special sessions

Article 35. The agenda of each special session of the General Assembly shall be confined to the subject or subjects for which the session was convoked.

The procedures and time periods for the preparation of the agenda of a special session shall be established in each case by the Preparatory Committee.

## VII. DRAFTS AND WORKING DOCUMENTS

A. Regular sessions

Draft treaties or conventions

Article 36. A government of a member state or an organ of the Organization that wishes to submit to the General Assembly for consideration a draft treaty or convention relating to any topic on the agenda shall transmit the text thereof to the Secretary General of the Organization at least 45 days prior to the opening of the Assembly session, so that the governments may give it advance consideration. If such a draft is not submitted within the time specified, it may be considered by the Assembly only if the latter so agrees by the vote of two thirds of the member states.

Draft declarations, resolutions, or recommendations

Article 37. Whenever possible, draft declarations, resolutions, or recommendations relating to the agenda shall be presented to the Secretary General of the Organization prior to the beginning of the Assembly session. The deadline for the presentation of drafts after the session has begun shall be established by the General Assembly at its first plenary session.

Reports and studies

Article 38. The observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council concerning the reports of the specialized organizations and bodies of the Organization may be combined into a single document and shall be sent directly to the plenary General Assembly together with those reports as information documents. Any delegation may request separate consideration of such observations and recommendations, in which case they shall be sent to the General Committee for that purpose.

Article 39. Reports from the Meeting of Consultation, those requested by the General Assembly itself, and any observations and recommendations that the Permanent Council may present on the reports of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, the Inter-American Juridical Committee, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the General Secretariat, the specialized organizations and conferences, and the other organs,

agencies, and entities must be transmitted to the governments of the member states no later than 30 days prior to the opening date of the regular session of the General Assembly.

Article 40. Any draft, study, or report that, in the opinion of a delegation or of the Secretary General, is not clearly related to the agenda shall be presented to the General Committee so that it may decide on the matter.

Article 41. In adopting any resolution providing for a project or activity that entails expenditure by the Organization, the General Assembly shall take into account financial estimates, which the General Secretariat shall prepare in advance, on the impact of such projects or activities on the budgetary calculations of the Organization, as well as prior statements by the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs of the Permanent Council or, as the case may be, by the General Committee of the General Assembly on such financial implications.

B. Special sessions

Article 42. For special sessions of the Assembly, the Preparatory Committee may, if necessary, change the procedures and time periods established in this chapter with respect to drafts and working documents.

## VIII. SESSIONS

A. Regular sessions

Schedule of sessions and opening dates

Article 43. The General Assembly shall hold a regular session each year, preferably during the second quarter.

At each of these sessions, the General Assembly shall determine the opening date of its next session, taking special account of the work of preparing and adjusting the program-budget of the Organization.

Article 44. At each regular session, the General Assembly shall determine the place of its next regular session, taking into account the offers made by the member states and in accordance with the principle of rotation.

Article 45. If for any reason the General Assembly session cannot be held at the place chosen, it shall be held at the headquarters of the General Secretariat, unless a member state should offer to host the session in its territory at least three months in advance of the date determined in accordance with Article 43 of these Rules of Procedure, in which case the Permanent Council may decide that the General Assembly shall meet at that place.

#### Transmittal of the notice of convocation

Article 46. The Secretary General shall transmit to the member states the notice of convocation of each regular session of the General Assembly at least 60 days prior to the opening date thereof.

#### B. Special sessions

Article 47. The General Assembly shall hold a special session when the Permanent Council convokes it in accordance with Article 58 of the Charter.

The Secretary General shall immediately transmit the corresponding notice of convocation to the governments.

### IX. SESSIONS AND MEETINGS

#### Types of sessions

Article 48. The General Assembly shall hold an inaugural session, the necessary plenary sessions, and a closing session. Nevertheless, in the case of a special session, the inaugural session may be eliminated.

#### Public and closed sessions

Article 49. The plenary sessions of the General Assembly and the meetings of the General Committee, the subcommittees, and the working groups shall be public, unless the respective body decides that they shall be closed.

Article 50. Only the delegations of the member states, necessary Secretariat personnel, and the permanent observers, in accordance with Article 8, may attend closed sessions or meetings.

### X. DEBATES AND PROCEDURE

#### Official Languages

Article 51. English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish shall be the official languages of the General Assembly.

#### Quorum

Article 52. A majority of the member states shall constitute a quorum at the plenary sessions. In the General Committee, its subcommittees, and its working groups, a quorum shall consist of one third of the delegations comprising those bodies. Nevertheless, in order for a vote to be taken, the presence of at least two thirds of such delegations at the session or meeting concerned shall be required.

Article 53. Proposals shall be presented in writing to the Secretariat and may not be discussed until 12 hours after they have been distributed to the delegations in all four official languages. Nevertheless, the General Assembly, by the vote of two thirds of the member states, may authorize discussion in the plenary sessions of a proposal that has not been distributed on time.

#### Amendments

Article 54. During the consideration of a proposal a motion may be made to amend it.

A motion shall be considered to be an amendment to a proposal only when it adds to or eliminates something from that proposal or changes part of it. A motion that would totally replace the original proposal or that is not directly related to it shall not be considered to be an amendment.

#### Withdrawal of proposals and amendments

Article 55. A proposal or an amendment may be withdrawn by its proponent before it has been put to a vote. Any delegation may present again a proposal or amendment that has been withdrawn.

Article 56. For the reconsideration of a decision taken by the plenary General Assembly, the General Committee, a subcommittee, or a working group, the approval of the corresponding motion by the vote of two thirds of the delegations that are members of the body in question shall be required.

#### Points of order

Article 57. During the discussion of a topic, any delegation may raise a point of order, which shall be decided upon immediately by the president or chair. Any delegation may appeal this decision, in which case the appeal shall be put to a vote.

While raising a point of order, a delegation may not go into the substance of the matter under discussion.

#### Suspension of debate

Article 58. The president or chair or any delegation may propose that debate be suspended. Only two delegations may speak in favor of, and two against, such a motion, which shall then be put to a vote immediately.

#### Closing of debate

Article 59. The president or chair or any delegation, when he or it considers that a topic has been discussed sufficiently, may propose that debate be closed. This motion may be opposed briefly by two delegations, after which it shall be declared approved if so voted by two thirds of the delegations present at the session or meeting.

#### Suspension or adjournment of the session or meeting

Article 60. During the discussion of any topic, the president or chair or any representative may propose that the session or meeting be suspended or adjourned. Such a motion shall be put to a vote immediately and without discussion.

Article 61. Decisions on the matters dealt with in Articles 57, 58, and 60 shall be taken by the vote of a majority of the delegations present.

#### Order of procedural motions

Article 62. Except as provided in Article 57, the following motions shall have precedence, in the order set forth below, over all other proposals or motions:

- a. Suspension of the session or meeting;
- b. Adjournment of the session or meeting;
- c. Suspension of debate on the topic under consideration;
- d. Close of debate on the topic under consideration.

#### Provisions common to all deliberative bodies of the General Assembly

Article 63. The provisions regarding debate and procedure contained in this chapter shall govern the plenary sessions and the meetings of the committees, subcommittees, and working groups.

### XI. VOTING

#### Right to vote

Article 64. Each delegation shall have the right to one vote.

#### Majority required

Article 65. In both the plenary sessions and the General Committee meetings, decisions shall be taken by the vote of a majority of the member states, except in those cases in which the Charter of the Organization or these Rules of Procedure may provide otherwise.

Article 66. In the subcommittees and working groups of the General Committee, decisions shall be taken by the vote of a majority of the delegations present, except in those cases in which these Rules of Procedure may provide otherwise.

Article 67. Votes shall be taken by a show of hands, but any representative may request a roll-call vote, which shall be taken beginning with the delegation whose name is drawn by lot by the president or chair and continuing in the order of precedence of the delegations.

Votes shall be taken by secret ballot only in the cases and in the manner provided for in these Rules of Procedure.

No representative may interrupt the voting, except for a point of order relating to the manner in which it is being conducted. This rule applies to the votes provided for in this article and in the following articles of this chapter.

#### Voting on proposals

Article 68. After discussion is closed, the proposals presented, together with any amendments thereto, shall be put to a vote immediately.

Proposals shall be voted upon in the order in which they are presented.

#### Voting on amendments

Article 69. An amendment shall be submitted for discussion and shall be put to a vote before the proposal that it is intended to modify is voted upon.

Article 70. When several amendments to a proposal are presented, the vote shall be taken first on the one that departs furthest from the original text. The other amendments shall be voted upon in like order. In case of doubt in this regard, they shall be considered in the order of their presentation.

Article 71. When the adoption of one amendment necessarily entails the exclusion of another, the latter shall not be put to a vote. If one or more of the amendments is adopted, the proposal as amended shall be put to a vote.

Article 72. When any delegation so requests, a proposal or amendment shall be voted upon by parts. If any delegation opposes such a request, the opposing motion shall be put to a vote, in which case the majority called for in Article 65 or Article 66, as applicable, shall be required for approval. If voting by parts is accepted, the proposal or amendment thus approved shall be put to a final vote in its entirety. When all the operative parts of a proposal or amendment have been rejected, such proposal or amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

#### Elections

Article 73. Elections shall be by secret ballot except when they are by acclamation.

Article 74. In cases where only one member state or one person is to be elected, if no candidate obtains the vote of a majority of the member states on the first ballot, a second and, if necessary, a third ballot shall be taken, limited to the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes. If after the third ballot no candidate has obtained the required majority, the election shall be suspended for the period of time determined by the Assembly or, if applicable, the committee concerned. When the election is resumed, two additional ballots shall be taken. If neither of the two candidates is elected the balloting procedure established



in this article shall be started again at the time indicated by the Assembly, with respect to the candidates who are presented.

Article 75. When two or more elective posts are to be filled at the same time and under the same conditions, the candidates obtaining the vote of a majority of the member states shall be declared elected. If the number of candidates obtaining such a majority is smaller than the number of persons or members to be elected, there shall be additional ballots to fill the remaining posts, the voting being limited to the candidates who have received the most votes on the previous ballot, in such a way that the number of candidates will not be more than twice the number of posts remaining to be filled.

#### Explanation of vote

Article 76. After voting has ended, and except when it has been by secret ballot, any representative may request the floor to give a brief explanation of his vote.

## XII. MINUTES AND OTHER DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### Verbatim and summary minutes

Article 77. The minutes of the plenary sessions shall be verbatim. The minutes of committee meetings shall be summary, unless the Preparatory Committee decides otherwise.

Article 78. The Secretariat shall distribute the provisional minutes to the delegations and, when applicable, to the permanent observers as promptly as possible. It shall do the same for the other observers in the case of public meetings at which these observers have spoken. The delegations, permanent observers, and other observers may present to the Secretariat any corrections in style that they deem necessary.

The corrected minutes shall be published as part of the official proceedings of the session.

#### Summary

Article 79. The Secretariat shall publish a brief summary of the sessions and meetings held on the preceding day. This publication shall also include:

- a. The list of documents distributed during the preceding 24 hours;
- b. The orders of business for the next sessions and meetings; and
- c. Brief announcements of interest to the delegations.

#### Resolutions, declarations, and recommendations

Article 80. The resolutions, declarations, and recommendations issued by the General Assembly shall be published in the official languages of the Organization and shall be distributed to the delegations, permanent observers, other observers, and special guests

immediately after they are approved. The General Assembly may entrust the Permanent Council with coordinating the texts of the resolutions after each session. The General Secretariat shall distribute the official versions of these resolutions to the governments.

#### Reservations and statements

Article 81. Any delegation that wishes to make a reservation or statement with respect to a treaty or convention, or a statement regarding a resolution of the General Assembly, shall communicate the text thereof to the Secretariat, so that the latter may distribute it to the delegations no later than at the plenary session at which the instrument in question is to be voted upon. Such reservations and statements shall appear along with the treaty or convention or, in the case of a resolution, in the corresponding minutes.

#### Official version of the proceedings

Article 82. The General Secretariat shall publish as soon as possible the official version of the proceedings of each Assembly session.

The General Secretariat shall adopt an appropriate system for numbering the resolutions of the General Assembly.

Article 83. The General Secretariat shall send certified copies of the treaties, conventions, and resolutions adopted by the Assembly to the governments of the member states. It shall also register the said treaties and conventions with the United Nations.

### XIII. ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS

Article 84. The General Assembly shall consider the recommendations made by the Permanent Council concerning the requests for admission presented by independent American states, in accordance with the provisions of Article 7 of the Charter.

By a vote of two thirds of the member states and following a report by the competent committee, the General Assembly shall determine whether it is appropriate to authorize the Secretary General to permit the applicant state to sign the Charter and for him to accept the deposit of the corresponding instrument of ratification.

### XIV. AMENDMENT OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Article 85. These Rules of Procedure may be amended by the General Assembly, acting either on its own initiative or on a proposal by the Preparatory Committee or the Permanent Council. For the adoption of a proposed amendment, the vote of a majority of the member states shall be required, except in the case of articles in which a two thirds majority has been established, for the amendment of which that same majority shall be required.

## APPENDIX I

### APPLICATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF ROTATION TO THE SELECTION OF THE PLACE FOR THE REGULAR SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The member states that may wish to make offers of a site shall communicate the offer in writing to the Secretary General of the Organization by the deadline established by the General Assembly for the presentation of proposals.
2. The General Assembly, in deciding upon the offers of a place, shall take into account:
  - a. The principle of equitable geographic distribution;
  - b. The previous sites of sessions of the General Assembly; and
  - c. The services and facilities that the states that have made offers may be able to provide for the session of the Assembly.
3. If there has been no offer, the next regular session shall be held at the headquarters of the General Secretariat. Nevertheless, should one of the member states make an offer of a site in its territory at least six months in advance of the date on which the session is to begin, the Permanent Council may decide, not more than six months or less than five months in advance of the date, that the Assembly shall meet at one of the places so offered, taking into account the provisions of the preceding paragraph.



APPENDIX II

PROCEDURE FOR ELECTING THE MEMBERS  
OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

1. The General Secretariat shall prepare and distribute a list containing the names of the candidates presented by the governments of the member states, following the alphabetical order of the names of the proposing states in Spanish.
2. Before proceeding to the voting, the president shall designate two representatives as tellers.
3. There shall be a ballot, which shall contain the list of candidates referred to in paragraph 1. Voters may not vote for more than one candidate. The voting shall be secret.
4. The tellers shall declare void any ballots that are signed, those marked for more than one candidate, and those on which the intent of the voter cannot be clearly ascertained.
5. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes shall be declared elected, provided the candidate receives the votes of an absolute majority of the member states.
6. If none of the candidates receives the required majority on the first ballot, as many additional ballots shall be taken as are needed to fill the vacant post. These ballots shall be confined to the candidates who received the most votes on the previous ballot.
7. When a member of the Tribunal must be elected to complete the term of a member who, for whatever reason, ceases to be a member before the normal expiration of his term, this procedure, insofar as applicable, shall be in accordance with the provisions of Articles 73, 74, and 75 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly.



APPENDIX III

PROCEDURE FOR ELECTING MEMBERS OF THE  
INTER-AMERICAN JURIDICAL COMMITTEE IN  
THE CASE OF THE NORMAL EXPIRATION  
OF THEIR TERMS OF OFFICE

1. The General Secretariat shall prepare and distribute a list containing the names of the candidates presented by the governments of the member states, following the alphabetical order of the names of the proposing states in Spanish.
2. Before proceeding to the voting, the president shall designate two representatives as tellers.
3. The delegations shall mark on the list of candidates the names of those persons they are voting for, but may not vote for more than three candidates.
4. The ballots shall be deposited in the ballot box, which the Secretariat shall circulate.
5. The tellers shall declare void any ballots that are signed, any in which the intent of the voter cannot be clearly ascertained, and any on which more than three candidates have been marked.
6. In accordance with Article 73 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, those candidates who have received the largest number of votes shall be declared elected, provided that they have obtained the votes of at least an absolute majority of the member states.
7. If the three members are not elected on the first ballot, as many additional ballots shall be taken as may be necessary in order to elect the remaining members. For these ballots the number of candidates shall not be more than twice the number of posts remaining to be filled and shall be restricted to the candidates who have obtained the largest number of votes on the immediately preceding ballot, without obtaining the required absolute majority. In the event that there is a tie among the candidates such that the number of candidates is more than twice the number of posts remaining to be filled, a vote shall first be taken to break the tie, for the sole purpose of reducing the number of candidates to no more than twice the number of posts remaining to be filled.
8. If two or more candidates have obtained the same number of votes, with the majority required for election, and their number is greater than the number of posts remaining to be filled, as many additional ballots as may be necessary shall be taken in order to settle the tie.
9. Since there cannot be more than one member of any one nationality on the Inter-American Juridical Committee, if two candidates of the same nationality should obtain the required majority and the same number of votes, a vote shall be taken to break the tie.





AG/RES. 1738 (XXX-O/00)

MODERNIZATION OF THE OAS AND RENEWAL  
OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on the modernization of the OAS and the renewal of the inter-American system (CP/doc.3331/00);

RECALLING that the Heads of State and Government of the member states, in the Declaration of Santiago adopted at the Second Summit of the Americas, issued a mandate to study ways to strengthen and modernize the institutions of the Hemisphere, particularly the Organization of American States;

CONSIDERING that, as a result of the dialogue on the renewal of the inter-American system that took place during the twenty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly, held in Caracas, Venezuela, the heads of delegation adopted resolution AG/RES. 1603 (XXVIII-O/98), in which they established the Special Joint Working Group of the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development on the Strengthening and Modernization of the OAS and instructed it to:

- a. "Identify[ing] the aspects with regard to which it is necessary to foster and intensify the process of strengthening and modernizing the OAS by defining strategies, procedures, and concrete actions with a view to promoting a comprehensive renewal of the inter-American system";
- b. Study "the organization and working methods of the councils and their subsidiary bodies, as well as the General Secretariat, with a view to streamlining their work so they may carry out more efficiently and effectively the mandates entrusted to them"; and
- c. Adopt "such organizational and structural measures as they consider suitable in pursuit of the aims set forth" in the preceding paragraph.

Comment [EJY115]:

Comment [EJY116]:

Comment [EJY117]: Op. para 4, in mandate to CEPCIDI.

BEARING IN MIND that, at its twenty-ninth regular session, the General Assembly adopted resolution AG/RES. 1685 (XXIX-O/99), "Modernization of the OAS and Renewal of the Inter-American System," in operative paragraph 2 of which it resolved "to renew the mandates contained in resolution AG/RES. 1603 (XXVIII-O/98) and to instruct the Permanent Council to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its thirtieth regular session, especially regarding the completion of consideration of already initiated items; rationalization of the work of the General Secretariat in order to fulfill the mandates entrusted to it more efficiently and effectively; and

Comment [KRL118]:

the definition of strategies, procedures, and concrete actions—including funding and coordination with other inter-American organizations—with a view to promoting integral renewal of the inter-American system";

Comment [KRL119]:

RECALLING that the Permanent Council, at its meeting of July 23, 1999, assigned to the Special Joint Working Group the topics "Personnel Policy Reform" [AG/RES. 1647 (XXIX-O/99)] and "The Financial and Budgetary Situation of the Organization" [AG/RES. 1692 (XXIX-O/99)];

Comment [KRL120]:

Comment [KRL121]:

BEARING IN MIND ALSO that the Special Joint Working Group considered the document "Coordination between the Organization of American States and Other Inter-American Agencies" (GETC-FORMOEA-153/00), prepared by the General Secretariat pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1685 (XXIX-O/99), on the basis of which it was deemed necessary to continue to strengthen existing mechanisms for coordination between the Organization and other inter-American agencies;

Comment [EJY122]:

CONSIDERING that the Special Joint Working Group has studied the document "Draft Public Affairs Strategy for the Organization of American States" (GETC/FORMOEA-122/99), the recommendations of which were forwarded to the General Secretariat;

Comment [KRL123]:

EMPHASIZING that the Special Joint Working Group has considered the question of possible changes to the career service and related aspects of personnel policy and recommended to the Permanent Council that the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution which instructs the Permanent Council to complete that study and take the necessary decisions;

BEARING IN MIND FURTHER that the Special Joint Working Group, having before it document GETC/FORMOEA-154/00, has been examining the financial situation of the Organization and considering the points of view expressed by member states both in the Working Group and in the debate on the Organization's priorities during the special meeting of the Permanent Council held on May 22, 2000, which are contained in the General Secretariat document and have been presented to the General Assembly at its thirtieth regular session for consideration by the heads of delegation;

RECOGNIZING that the Special Joint Working Group has examined the matters assigned to it and that its findings have contributed to important decisions made within the Organization on the following topics:

- a. Adoption of practices designed to improve the organization and working methods of the Permanent Council;
- b. Establishment of the Committee to Coordinate Cooperation Programs of the Inter-American System, in keeping with resolution AG/RES. 1666 (XXIX-O/99);
- c. Creation of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development as a subsidiary organ of CIDI, through resolution AG/RES. 3 (XXVI-E/99), adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session, in November 1999;
- d. The adoption of guidelines for civil society participation in OAS activities, through resolution CP/RES. 759 (1217/99), in keeping with resolution AG/RES. 1661 (XXIX-O/99), and the mandates to the General Secretariat to collaborate in

Comment [KRL124]:

Comment [KRL125]:

Comment [KRL126]:

strengthening cooperation between governments and civil society, in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 1668 (XXIX-O/99);

- e. Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, adopted by the Permanent Council *ad referendum* of the General Assembly, through resolution CP/RES. 760 (1217/99);
- f. Adoption by the Permanent Council of resolution CP/RES. 761 (1217/99), "Personnel Policy Reform," in which it approved, *ad referendum* of the General Assembly, amendments to the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat and to the Staff Rules;

BEARING IN MIND that the mandate contained in resolution AG/RES. 1603 (XXVIII-O/98) instructed the Permanent Council to study the organization and working methods of the General Secretariat with a view to streamlining its work so that it may carry out more efficiently and effectively the mandates entrusted to it; and that, among other matters, the Special Joint Working Group has considered the General Secretariat's "Proposal to Create a Secretariat for Political Affairs," contained in document GETC/FORMOEA-151/00 add. 1;

Comment [EJY127]:

BEARING IN MIND ALSO that, in view of the proposal mentioned above, several delegations requested further discussions on the overall structure of the General Secretariat, pointing to the need to standardize the naming of its various sections and to place them in a logical manner within the organizational structure of the OAS, as well as further details on the budgetary implications of the proposal; and

AWARE of the need to continue the process of modernizing the OAS and of renewing the inter-American system, especially regarding the funding and rationalization of the work performed by the General Secretariat,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Special Joint Working Group of the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) on the Strengthening and Modernization of the General Secretariat and to express appreciation for its presentation.
2. To thank the Special Joint Working Group for its work and to underscore the contribution of that work to the process of strengthening and modernizing the OAS.
3. To instruct the Permanent Council to attach priority to continuing the studies on the organization, working methods, and operations of the General Secretariat, and to consider in that context, *inter alia*, the documents of the General Secretariat titled "Proposal to Create a Secretariat for Political Affairs," (GETC/FORMOEA-151/00 corr. 1 and GETC/FORMOEA-151/00 add. 1), authorizing it to take the pertinent decisions in accordance with budgetary provisions and the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat.

4. To instruct the Permanent Council to continue its consideration of measures to strengthen and modernize the OAS, especially in matters relating to the funding of the Organization; and to present a report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session.

AG/RES. 1739 (XXX-O/00)

RESPONSE OF THE INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION  
TO THE MANDATE RECEIVED FROM THE SECOND SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000,)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) for 1999 (CP/doc.3269/00); and

CONSIDERING:

That, at the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, 1998), the Heads of State and Government entrusted CITEL and the governments of the OAS member states with mandates for strengthening telecommunications in the Hemisphere; and

That the mandates entrusted to CITEL by the Santiago Summit include: (1) the development and fostering, together with the private sector, of applications over electronic networks to support education, health, agriculture and sustainable rural development, electronic commerce, and other applications; (2) studies of standards coordination aspects of telecommunications infrastructure to satisfy the network's interconnection requirements and to support the implementation of new applications in the regional context; and (3) the development of consistent regulatory approaches among member countries for the promotion of greater commonality in the certification process for telecommunications equipment through the establishment of a framework for a mutual recognition agreement,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of and congratulate CITEL for its considerable progress in advancing the telecommunications mandates of the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, 1998), as described in the Annual Report of CITEL for 1999, and in particular for endorsing the Mutual Recognition Agreement for Conformity Assessment of Telecommunications Equipment for the Americas.

2. To encourage CITEL to continue to enhance its programs and activities for fulfilling the mandates of the Second Summit of the Americas.

3. To urge all OAS member states to participate in the CITEL program of activities in relation to those mandates.



AG/RES. 1740 (XXX-O/00)

INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION, PUNISHMENT,  
AND ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN,  
“CONVENTION OF BELÉM DO PARÁ”

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING that, at its twenty-fourth regular session, held in Belém do Pará, Brazil, the OAS General Assembly decided by acclamation, at its plenary session of June 9, 1994, to adopt the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women;

HAVING SEEN resolution AG/RES. 1456 (XXVII-O/97), “Promotion of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, ‘Convention of Belém do Pará,’” in which the OAS General Assembly encourages the member states to take appropriate measures to ensure that the principles and objectives of the Convention are incorporated into their legal systems, so as to eliminate any discrimination and inequality still existing in national laws;

CONSIDERING that resolution AG/RES. 1626 (XXIX-O/99), “First Biennial Report on Compliance with Resolution AG/RES. 1456 (XXVII-O/97), ‘Promotion of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, ‘Convention of Belém do Pará,’” encourages those states that have not already done so to ratify the Convention;

BEARING IN MIND resolution CIM/MINIS/doc.20. rev. 1, “Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, ‘Convention of Belém do Pará,’” adopted at the First Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States, held in Washington, D.C., on April 27 and 28, 2000;

EMPHASIZING that, to date, 29 countries have ratified the Convention of Belém do Pará, demonstrating their absolute rejection of and concern over all acts of violence against women;

RECOGNIZING that, although efforts are under way in the Hemisphere to put the aims of the Convention into practice, violence persists, and is of such a magnitude that the continued implementation of strategies to free women from this scourge is essential;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the recommendations contained in the Report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights on the Status of Women in the Americas, presented to the General Assembly for consideration at its twenty-eighth regular session;

**Comment [EJY128]:** Proper form for use as adverb, meaning "in progress." "Underway" is the adjectival form. Source: Webster's Third New International Dictionary,

CONSIDERING that in the plans of action of the First and Second Summits of the Americas our governments pledged to take action to eliminate all forms of violence against women; and

RECALLING the Convention of Belém do Pará, which affirms that “violence against women constitutes a violation of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, and impairs or nullifies the observance, enjoyment and exercise of such rights and freedoms,”

**Comment [EJY129]:** Quotation verified.

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the governments of those member states of the Organization of American States that have not already done so to ratify or accede to the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, “Convention of Belém do Pará.”
2. To recognize those governments of the Hemisphere that have taken measures to strengthen and adapt their law for the purpose of eradicating violence against women.
3. To encourage the member states to continue promoting measures to eradicate violence against women in all its forms, in the public and private arenas, in keeping with the objectives established in the Strategic Plan of Action of the Inter-American Commission of Women, in the plans of action of the First and Second Summits of the Americas, and in the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality.



AG/RES. 1741 (XXX-O/00)

INTEGRATING A GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN  
THE SUMMITS OF THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN resolution AG/RES. 1625 (XXIX-O/99), “Status of Women in the Americas and Strengthening and Modernization of the Inter-American Commission of Women,” which calls a meeting of ministers or of the highest-ranking authorities responsible for the advancement of women in the member states and requests the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), acting as coordinator for the aforementioned meeting, to prepare a draft agenda that will include approval of the Draft Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women’s Rights and Gender Equity and consideration of the commitments adopted by the Summit of the Americas;

Comment [EB130]:

HAVING SEEN ALSO resolution CIM/MINIS/doc.21/00 rev. 1, “Integrating a Gender Perspective in the Summits of the Americas,” adopted at the First Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States, held at the headquarters of the Organization of American States, in Washington, D.C., on April 27 and 28, 2000;

CONSIDERING that the countries of the Hemisphere have pledged to combat all forms of discrimination and to promote equal rights and opportunities for men and women, for which measures must be taken in the area of gender equity and equality;

RECALLING that in the Plan of Action of the Second Summit of the Americas our governments undertook to “implement and follow up on the commitments regarding the status of women as agreed to at the Summit of the Americas, with the support of the Inter-American Commission on Women (ICW), in collaboration with civil society, with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the World Bank, United Nations Economic Commission on Latin-America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and other entities of international cooperation”; and

Comment [EJY131]: Quotation verified.

CONSIDERING:

Resolutions AG/RES. 1534 (XXVIII-O/98) and AG/RES. 1659 (XXIX-O/99), “Support for and Follow-up to the Summits of the Americas Initiatives,” whereby the General Assembly instructs the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system to give priority to carrying out the initiatives assigned to them, in accordance with the mandates of the Summits of the Americas, and to provide regular progress reports on their implementation; and

That the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality is a political instrument of paramount importance, the objectives of which are, among others, to (1) achieve legal equality and equal opportunity for women and men and; (2) systematically integrate a gender perspective in all organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization of American States,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the member states in the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) to take concrete action to integrate a gender perspective as a cross-cutting theme in the Proposed Political Declaration and Plan of Action for the Third Summit of the Americas. The language proposed and negotiated by the SIRG for the Proposed Political Declaration and Plan of Action should ensure follow-up and accountability in the implementation of the gender aspects of the Proposed Plan of Action.

2. To request that, in addition to integrating a cross-cutting gender perspective into the Plan of Action for the Third Summit of the Americas, the SIRG consider including a specific section related to women's issues within the area of "democracy and human rights."

3. To recommend that the Meetings of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States be held every four years in order to contribute to the preparatory and follow-up activities of the Summits of the Americas, and that these meetings take into account the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality.

4. To encourage the governments to consider the recommendations of the Inter-American Commission of Women in the process of preparing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas; and to request the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) to prepare recommendations and provide technical support for this purpose.

5. To instruct the General Secretariat and the CIM to transmit this resolution to all the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system to ensure that they will take it into account in the preparation and implementation of their work plans and programs.

6. To instruct the OAS General Secretariat to allocate to the CIM the necessary resources for the implementation of these mandates, within the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources.

AG/RES. 1742 (XXX-O/00)

INTERNATIONAL ABDUCTION OF MINORS  
BY ONE OF THEIR PARENTS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution AG/RES. 1691 (XXIX-O/99), "International Abduction of Minors by One of Their Parents"; and

Comment [EJY132]:

Resolution CD/RES. 06 (74-R/99), "Strengthening Inter-American Cooperation to Avoid the International Abduction of Children by One of Their Parents," adopted at the 74th Regular Meeting of the Directing Council of the Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI), in September 1999; and

CONSIDERING:

That resolution AG/RES. 1667 (XXIX-O/99) recognized that it is absolutely essential that children's issues be given priority consideration in the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system and at the Third Summit of the Americas; and

That, through resolution CD/RES. 05 (74-R/99), adopted at the 74th Regular Meeting of the Directing Council of the IACI, it was decided to establish an Inter-American Preparatory Committee on Children's Issues for the 2001 Summit of the Americas, in which other inter-American agencies will be asked to participate, on the basis of their areas of expertise;

RECOGNIZING:

That respect for the rights of minors is vital to their integral development and well-being; and

That cooperation efforts in the Hemisphere aimed at preventing the international abduction of minors by one of their parents must be bolstered and improved; and

BEARING IN MIND:

That resolution AG/RES. 1691 (XXIX-O/99) requested the Inter-American Juridical Committee to issue an opinion, pursuant to resolution CD/RES. 10 (73-R/98) of the IACI Directing Council; and

That, in addressing the issue of the international abduction of minors by one of their parents, it is important to have the opinion of the Inter-American Juridical Committee,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system, when they discuss child-related issues, to include consideration of the international abduction of minors by one of their parents.
2. To instruct the Inter-American Preparatory Committee on Children's Issues for the 2001 Summit of the Americas to include in its work the issue of the international abduction of minors by one of their parents.
3. To reiterate its request to the Inter-American Juridical Committee for the opinion requested of it in resolution AG/RES. 1691 (XXIX-O/99).
4. To urge the member states that have not yet done so to sign, ratify, or accede to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, which is dated October 25, 1980.

AG/RES. 1743 (XXX-O/00)

# OAS DECLARATION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Permanent Council (AG/doc.3848/00) and, in particular, the section referring to the Report of the Chair of the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CP/CSH-307/00) as it relates to small arms and light weapons and to the holding of the special meeting of the Committee on March 7, 2000;

RECALLING its resolution AG/RES. 1642 (XXIX-O/99), "Proliferation of and Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons," through which it acknowledged "the need for a coordinated and comprehensive approach at the global, regional and national levels to combat the destabilizing accumulation and proliferation of small arms and light weapons in order to contribute to regional and international peace and security";

Comment [EJY133]:

Comment [EJY134]:

RECOGNIZING:

That the groundbreaking work of the Organization of American States (OAS) has already had a major impact on international efforts to eradicate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms;

That the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA) is the model used by the international community in developing appropriate instruments to combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, including small arms and light weapons; and

That the first regular meeting of the Consultative Committee of the CIFTA was held on March 9 and 10, 2000;

EMPHASIZING the importance of the signature and ratification of the CIFTA by those member states that have not yet done so;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that the OAS should promote measures aimed at the control and reduction of small arms and light weapons, with special emphasis on the issues of their excessive and destabilizing accumulation and of transfers thereof; and

BEARING IN MIND the global efforts under way under the auspices of the United Nations, in particular the Millennium Report of the United Nations Secretary-General; the "weapons for goods" program successfully implemented in Panama and El Salvador; and the convening, in 2001, of

the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Permanent Council, through its Committee on Hemispheric Security, to study the feasibility of developing a declaration on all aspects of the excessive and destabilizing accumulation and the transfer of small arms and light weapons, in the context of the work being carried out by the United Nations in relation to the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

2. To instruct the Permanent Council, should it see fit, to issue such a declaration through the Committee, for adoption by the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session.

3. To request the Secretary General to transmit this resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

4. To request the Permanent Council to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session.

AG/RES. 1744 (XXX-O/00)

# COOPERATION FOR SECURITY IN THE HEMISPHERE

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Permanent Council (AG/doc.3848/00) and, in particular, the section referring to the Report of the Chair of the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CP/CSH-307/00);

RECALLING its resolutions “Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions” [AG/RES. 1607 (XXIX-O/99)]; “Program of Education for Peace in the Hemisphere” [AG/RES. 1620 (XXIX-O/99)]; “Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials” [AG/RES. 1621 (XXIX-O/99)]; “Consolidation of the Regime Established in the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)” [AG/RES. 1622 (XXIX-O/99)]; “Confidence- and Security-Building in the Americas” [AG/RES. 1623 (XXIX-O/99)]; “Inter-American Support for the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction” [AG/RES. 1624 (XXIX-O/99)]; “Special Security Concerns of Small Island States” [AG/RES. 1640 (XXIX-O/99)]; “Support for the Mine-Clearing Program in Central America” [AG/RES. 1641 (XXIX-O/99)]; “Proliferation of and Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons” [AG/RES. 1642 (XXIX-O/99)]; “Work Program of the Committee on Hemispheric Security in Preparation for the Special Conference on Security” [AG/RES. 1643 (XXIX-O/99)]; “The Western Hemisphere as an Antipersonnel-Land-Mine-Free Zone” [AG/RES. 1644 (XXIX-O/99)]; and “Support for the Committee on Hemispheric Security” [AG/RES. 1645 (XXIX-O/99)];

REAFFIRMING that the programs, activities, and tasks set out in the above-mentioned resolutions are necessary for the furtherance of the essential purpose of the Organization enshrined in the Charter to strengthen peace and security in the Hemisphere, and that cooperation among member states is fundamental for the attainment of that goal;

RECALLING ALSO:

That the Heads of State and Government, meeting at the Second Summit of the Americas, instructed the Committee on Hemispheric Security to “follow up on and expand topics relating to confidence and security building measures”; “analyze the meaning, scope, and implications of international security concepts in the Hemisphere, with a view to developing the most appropriate common approaches by which to manage their various aspects, including disarmament and arms control” and to “pinpoint ways to revitalize and strengthen the institutions of the Inter-American System related to the various aspects of Hemispheric Security,” with a view to holding, once these

Comment [KRL135]:

tasks had been completed, a “Special Conference on Security, within the framework of the OAS, to be held, at the latest, at the beginning of the next decade”;

The importance of the Declaration of Santiago and Declaration of San Salvador on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures, which recommend that confidence- and security-building measures be applied in the manner deemed most appropriate; and

The relevance of the conclusions and recommendations of the High-Level Meeting on the Special Security Concerns of Small Island States, held in San Salvador in 1998; and

#### RECOGNIZING:

That member states have implemented the confidence- and security-building measures contained in the aforementioned Declaration of Santiago and Declaration of San Salvador; and

That the Permanent Council adopted, through its resolution CP/RES. 769 (1234/00), the Program of Education for Peace in the Hemisphere, in fulfillment of the above-mentioned resolution AG/RES. 1620 (XXIX-O/99),

#### RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states to continue contributing to the attainment of the objectives established in the aforementioned resolutions through the signature and/or ratification of, or **accession** to, as appropriate, inter-American and international conventions, the development and execution of activities, the submission of reports, the exchange and sharing of information, the adoption of measures and policies, and mutual cooperation, support, and assistance, as mentioned in those resolutions, specifically:

**Comment [KRL136]:**

- a. Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials [AG/RES. 1621 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraph 1;
- b. Confidence- and Security-Building in the Americas [AG/RES. 1623 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraphs 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8;
- c. Inter-American Support for the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling, and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction [AG/RES. 1624 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraph 3;
- d. Special Security Concerns of Small Island States [AG/RES. 1640 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraphs 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8;
- e. Support for the Mine-Clearing Program in Central America [AG/RES. 1641 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraph 3;
- f. Proliferation of and Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons, [AG/RES. 1642 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraphs 1 and 2;



- g. Work Program of the Committee on Hemispheric Security in Preparation for the Special Conference on Security [AG/RES. 1643 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraphs 3, 4, and 5; and
- h. The Western Hemisphere as an Antipersonnel-Land-Mine-Free Zone [AG/RES. 1644 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, and 13.

2. To reiterate its mandates to the Permanent Council and to the General Secretariat contained in the following resolutions:

- a. Confidence- and Security-Building in the Americas [AG/RES. 1623 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraphs 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 15;
- b. Special Security Concerns of Small Island States [AG/RES. 1640 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraphs 2, 5, 12, 13, and 15;
- c. Proliferation of and Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons [AG/RES. 1642 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraph 4.a;
- d. Work Program of the Committee on Hemispheric Security in Preparation for the Special Conference on Security [AG/RES. 1643 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraphs 6 and 7;
- e. The Western Hemisphere as an Antipersonnel-Land-Mine-Free Zone [AG/RES. 1644 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraphs 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, and 18; and
- f. Support for the Committee on Hemispheric Security [AG/RES. 1645 (XXIX-O/99)], operative paragraph 4.

3. To request the Permanent Council to hold, through the Committee on Hemispheric Security (the Committee), a special meeting with the participation of experts from member states to continue discussing the most appropriate common approaches by which to manage the various aspects of international security in the Hemisphere.

4. To reiterate the importance of collaboration among member states for the enhancement of the security of small island states and, to that end, to instruct the Permanent Council to convene in 2001, and to prepare through the Committee, the second high-level meeting on the special security concerns of small island states, taking into consideration the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee meeting of February 29, 2000.

5. To consider all aspects related to the proliferation of and illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons and, to that end:

- a. To instruct the Permanent Council to discuss, through the Committee, with the assistance of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission, the advisability of undertaking a study concerning small arms and light weapons brokering and transit; and
  - b. To instruct the Permanent Council to hold, through the Committee, an information meeting on the 2001 United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.
6. To encourage member states to develop programs of education for peace consistent with their needs, on the basis of the Program approved by the Permanent Council, and to urge them to support the United Nations Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace and the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World.
7. To encourage member states that are Parties to the Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production, and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction to provide to the Secretary General as part of their annual submissions to the OAS Register of Antipersonnel Land Mines, a copy of their Article 7 reports.
8. To instruct the General Secretariat to:
  - a. Continue to provide the Committee with the administrative and technical support necessary for it to fulfill the various mandates assigned to it;
  - b. Coordinate with the Inter-American Defense Board in the preparation of a complete and updated inventory of confidence- and security-building measures based on reports presented by member states pursuant to the aforementioned resolution AG/RES. 1623 (XXIX-O/99); and
  - c. Continue its work via a cooperative communication network to exchange information on confidence- and security-building measures.
9. To instruct the Permanent Council to see to it that the Committee continues to participate in, conduct consultations, and exchange experiences and information with the Conferences of Ministers of Defense of the Americas, as well as with other regional and international forums as mentioned in resolution AG/RES. 1623 (XXIX-O/99), including the United Nations and its pertinent agencies, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Association of South East-Asian Nations Regional Forum, and the Organization for African Unity.
10. To request the Permanent Council to hold, through the Committee, the next round of OAS-OSCE exchange of experiences at OSCE headquarters.
11. To instruct the General Secretariat to carry out the activities mentioned in this resolution within the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources.
12. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

Comment [KRL137]:

Comment [KRL138]:

Comment [KRL139]:

Comment [KRL140]:

13. To instruct the General Secretariat to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.



AG/RES. 1745 (XXX-O/00)

SUPPORT FOR ACTION AGAINST MINES IN PERU AND ECUADOR

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Permanent Council (AG/doc.3848/00), in particular the section referring to the Report of the Chair of the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CP/CSH-307/00);

RECALLING:

Its resolutions AG/RES. 1411 (XXVI-O/96), AG/RES. 1496 (XXVII-O/97), and AG/RES. 1569 (XXVIII-O/98); and

Its resolution AG/RES. 1644 (XXIX-O/99), operative paragraph 12 of which urges the OAS member states and permanent observers to provide assistance for the national mine-clearing programs being carried out by Ecuador and Peru in their territories; and

RECOGNIZING:

The mine-clearing operations being carried out by the Governments of Peru and Ecuador in their respective areas of their shared border and the support offered by Canada, the United States, and others for the mine-clearing programs they will conduct in a number of areas within their territories during 2000;

That a Specific Fund to Support Mine-Clearing in Peru and Ecuador has been established within the framework of the OAS, under the auspices of Canada, and administered by the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, and that the member states and permanent observers are urged to provide support, through that fund, to the two countries for the execution of their national programs for integral action against antipersonnel mines; and

That both Ecuador and Peru, separately but with the same objective, are negotiating framework cooperation agreements under which the OAS would conduct comprehensive assistance programs for combating antipersonnel mines in the territories of the two countries,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the General Secretariat to pursue negotiations with the Governments of Ecuador and Peru with a view to the earliest possible conclusion of the framework agreements for the initiation of assistance programs for integral action against antipersonnel mines in Ecuador and Peru.

2. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue, through the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, to provide assistance and obtain contributions from countries and organizations to the specific fund for the mine-clearing programs and programs for integral action against antipersonnel mines carried out by Peru and Ecuador in their respective territories, for the common purpose of making the Western Hemisphere an antipersonnel-land-mine-free zone.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1746 (XXX-O/00)

SCALE OF QUOTA ASSESSMENTS FOR THE REGULAR FUND

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs of the Permanent Council on the study on the scale of quota assessments by which member states contribute to financing the Regular Fund (CP/doc.3335/00), mandated in resolution AG/RES. 1594 (XXVIII-O/98), and reiterated in resolutions AG/RES. 2 (XXV-E/98) and AG/RES. 1697 (XXIX-O/99);

CONSIDERING the intent of the member states, expressed in resolution AG/RES. 1594 (XXVIII-O/98), to have the following factors be taken into account when determining the scale of quota assessments: "the ability of the respective countries to pay and their determination to contribute in an equitable manner to the maintenance of the Organization, as stated in Article 55 of the Charter; all relevant resolutions to date; the need to maintain the maximum quota at a level of no more than 59.47%; the need to establish a minimum quota; and the experiences of other international organizations, including the United Nations";

Comment [MG141]:

RECOGNIZING that, since 1981, OAS quotas have ceased to be determined on the basis of objective criteria and, for most of this time, have been frozen, and that this has introduced distortions, and that, therefore, the current scale does not adequately reflect the member states' ability to pay;

CONSIDERING that the report of the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs recognizes the need to return to a system that would, in the future, allow for a gradual annual adjustment of the scale of quota assessments that reflects the member states' ability to pay;

CONSIDERING the need to use the most recent scale of assessments of the United Nations as the basis for establishing the OAS quotas; and

BEARING IN MIND that the United Nations must approve, at the end of this year, a new scale of assessments for 2001-2003,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Permanent Council on the study on the scale of quota assessments by which member states contribute to financing the Regular Fund (CP/doc.3335/00).
2. To adopt at its thirty-first regular session a scale of quota assessments which is fair and equitable and which adequately reflects the member states' ability to pay.
3. To establish that the OAS scale of quota assessments for 2002-2004 shall be:

- a. Determined by using as a basis the scale approved by the United Nations for 2001-2003;
- b. Adjusted in accordance with the discussions in the Permanent Council and the views expressed by the heads of delegation in the dialogue on this issue; and
- c. Set by using a minimum and a maximum level of individual quotas, to be agreed upon by the Permanent Council prior to December 1, 2000.

4. To instruct the General Secretariat to present to the Permanent Council, within 60 days following United Nations approval of its new scale of assessments for 2001-2003, a proposal for the establishment of OAS quotas for 2002-2004.

5. To instruct the Permanent Council to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session a proposal for the OAS scale of quota assessments for 2002-2004.



AG/RES. 1747 (XXX-O/00)

INTER-AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR  
THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Report of the Permanent Council (AG/doc.3848/00), in particular the section referring to the Report of the Chair of the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CP/CSH-307/00);

RECOGNIZING that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones is an effective and concrete mechanism which contributes to the maintenance of international peace and security;

BEARING IN MIND that, to date, the Treaty of Tlatelolco has been ratified by the majority of OAS member states;

MINDFUL that the General Assembly, in resolution AG/RES. 1622 (XXIX-O/99), operative paragraph 5, reaffirms its commitment to continue striving for a nonproliferation regime that is universal, genuine, and nondiscriminatory in every aspect;

Comment [KL142]:

REAFFIRMING:

The need for universal adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), negotiated within the United Nations framework; and

Comment [KL143]:

Comment [KL144]:

The importance of the CTBT for ensuring the maintenance of international peace and security;

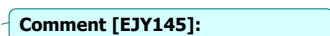
NOTING that, to date, the CTBT has been signed by 26 member states of the OAS and ratified by nine of them; and, in particular, that five of the eight states in the region whose ratification is required for the treaty to enter into force have already ratified it; and

WELCOMING ESPECIALLY the ratification of the CTBT by the Russian Federation, which thereby joins France and the United Kingdom as permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and permanent observers to the Organization of American States that have ratified the Treaty,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the states of the region that have not yet done so, in particular the states included in Appendix 2 to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), to sign and/or ratify the CTBT, as appropriate, so that it may enter into force as soon as possible.

2. To request the Secretary General to transmit this resolution to the United Nations Secretary-General and to the Executive Secretary of the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the CTBT Organization.

 Comment [EJY145]:

AG/RES. 1748 (XXX-O/00)

CONSOLIDATION OF THE REGIME ESTABLISHED IN THE TREATY FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND  
THE CARIBBEAN (TREATY OF TLATELOLCO)

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING its previous resolutions on this topic, especially resolutions AG/RES. 1499 (XXVII-O/97), AG/RES. 1571 (XXVIII-O/98), and AG/RES. 1622 (XXIX-O/99);

CONVINCED that the creation of nuclear-weapon-free zones is an important step that significantly strengthens all aspects of the international nonproliferation regime, thus contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security;

CONVINCED ALSO that, as stated in the preamble to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, militarily denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves, but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage;

RECOGNIZING that the Treaty of Tlatelolco has become the model for the establishment of other nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world, such as the South Pacific (Treaty of Rarotonga), Southeast Asia (Treaty of Bangkok), and Africa (Treaty of Pelindaba), which, when they enter into force, will cover more than half the countries of the world and all territories in the Southern Hemisphere;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION that on November 8, 1999, Nicaragua deposited its instrument of ratification of the amendment to the Treaty approved by resolution 290 (E-VII) of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL); and

BEARING IN MIND that the Treaty of Tlatelolco is now in force for 32 sovereign states of the region,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the states of the region that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification of the Treaty of Tlatelolco as well as of the amendments to the Treaty approved by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) in resolutions 267 (E-V), 268 (XII), and 290 (E-VII).

2. To reaffirm the importance of strengthening OPANAL as the appropriate legal and political forum for ensuring unqualified observance of the Treaty in its zone of application and cooperation with the agencies of other nuclear-weapon-free zones.

3. To renew its appeal to those states that have not yet done so to negotiate, as soon as possible, multilateral or bilateral agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency for application of that Agency's safeguards to their nuclear activities, as stipulated in Article 13 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

4. To reaffirm its commitment to continue striving for a nonproliferation regime that is universal, genuine, and nondiscriminatory in every aspect.

5. To request the Secretary General to transmit this resolution to the Secretary General of OPANAL and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

AG/RES. 1749 (XXX-O/00)

INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON TRANSPARENCY IN  
CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS ACQUISITIONS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Permanent Council (AG/doc.3848/00) and, in particular, the section referring to the Report of the Chair of the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CP/CSH-307/00);

RECALLING:

The adoption and opening for signature, through resolution AG/RES. 1607 (XXIX-O/99), of the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions, in Guatemala City, Guatemala, on June 7, 1999; and

That the Heads of State and Government, at the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, 1998) pledged to continue promoting transparency in matters related to defense policy, among other aspects, with regard to modernizing the armed forces, comparing military expenditures in the region, and strengthening the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;

RECOGNIZING that strengthening peace and security in the Hemisphere is an essential purpose of the Organization of American States and that economic and social development and cooperation among its member states are fundamental to its achievement;

EMPHASIZING that the application of confidence- and security-building measures helps to establish a climate conducive to an effective limitation of conventional weapons that makes it possible to devote the largest amount of resources to the economic and social development of member states, one of the essential purposes set forth in the OAS Charter;

REAFFIRMING the Declaration of Santiago and Declaration of San Salvador on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures, which recommended the application, in the manner that is most suitable, of confidence- and security-building measures; and that it is necessary and timely to continue to increase dialogue to build peace, confidence, and security in the region;

RECALLING ALSO its resolution AG/RES. 1179 (XXII-O/92), in which member states agreed to “accept as a guiding principle of regional disarmament, arms control and limitation policies, the requirement to enhance security and stability at the lowest possible levels of forces consistent with defense requirements and international commitments”; “express the commitment of the organization to effectively contribute to the efforts being made at the international level towards the strengthening of peace and security”; “maintain only such military capabilities as are necessary for self-defense and

fulfillment of international commitments, consistent with their Constitutions, laws and the principles and purposes of the OAS and UN Charters”; and “exercise restraint in conventional arms transfers with a view to preventing excessive or destabilizing arms build-ups”;

CONVINCED that endeavors by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of states and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION that the Government of Canada deposited its instrument of ratification and that 19 OAS member states have signed the Convention;

RECALLING FURTHER its appeal, in the Convention and in resolution AG/RES. 1500 (XXVII-O/97), to the international community to contribute to regional transparency and confidence in the Americas; and

BEARING IN MIND that increased openness and transparency in the conventional weapons field contributes to building mutual confidence, reducing tensions, and strengthening regional and international peace and security, and may help to decrease the acquisition, production, and transfer of conventional weapons,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm its commitment to the principles of the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions.
2. To urge all states that have not already done so to sign and/or ratify the Convention.
3. To request the Secretary General to present a report to the Permanent Council, prior to the thirty-first regular session of the General Assembly, on the status of signatures and ratifications of the Convention.
4. To request the Secretary General to transmit this resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

AG/RES. 1750 (XXX-O/00)

INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF  
AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES,  
AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING its resolution AG/RES. 1 (XXIV-E/97), in which it resolved to adopt and open for signature the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials;

RECALLING ALSO its resolution AG/RES. 1621 (XXIX-O/99);

WELCOMING the signature of the Convention by a majority of the member states of the Organization of American States and its entry into force on July 1, 1998;

STRESSING the urgent need for all states to take the appropriate measures and to cooperate with one another to prevent, combat, and eradicate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials, because of the harmful effects of these activities on the security of each state and the region as a whole, since they jeopardize the well-being of peoples, their social and economic development, and their right to live in peace;

UNDERSCORING:

The significance of the fact that the Convention has been taken as a model for negotiation of a protocol to combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components, and ammunition in the context of the negotiation of a convention against organized transnational crime under the auspices of the United Nations; and

The importance of the Convention's earliest possible entry into force in each of the member states of the Organization of American States; and taking note, in this context, of the report of the Secretary General (CP/doc.3296/00), presented in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 1621 (XXIX-O/99); and

EXPRESSING ITS SATISFACTION at the deposit, on November 9, 1999, of the 10th instrument of ratification, which, under Article XXI of the Convention, enabled the Consultative Committee to be installed and to hold its first regular meeting, at OAS headquarters, on March 9 and 10, 2000,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge all member states that have not already done so to sign and ratify the Convention, as appropriate.
2. To note with satisfaction the work program (CIFTA/CC/doc.2/00 rev. 1) adopted by the Consultative Committee at its first regular meeting, and to express its support for the work of the Secretary *pro tempore*.
3. To request the General Secretariat to continue to provide, within the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources, the administrative and secretariat support required by the Consultative Committee for the performance of its functions and to take the necessary steps to that end, in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 1645 (XXIX-O/99) and the agreement reached in that regard among the members of the Consultative Committee.
4. Further, to request the Secretary General to present a report to the General Assembly, at its thirty-first regular session, on the status of signatures and ratifications of the Convention.



AG/RES. 1751 (XXX-O/00)

SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRAM OF INTEGRAL ACTION  
AGAINST ANTIPERSONNEL MINES IN CENTRAL AMERICA

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Permanent Council (AG/doc.3848/00) and, in particular, the section referring to the Report of the Chair of the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CP/CSH-307/00) and to the report of the General Secretariat on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1641 (XXIX-O/99), “Support for the Mine-Clearing Program in Central America”;

Comment [KRL146]:

BEARING IN MIND the aforementioned resolution, AG/RES. 1641 (XXIX-O/99), as well as resolution AG/RES. 1240 (XXIII-O/93), “Inter-American Defense Board”;

REAFFIRMING its profound concern over the presence in Central America of thousands of antipersonnel land mines and other undetonated explosive devices that continue to constitute a threat to the population and that have horrendous effects, primarily on the civilian population—especially children—causing tragedy to individuals and families, standing in the way of socioeconomic development in vast and rich rural areas, and affecting border integration in those areas; and

CONSIDERING:

The efforts being made by the Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua to complete mine-clearing activities and the destruction of stockpiles of mines, as well as programs aimed at the physical and psychological rehabilitation of victims and their families and the socioeconomic reclamation of demined areas;

The valuable contribution made to the Mine-Clearing Program in Central America (PADCA) by OAS member states—Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Peru, United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela; permanent observers—France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom; and other donor countries, including Denmark and Norway; and

The important coordination, promotion, and fundraising activities carried out by the General Secretariat, through the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, for PADCA and for programs aimed at the physical and psychological rehabilitation of victims and their families and the socioeconomic reclamation of demined areas; as well as the technical advisory services being provided to PADCA by the Inter-American Defense Board; and

The valuable support of the Committee on Hemispheric Security,

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate its gratitude to member states, permanent observers, and the international community in general for their contributions to the Mine-Clearing Program in Central America (PADCA) and the other programs for Integral Action against Antipersonnel Mines (AICMA) in Central America.

2. To reiterate its call to member states, donors, and cooperation agencies to respond favorably to the OAS Secretary General's appeal for additional support in order to redouble efforts, in the wake of the devastation caused by Hurricane Mitch, to complete the mine-clearing programs in Central America as soon as possible.

3. To note with satisfaction the progress made by the Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua in destroying the antipersonnel mines stockpiled in their respective countries.

4. To recognize the support given by PADCA in the clearing and certification of important road and communications infrastructure in Honduras and Nicaragua respectively following the devastation caused by Hurricane Mitch.

5. To recognize the progress made by the General Secretariat, through the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD), in raising external resources to purchase and repair air and ground transport equipment for PADCA, which are indispensable for the proper functioning of the mine-clearing programs and the evacuation of victims in cases of accidents, and to urge it to continue its efforts to purchase the equipment still needed.

6. To foster cooperation and coordination activities carried out by the General Secretariat, through the UPD, with:

- a. The Central American Bank for Economic Integration, through the cooperation agreement concluded by the two institutions, designed to initiate and/or strengthen programs aimed at mine awareness education of the civilian population regarding the danger of antipersonnel mines and the socioeconomic reclamation of demined areas of Central America;
- b. The Trust for the Americas, so as to join forces with the business, academic, and charitable sectors and nonprofit organizations of the Hemisphere to promote programs to train and reintegrate into society victims and communities affected by antipersonnel mines in Central America;
- c. The United Nations, to implement an information system on integral action against antipersonnel mines in Central America;
- d. The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), to combine efforts in providing care to antipersonnel mine victims and reintegrating them into society in the framework of the activities of the joint Mexico-Canada-PAHO cooperation programs;

Comment [KRL147]:

- e. The Center for International Rehabilitation, in the framework of the cooperation agreement concluded by the two institutions to devise and implement a plan of action to develop and disseminate technology and educational materials for victims of mines and other explosive devices.

Comment [KRL148]:

7. To request the Inter-American Defense Board to continue to provide technical assistance to PADCA.

8. To promote measures aimed at strengthening existing technical capacity in affected Central American countries in order to complete, without delay, the marking of areas where it is known or suspected that antipersonnel land mines are located.

9. To underscore the valuable contributions of the intersessional meetings of the Standing Committee of Experts established by member states of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, during the First Meeting of States Parties, in Maputo in May 1999.

10. To urge the General Secretariat to continue to provide to the Central American countries, within the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources, the support necessary to continue the mine-clearing programs, as well as those aimed at mine awareness education, rehabilitation of victims and their families, and the socioeconomic reclamation of demined areas.

11. To reiterate its request to the Inter-American Council for Integral Development to facilitate, as part of its cooperation program and in keeping with the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001, the development of programs of socioeconomic and educational support to communities in Central America where antipersonnel mine-clearing has been completed.

12. To reiterate its request to the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system that they collaborate with these programs.

13. To request the Secretary General to transmit this resolution to the United Nations Secretary-General, and to other international organizations as he deems appropriate.

14. To request the General Secretariat to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.



AG/RES. 1752 (XXX-O/00)

SUPPORT FOR AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE SUMMITS  
OF THE AMERICAS PROCESS

(Resolution adopted at the first plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Special Committee on Inter-American Summits Management to the foreign ministers (CP/doc.3337/00 rev. 1), presented pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1659 (XXIX-O/99);

RECALLING the First Summit of the Americas (Miami, 1994); the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development (Santa Cruz de la Sierra, 1996); the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, 1998); and resolution AG/RES. 1659 (XXIX-O/99), "Support for and Follow-up to the Summits of the Americas Initiatives";

Comment [KRL149]:

CONSIDERING:

That, in resolution AG/RES. 1349 (XXV-O/95), the General Assembly established a Special Committee of the Permanent Council on Inter-American Summits Management, open to all member states, to ensure effective, timely, and appropriate follow-up to the activities assigned to the Organization by the Summit of the Americas and to coordinate, if so decided, OAS preparation, participation, and follow-up with regard to future Summits that will involve all member states and in which the OAS may be called upon to participate;

Comment [KRL150]:

That, in resolutions AG/RES. 1659 (XXIX-O/99), AG/RES. 1534 (XXVIII-O/98), AG/RES. 1448 (XXVII-O/97), and AG/RES. 1377 (XXVI-O/96), the General Assembly reaffirmed the mandate assigned to the Special Committee and instructed the Permanent Council to submit a written progress report on the implementation of those resolutions to the ministers of foreign affairs at the next regular session of the General Assembly;

Comment [KRL151]:

Comment [KRL152]:

That the Second Summit of the Americas was held in Santiago, Chile, on April 18 and 19, 1998, and that the Heads of State and Government of the Hemisphere signed the Declaration of Santiago and the Plan of Action;

That the Santiago Plan of Action establishes that "the Governments will bear primary responsibility for implementation of the mandates of the Summit," and that "in accordance with Summit decisions, international organizations will have responsibilities in implementing this process and, as appropriate, according to Summit mandates, support will be provided by private sector organizations and civil society";

Comment [KRL153]:

Comment [KRL154]:

That, also in the Santiago Plan of Action, the Heads of State and Government assigned various mandates to the OAS and instructed the OAS General Secretariat to act as a record-keeping mechanism (the institutional memory of the process) and provide technical support to the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG);

Comment [KRL155]:

That the Third Summit of the Americas will be held in Quebec City, Canada, from April 20 to 22, 2001, and that, during this thirtieth regular session of the General Assembly, the ministers of foreign affairs of the member states have engaged in a dialogue; and

RECOGNIZING the importance of coordinated, timely, and effective follow-up to the Plan of Action of the Santiago Summit, and of timely, effective support in the preparatory work for the Third Summit of the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To thank the Permanent Council for the report of its Special Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and to express its satisfaction with the important work of said Special Committee in implementing resolution AG/RES. 1349 (XXV-O/95) and other resolutions on the topic.

2. To thank also the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system for the special support they provide in implementing the initiatives of the Plan of Action of the First Summit of the Americas, held in Miami; of the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development, held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra; and of the Second Summit of the Americas, held in Santiago; and to urge them to continue to implement the Plan of Action of Miami, the Plan of Action of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, and the Plan of Action of Santiago, in accordance with the mandates of the Second Summit of the Americas.

3. To reaffirm the mandate assigned to the Permanent Council to coordinate, through its Special Committee on Inter-American Summits Management, the activities assigned to the OAS by the First Summit of the Americas, held in Miami; and by the Second Summit of the Americas, held in Santiago; and, in coordination with the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development and the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development, held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra.

4. To instruct the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization to:
- a. Continue to give top priority to carrying out the initiatives assigned to them by the General Assembly, pursuant to the mandates of the Summits of the Americas;
  - b. Provide regular progress reports to the Special Committee on Inter-American Summits Management on the implementation thereof; and
  - c. Support the member states that so request in considering and preparing the topics for the Third Summit of the Americas.

5. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue, through its Office of Summit Follow-up, to preserve the institutional memory of the Summits process, in particular by compiling and disseminating information on Summit initiatives through the Summit of the Americas Information Network and, where possible, to expand these efforts.

6. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue, through its Office of Summit Follow-up, to provide technical support and Summit-related information to the Special Committee on Inter-American Summits Management, to the Summit Implementation Review Group, and, as appropriate, to ministerial meetings and processes of the Hemisphere, as the mandates of the Second Summit continue to be implemented and as the member states make the necessary preparations for the Third Summit of the Americas.

7. To direct that the mandates in this resolution be executed in accordance with the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources.

8. To instruct the Permanent Council to submit a written progress report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.





AG/RES. 1753 (XXX-O/00)

MISSION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
AND THE OAS SECRETARY GENERAL TO PERU

(Resolution adopted at the second plenary session,  
held on June 5, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND:

That the Preamble of the Charter of the OAS establishes that representative democracy is an indispensable condition for the stability, peace, and development of the region;

That, under the provisions of the Charter, one of the basic purposes of the OAS is to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention; and

The Commitment of Santiago on Democracy and the Renewal of the Inter-American System (1991), the Declaration of Managua (1993), and the declarations and plans of action of the Summits of the Americas (Miami, 1994, and Santiago, 1998);

REAFFIRMING recognition of and support for OAS electoral observation missions;

NOTING the conclusions presented in the report of the Electoral Observation Mission to the Peru National Elections for the two electoral rounds held on April 9 and May 28, 2000, and the presentation made by the Government of Peru;

CONCERNED that the credibility of both the process and the outcome of those elections has been undermined by persisting reports of irregularities that have not been satisfactorily addressed, including immediate electoral process concerns and existing institutional deficiencies;

RECOGNIZING that both Peru and the Electoral Observation Mission's report have called attention to the urgent need further to strengthen democratic institutions in that country, in particular the judicial branch, the Public Ministry, the Constitutional Tribunal, and the National Council of Magistrates, together with reforming the electoral process and strengthening freedom of the press; and

RECOGNIZING FURTHER the invitation of Peru to send a mission for the purpose of strengthening democratic institutions,

RESOLVES:

1. To send to Peru, immediately, a mission comprising the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary General of the OAS with the purpose of exploring, with the Government of Peru and other sectors of the political community, options and recommendations aimed at further

strengthening democracy in that country, in particular measures to reform the electoral process, including reform of judicial and constitutional tribunals, as well as strengthening freedom of the press.

2. To agree that the mission report to OAS foreign ministers, in a manner to be determined by the mission, in order to allow for full consideration of its findings and recommendations and to initiate follow-up as appropriate.

AG/RES. 1754 (XXX-O/00)

PROGRAM-BUDGET OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR 2001

(Resolution adopted at the fourth plenary session,  
held on June 6, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Report of the Preparatory Committee on the Proposed Program-Budget of the Organization for 2001 (AG/doc.3919/00), and

CONSIDERING:

That, under Articles 54 and 55 of the Charter, the General Assembly is responsible for approving the Organization's program-budget and for "fixing the quota that each Government is to contribute to the maintenance of the Organization";

Comment [EB156]:

That, in resolution AG/RES. 1697 (XXIX-O/99), operative section III.B.3.a, the General Assembly instructed the Secretary General to submit a proposed program-budget for the Regular Fund no higher than US\$80,000,000; however, it also suggested in that resolution that the amount of the budget proposal may be less if estimated revenues from quotas and miscellaneous income are below that amount;

That, on the basis of the General Secretariat's best estimates of revenue for 2001 from quotas and miscellaneous income (including rental income from the General Secretariat Building and contributions for technical supervision and administrative support from FEMCIDI and the Specific Funds), the Subcommittee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters of the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly has recommended that the Regular Fund budget not exceed US\$76,000,000; and

That the 2001 proposed program-budget presented by the Secretary General to the Preparatory Committee in March 2000 requires reformulation, taking into account the discussion on priorities which took place at the special meeting of the Permanent Council of May 22, 2000, and the dialogue on the financial situation of the Organization held during the thirtieth regular session of the General Assembly,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Secretary General to reformulate the 2001 proposed program-budget and present it to the Preparatory Committee no later than August 15, 2000, taking into account the following:

- a. The need to produce a Regular Fund program-budget that does not exceed \$76,000,000;

- b. The discussion on the priorities identified by member states, which took place at the special meeting of the Permanent Council of May 22, 2000;
- c. The dialogue on the financial situation of the Organization which took place at the thirtieth regular session of the General Assembly, in Windsor, Canada;
- d. The resolutions and decisions with budgetary implications adopted by the General Assembly at its thirtieth regular session, in Windsor, Canada; and
- e. The comments and recommendations of the Board of External Auditors for the year ending December 31, 1999.

2. To instruct the Permanent Council to convene no later than October 15, 2000, a special session of the General Assembly to consider and approve the 2001 program-budget, the 2001 quotas, and other matters related to the program-budget and basis of financing of the Organization.

AG/RES. 1755 (XXX-O/00)

OAS NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION AND RESPONSE MECHANISM

(Resolution adopted at the fourth plenary session,  
held on June 6, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Report of the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR) on the implementation of AG/RES. 1682 (XXIX-O/99);

RECALLING:

Resolution AG/RES. 1682 (XXIX-O/99), "OAS Natural Disaster Reduction and Response Mechanisms," which called for the establishment of the IACNDR in order "to strengthen the planning and disaster management activities of the OAS so as to respond more effectively to the increasingly frequent natural disasters in the Hemisphere"; and

The Plan of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Americas, which takes into account the need to prepare states to address the destructive consequences of natural disasters for the countries of the Hemisphere;

NOTING:

The harmful effects of Hurricanes Jose and Lenny on the vulnerable countries of the Caribbean during the 1999 hurricane season and the predictions for 12 hurricanes during the 2000 season, which commenced on June 1, 2000; and

The loss of life, the destruction of property and valuable infrastructure, the disruption in economic activity, and the resulting impoverishment of entire subregions as a consequence of natural disasters;

TAKING NOTE of the work undertaken by the Association of Caribbean States, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), and various regional agencies in the Hemisphere, including the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency, the Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America, and the White Helmets Initiative; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the important work undertaken by the Secretary General, the Assistant Secretary General, the President of the Inter-American Development Bank, the Director of the Pan American Health Organization, the Secretary General of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, the Director General of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, the Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, and other national, regional, and international institutions which have provided support and assistance to the IACNDR

and the countries afflicted by natural disasters, including the White Helmets Initiatives and the Pan American Development Foundation,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Secretary General, as Chair of the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR), to continue to support the activities of the IACNDR, especially through its three working groups, with the aim of securing the necessary financial resources, ensuring greater preparedness, and reducing vulnerability to the extent possible within the countries of the Hemisphere.

2. To keep the Permanent Council informed of the ongoing work of the IACNDR.

3. To request the Secretary General to present to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session a report on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1756 (XXX-O/00)

**FUND FOR PEACE: PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF TERRITORIAL DISPUTES**

**Comment [C157]:**

(Resolution adopted at the fourth plenary session,  
held on June 6, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONVINCED of how important peace and security are to the progress and well-being of peoples;

**Comment [KFC158]:**

RECALLING that the Charter of the Organization of American States establishes among its principles that controversies of an international character arising between two or more American States shall be settled by peaceful procedures, under international law and the treaties in force;

**Comment [KFC159]:** Charter

CONSIDERING that territorial disputes and disputes of any other nature should not affect the advancement and expansion of regional integration processes;

**Comment [KFC160]:**

RECOGNIZING the efforts of the Organization to preserve peace and security in the Hemisphere; and

**Comment [KFC161]:**

CONVINCED of the need to provide financial support to those member states experiencing problems in defraying the cost of proceedings to resolve territorial disputes among member states in a peaceful manner,

RESOLVES:

1. To establish a permanent specific fund to provide member states of the Organization that so request with financial resources to assist with defraying the costs of proceedings previously agreed to by the parties for the peaceful settlement of territorial disputes among member states.

2. To instruct the Secretary General to promote the raising and mobilization of resources for financing the fund from member states, permanent observers, other states, international financial institutions, national and international organizations, and other entities and persons.

3. To instruct the Permanent Council to prepare and adopt guidelines for the operation of the fund, by October 31, 2000, in accordance with this resolution.

4. To instruct the Secretary General to take steps regarding the allocation of the fund's resources, after they have been considered by the Permanent Council, until such time as the guidelines indicated in paragraph 3 above have been adopted, and in keeping with operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of this resolution. The General Secretariat shall administer the fund in accordance with applicable provisions of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat.

5. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly on the implementation of this resolution.



AG/RES. 1757 (XXX-O/00)

MEASURES TO ENCOURAGE THE TIMELY PAYMENT OF QUOTAS

(Resolution adopted at the fourth plenary session,  
held on June 6, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Report of the Permanent Council on Measures to Encourage the Timely Payment of Quotas (CP/doc.3319/00);

CONSIDERING:

That Article 55 of the Charter requires each member state to “contribute to the maintenance of the Organization” by way of a quota established by the General Assembly;

That Article 102 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (General Standards), adopted by the General Assembly, establishes that quotas “shall be annual . . . , paid within the deadline established during the year in question, and shall be considered due on the first day of the corresponding fiscal period,” and that Article 103 of the General Standards specifies that quota payments “shall be credited against the balance pending from the earliest fiscal period for which the money is owed,” unless the Permanent Council agrees otherwise;

That the lack of available resources resulting from the failure of many member states to make quota payments on a timely and predictable basis not only undermines the operations of the General Secretariat, but also the viability and image of the Organization as the principal forum in the Hemisphere for establishing policy and partnership for development;

That, in recognition of the need to encourage more timely payment of quotas and the payment of arrearages, the General Assembly, by resolutions AG/RES. 1631 (XXIX-O/99), AG/RES. 3 (XXV-E/98), AG/RES. 1593 (XXVIII-O/98), and AG/RES. 1529 (XXVII-O/97), has instructed the Permanent Council to prepare a study on the merits of establishing a comprehensive system of measures for encouraging member states to pay the Regular Fund quotas in full and on time, and to submit that study, together with specific recommendations, to the General Assembly;

That, by AG/RES. 3 (XXV-E/98), the General Assembly adopted measures to encourage the timely payment of quotas and arrearages; and that pursuant to its mandate under resolution AG/RES. 1631 (XXIX-O/99), the Permanent Council has evaluated those measures and with due regard for the fundamental rights and duties of states under Chapter IV of the Charter, has recommended additional measures and modification of those implemented by that resolution; and

That there are other reasonable measures for encouraging the timely payment of quotas which require a more thorough evaluation by the Permanent Council,

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the measures to encourage the timely payment of quotas set out in Annex A to this resolution, which shall supercede all previous corresponding measures adopted for that purpose.
2. To instruct the Permanent Council:
  - a. To continue evaluating the merits of adopting the five proposals set out in Annex B of this resolution, which were also set out in the Annex to the draft resolution entitled "Measures to Encourage the Timely Payment of Quotas," AG/doc.3871/00 corr. 1 (May 30, 2000) and which were pending consensus;
  - b. To examine additional measures to encourage the timely payment of quotas; and
  - c. To present a status report to the General Assembly at its special session to meet no later than October 15, 2000, for the purpose of adopting the 2001 program-budget.
3. To instruct the General Secretariat to include in its monthly report to the Permanent Council on quota payments the list of countries in each category, as defined in Annex A of this resolution.
4. To instruct the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

ANNEX A

MEASURES TO ENCOURAGE THE TIMELY PAYMENT OF QUOTAS

A. Definitions

1. “Current”: A member state is “current” when it is up to date with all payments to the Regular Fund in accordance with its obligations to pay quota assessments under Articles 102 and 103 of the General Standards. For the purposes of this provision, quotas are due and payable on the first day of the corresponding fiscal period. Similarly, as an exception to Article 102 of the General Standards, member states that pay their quotas in full by April 30 are “current.” After that date, quotas are past due until paid in full.

2. “Considered current”: A member state is “considered current” when:

- a. It is no more than two years in arrears, has entered into a payment plan with the General Secretariat by April 30 of the current fiscal year for the payment of those arrears, and is in compliance with those terms. Any payment plan which extends the payment period for more than two years must be approved by the Permanent Council, upon the recommendation of its Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP). For purposes of this provision, a member state will be considered two years in arrears during the current fiscal period if, by May 1 of that period, it owes two years of quota assessments (that is, the assessment for the current fiscal period and an amount equal to or greater than the assessment for the immediately prior fiscal period).
- b. It has not satisfied the requirements of the preceding provisions, but the Permanent Council has determined, after hearing the member state, that the state is not able to make payments in accordance with a satisfactory payment plan or as otherwise owed due to circumstances beyond its control. Examples of those circumstances include, but are not limited to: natural disasters within the last 36 months having a substantial and unforeseen impact on the state's capacity to generate revenue to satisfy public obligations; a state of armed conflict within the last 36 months requiring the debtor state to divert an unforeseen and substantial amount of its revenues to self-defense; circumstances of a similar nature which in the judgment of the member states prevent a member state from satisfying its debt to the Organization without creating severe and undue hardship for that state. The Permanent Council shall examine each case on its own merits. Past precedents established by the Permanent Council, while not binding, shall be taken into account.

3. "Not current": A member state is "not current" when it does not fall within the definition of "current" or "considered current" above.

4. "Years in arrears": This is the number of years for which quotas are still owed by a member state as of May 1 of the current fiscal period, regardless of whether the member state has entered into a payment schedule and is in compliance with that schedule.

B. Measures

1. Member states that pay all their quota assessment for the current fiscal period by April 30 of that period are entitled to the following discounts: 3% of the amount paid by January 31 and 2% of the amount paid between February 1 and April 30. The discount shall be applied to the quota assessment for the next fiscal period.

2. Only member states that are "current" or "considered current" shall be eligible to host meetings (including, but not limited to, conferences, meetings of ministers and experts, workshops, and seminars) of the Organization directly funded, in whole or in part, by the Regular Fund.

3. The following procedures shall apply to elections conducted by the General Assembly or by the councils of the Organization:

- a. When circulating to the member states documents presented by a member state nominating a candidate the General Secretariat shall indicate in the transmittal notice whether the nominating member state is "current," "considered current," or "not current";
- b. Within one week prior to holding the election and, again, immediately prior to taking the corresponding vote, the General Secretariat shall circulate a statement among all delegations indicating the countries which are "current," "considered current," and "not current." The statement shall also show the number of years each such country is in arrears. No vote shall be held until this information has been circulated and the delegations so notified; and
- c. The respective electing organ can specifically take into account the condition of those states which are "not current."

4. At the beginning of each quarter of the fiscal year, the General Secretariat shall send to each foreign minister of each member state, through its Permanent Representative to the Organization, a letter and statement of accounts setting out the amount of any quotas owed, requesting prompt payment of quotas past due under a payment plan or otherwise not timely paid, and describing the benefits they receive from making those payments.

5. In meetings of the Secretary General with Heads of State and Government, Ministers of Foreign Affairs, and Ministers of Finance of member states which are “not current,” he shall remind them, as appropriate, to pay their past due quota assessments, and shall make quarterly reports to the Permanent Council on those discussions and other initiatives taken towards the timely collection of quotas.

C. Exceptional Forms of Payment

The General Secretariat may negotiate arrangements with member states that are “not current” for the payment in national currency, real estate, or other valuable assets, of quotas more than five years in arrears. Those arrangements shall enter into force only upon approval by the Permanent Council, upon the advice of its Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs, and only upon a determination that:

- a. In the case of national currency or other valuable assets, the General Secretariat will not be financially prejudiced by the acceptance of that currency or assets; and
- b. In the case of real estate, the General Secretariat will, over a reasonable time, earn income or generate savings from the property in occupancy, use, sale, or rental of the property in an amount equal to or greater than the corresponding arrears.

D. Transitory Provision for Member States More than Five Years in Arrears

1. Member states in arrears for more than five years as of December 31, 1999, shall be “considered current” until December 31, 2002, provided they do all of the following:

- a. Pay the quotas for the 2000 fiscal period by August 31, 2000, or otherwise enter into a payment plan with the General Secretariat by that same date for the payment of those quotas by December 31, 2000.
- b. Enter into a payment plan with the Secretariat by August 31, 2000, to pay by December 31, 2002, the quotas owed for the 1998 and 1999 fiscal periods.
- c. Enter into a payment plan with the General Secretariat by December 31, 2000, for the payment of the amounts owed for fiscal years prior to 1998, and if that plan involves payments in local currency or real estate, obtain the necessary approval of the Permanent Council by that date. This payment plan must provide for a final payment of those amounts owed no later than December 31, 2005.
- d. Pay the quotas for the 2001 fiscal period by April 30, 2001, or otherwise enter into a payment plan with the General Secretariat by

that same date for the payment of those quotas by December 31, 2001.

- e. Pay the quotas for the 2002 fiscal period by April 30, 2002, or otherwise enter into a payment plan with the General Secretariat by that same date for the payment of those quotas by December 31, 2002.
- f. Remain in compliance with the foregoing payment plans.

2. For purposes of facilitating compliance with the requirements of the foregoing section, member states wishing to qualify as "considered current" under that provision may designate the percentage of each payment made which they wish to have credited to the current fiscal period and, as a special exception to Article 103 of the General Standards permitted hereunder, the General Secretariat will credit that payment in accordance with the member state's designation.

3. The Permanent Council shall, at the request of any member state which is "considered current" under this Transitory Provision, extend the "considered current" status of that state beyond the year 2002, provided the state continues to pay or otherwise enter into a payment plan for the payment of quota assessments in each subsequent fiscal period for that period and remains in compliance with that Plan and the payment plans for the pre-1998 quotas past due.

4. Member states that have agreed to payment plans with the General Secretariat for the payment of past due quotas prior to the adoption of this resolution and which are in compliance with these plans on the date of this resolution shall be "considered current" for as long as they remain in compliance.

ANNEX B

MEASURES PENDING FURTHER EVALUATION AND CONSENSUS

1. Only those member states that are “current” or “considered current” shall be eligible to use for hosting or sponsoring social and cultural events the Hall of the Americas and other General Secretariat facilities without being required to reimburse the Regular Fund, through the General Secretariat, the full operating costs associated with that use; however, this provision shall not apply to the use of those facilities for the celebration of a member state's national day or national week.

2. Fellowships financed by the Regular Fund shall be available only to nationals and residents of member states that are “current” or “considered current.”

3. Except as expressly provided in Article 81 of the Charter, only those member states that are “current” or “considered current” shall be eligible to serve as chairs and vice chairs of committees of the councils or to have members of their delegations serve in those posts.

4. Only those member states that are “current” or “considered current” shall be eligible to nominate candidates for Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General, and only nationals of member states that are “current” or “considered current” shall be eligible for election to those posts.

5. Only those member states that are “current” or “considered current” shall be eligible to nominate candidates for the Administrative Tribunal and the Board of External Auditors, and only nationals of member states that are “current” or “considered current” shall be eligible for election to serve on those entities.





AG/RES. 1758 (XXX-O/00)

SPECIAL PROGRAM OF SUPPORT TO COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY “EI NIÑO”

(Resolution adopted at the fourth plenary session,  
held on June 6, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The Charter of the Organization of American States, in particular, Articles 93, 94, and 95;

The Declaration of Santiago, adopted at the Second Summit of the Americas; the Declaration and Strategic Plan of Action of Miami on Disaster Reduction and Sustainable Development; resolutions AG/RES. 1584 (XXVIII-O/98) and AG/RES. 1676 (XXIX-O/99), “Special Program of Support to Countries Affected by ‘El Niño’,” on the participation of the Organization, within its capacity, in preventing, reducing, and mitigating the effects of “El Niño” in the member states; and

Comment [KRL162]:

Comment [KRL163]:

The Report of the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR)—the principal OAS forum for natural disaster-related issues—contained in document CP/doc.3324/00; and

Comment [KRL164]:

CONSIDERING:

That member states attach particular importance to the role of international organizations in preventing, mitigating, and reducing the effects of disasters in member states as a humanitarian, economic, and social duty;

That the cyclical southern oscillation phenomenon known as “El Niño” has had profound and disastrous effects on the Americas, particularly the coastal countries of the South Pacific Ocean;

That it is necessary to strengthen and contribute to national efforts in affected countries to forecast the phenomenon and mitigate its negative social, economic, and environmental effects;

That the United Nations is making efforts to deal with the “El Niño” phenomenon; and

That the World Meteorological Organization published a retrospective study of the impact of “El Niño” and “La Niña” during 1997-1998, which was distributed during the 54th regular session of the United Nations General Assembly,

Comment [KRL165]:

Comment [KRL166]:

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate the call made to the member states; the agencies and organizations of the inter-American system, in particular the Inter-American Development Bank, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, and the Pan American Health Organization; and

nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) involved in this area to intensify their cooperation with efforts aimed at preventing, reducing, and repairing the damage caused by “El Niño.”

2. To express its satisfaction with the efforts of the affected countries to repair the damage caused by “El Niño.”

3. To support the work being done by the United Nations to prevent, mitigate, and repair the damage caused by “El Niño,” as well as the efforts of a number of regional organizations, among them the Permanent Commission of the South Pacific.

Comment [C167]:

4. To request the Secretary General to transmit this resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for informational purposes.

AG/RES. 1759 (XXX-O/00)

APPOINTMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE JUSTICE STUDIES  
CENTER OF THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the fourth plenary session,  
held on June 6, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Final Report of the Third Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA-III/doc.14/00 rev. 2), held in San José, Costa Rica, from March 1 to 3, 2000;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the agreements resulting from meetings held throughout the year by the Board of Directors of the Justice Studies Center of the Americas;

CONSIDERING the need to appoint the Executive Director of the Justice Studies Center of the Americas without delay; and

BEARING IN MIND the provisions of Articles 6 and 12.a of the Statute of the Justice Studies Center of the Americas,

RESOLVES:

To instruct the Permanent Council to approve the appointment of the Executive Director of the Justice Studies Center of the Americas, whose nomination the Board of Directors of the Center will submit to the Council in July 2000, taking into account the principle of equitable geographic representation established in the Charter of the Organization.



AG/RES. 1760 (XXX-O/00)

SUPPORT FOR THE MANDATES OF THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS ON  
STRENGTHENING MUNICIPAL AND REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIONS  
AND ON CIVIL SOCIETY

(Resolution adopted at the fourth plenary session,  
held on June 6, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING the role of the Organization of American States in the promotion and consolidation of democracy in the Hemisphere, as well as its emerging role as a forum for inter-American dialogue among ministers and authorities at the highest level with responsibility for the policies to be implemented in the various sectoral areas of the Summits of the Americas;

RECALLING:

That the First Summit of the Americas (Miami, 1994) stated in its Declaration of Principles that democracy is strengthened by the modernization of the state, and that the corresponding Plan of Action highlighted the need to achieve such strengthening by more vigorous promotion of civil society and citizen participation;

That the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, 1998) resolved in its Plan of Action to support strengthening of municipal and regional administrations through mechanisms for the participation of civil society organizations in the process of local and other subnational decision-making; and

That in this Plan of Action the leaders of the Hemisphere resolved to share their experiences and information from programs currently being supported by multilateral and bilateral cooperation institutions, such as the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the World Bank, to facilitate implementation of this initiative; and

That resolution AG/RES. 1668 (XXIX-O/99) urges member states to establish or continue strengthening cooperation mechanisms between governments and civil society organizations at the state, provincial, and municipal levels; and

BEARING IN MIND:

That, despite obvious advantages, the complexities of processes of decentralization and strengthening municipal and regional administrations and other subnational and community sectors bring a series of challenges for which the Organization of American States could serve as a hemispheric forum to promote dialogue and consensus on policies; and

That the experiences and technical information compiled through the Program of Cooperation in Decentralization, Local Government, and Citizen Participation of the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy provide valuable background material which could be used for analysis and evaluation of these issues,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Permanent Council to prepare and initiate the necessary studies for holding a meeting of ministers or authorities at the highest level responsible for policies on decentralization, local government, and citizen participation in municipal government in the Hemisphere, to facilitate the exchange of experiences and the development of a common frame of reference on public policy for strengthening the process of decentralization and consolidation of local governance and citizen participation at the municipal and community levels.
2. To request the Permanent Council to carry out the preparations for this meeting on the basis of the above-mentioned studies, with the technical support of the General Secretariat and, in particular, the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy.
3. To entrust the Permanent Council with taking the final decision on convening and determining the date and place for the meeting, in accordance with the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources.
4. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1761 (XXX-O/00)

THE MODEL OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROGRAM

(Resolution adopted at the fourth plenary session,  
held on June 6, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING that the Model OAS General Assembly Program (MOAS Program) of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States is designed to promote greater awareness of the OAS among high school and university students in OAS member states;

RECOGNIZING the importance of making the MOAS Program accessible to high school and university students throughout the Hemisphere;

WELCOMING the holding, for the first time away from OAS headquarters, of the regular session of the MOAS General Assembly for universities, in the Argentine Republic from September 1 to 5, 1997;

NOTING the contribution of the Government of Canada, which made it possible to hold the twentieth regular session of the Model OAS General Assembly for universities at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada, in March 2000;

BEARING IN MIND:

That the MOAS Inter-American Studies Foundation, a nonprofit corporation, was established with the main objective of increasing the resources available for the MOAS Program, including creating MOAS chapters in OAS member states and providing financial assistance to low-income students for their participation in the regular sessions of the MOAS General Assembly;

That, in October 1996, the General Secretariat entered into a cooperation agreement with the Foundation (CP/INF.4047/96) with the goal of solidifying future support from the private sector and the General Secretariat for the MOAS Program; and

AWARE that additional funding is necessary for the continued holding, away from OAS headquarters, of regular sessions of the MOAS General Assembly for universities,

RESOLVES:

1. To encourage member states to continue to support the Model OAS General Assembly Program (MOAS Program).
2. To encourage member states to host the regular sessions of the MOAS General Assembly for universities.

3. To encourage member states to make voluntary contributions to the MOAS Inter-American Studies Foundation to assist in financing the infrastructure and logistical support needed to host regular sessions of the MOAS General Assembly for universities.

4. To request the Secretary General to invite permanent observers and donor organizations to contribute to the Foundation.

5. To instruct the Secretary General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.



AG/RES. 1762 (XXX-O/00)

THE SITUATION OF REFUGEES, RETURNEES, AND  
INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the fourth plenary session,  
held on June 6, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That, through its resolutions AG/RES. 774 (XV-O/85), AG/RES. 838 (XVI-O/86), AG/RES. 951 (XVIII-O/88), AG/RES. 1021 (XIX-O/89), AG/RES. 1039 (XX-O/90), AG/RES. 1040 (XX-O/90), AG/RES. 1103 (XXI-O/91), AG/RES. 1170 (XXII-O/92), AG/RES. 1214 (XXIII-O/93), AG/RES. 1273 (XXIV-O/94), AG/RES. 1336 (XXV-O/95), AG/RES. 1416 (XXVI-O/96), AG/RES. 1504 (XXVII-O/97), and AG/RES. 1602 (XXVIII-O/98), it expressed its concern for those persons in the Americas who, as refugees, returnees, or internally displaced persons, require protection of their fundamental rights and the provision of humanitarian assistance;

That, in support of the worldwide campaign of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to promote accessions to the 1951 Geneva Convention on the Status of Refugees, which will mark its 50th anniversary next year, the 1967 Protocol on the Status of Refugees, the 1954 Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons, and the 1961 Convention on Reduction of Statelessness, the General Assembly adopted resolution AG/RES. 1693 (XXIX-O/99), urging those member states that have not yet done so to ratify these international instruments and to adopt national law to give them effect; and that, in addition, it requested the Secretary General to report to the General Assembly at its next regular session on progress in following up on that resolution; and

That in his report the Secretary General provides detailed information on the number of member states that have not yet acceded to those international instruments and points as well as to significant gaps in national law,

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate its appeal to member states so that, as soon as possible, all American states will have acceded to either or both of the international instruments on refugees and adopted the necessary national law on the matter and that the number of countries that are parties to the conventions on statelessness will be increased.

2. To request member states to keep the Secretary General informed of progress in implementing this resolution, enabling him to present a supplementary report on the matter to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session.



AG/RES. 1763 (XXX-O/00)

FOLLOW-UP TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS OF  
THE MEETING OF MINISTERS OF JUSTICE OR OF MINISTERS OR  
ATTORNEYS GENERAL OF THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the fourth plenary session,  
held on June 6, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the final report of the Third Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA-III/doc.14/00 rev. 2), held in San José, Costa Rica, from March 1 to 3, 2000; and

CONSIDERING that continued implementation of the various activities listed in the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Third Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA-III) is essential to the strengthening of juridical and judicial cooperation in the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Permanent Council to continue the work of the Special Group to Implement the Recommendations of the Meetings of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas in order to facilitate the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations adopted during the Third Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas.

2. To instruct the Permanent Council to carry out the activities mentioned in this resolution within the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources and to request it to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution.



AG/RES. 1764 (XXX-O/00)

TRIBUTE TO THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL,  
HIS EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR CHRISTOPHER R. THOMAS

(Resolution adopted at the fourth plenary session,  
held on June 6, 2000)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That Ambassador Christopher R. Thomas, Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of American States, will leave office on July 11, 2000, upon completion of the term for which he was re-elected by the General Assembly;

That Ambassador Thomas fulfilled the functions of his office with great dedication and efficiency, and always executed his responsibilities in an exemplary manner;

That, in his activities as Assistant Secretary General, Ambassador Thomas sought always to achieve better understanding and closer relations between English-speaking Caribbean states and other member states of the Organization; and

That the Assistant Secretary General was constantly guided by the principles and norms of the Charter and was an adamant defender of human rights, multilateralism, and representative democracy,

RESOLVES:

1. To place on record its deep appreciation of Ambassador Christopher R. Thomas for the commendable and important services which he rendered with distinction and integrity to the inter-American system during his term in office as Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of American States.

2. To recognize Ambassador Thomas' very significant contribution to fostering better relations between the peoples of the Hemisphere, his faith in and commitment to the purposes and objectives of the inter-American system, and his respect for the Charter of the Organization; and to commend his efforts to promote human rights in the member states.

3. To wish our good friend and distinguished colleague continued success in his future endeavors.



## THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

The Organization of American States (OAS) is the world's oldest regional organization, dating back to the First International Conference of American States, held in Washington, D.C., from October 1889 to April 1890. At that meeting the establishment of the International Union of American Republics was approved. The Charter of the OAS was signed in Bogotá in 1948 and entered into force in December 1951. The Charter was subsequently amended by the Protocol of Buenos Aires, signed in 1967, which entered into force in February 1970; by the Protocol of Cartagena de Indias, signed in 1985, which entered into force in November 1988; by the Protocol of Managua, signed in 1993, which entered into force on January 29, 1996; and by the Protocol of Washington, signed in 1992, which entered into force on September 25, 1997. The OAS currently has 35 member states. In addition, the Organization has granted permanent observer status to over 45 states, as well as to the European Union.

The essential purposes of the OAS are: to strengthen peace and security in the Hemisphere; to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of non-intervention; to prevent possible causes of difficulties and to ensure peaceful settlement of disputes that may arise among the member states; to provide for common action on the part of those states in the event of aggression; to seek the solution of political, juridical, and economic problems that may arise among them; to promote, by cooperative action, their economic, social, and cultural development; and to achieve an effective limitation of conventional weapons that will make it possible to devote the largest amount of resources to the economic and social development of the member states.

The Organization of American States accomplishes its purposes by means of: the General Assembly; the Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs; the Councils (the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development); the Inter-American Juridical Committee; the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; the General Secretariat; the specialized conferences; the specialized organizations and other entities established by the General Assembly.

The General Assembly holds regular sessions once a year. Under special circumstances it meets in special session. The Meeting of Consultation is convened to consider urgent matters of common interest and to serve as Organ of Consultation under the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance (Rio Treaty), the main instrument for joint action in the event of aggression. The Permanent Council takes cognizance of such matters as are entrusted by the General Assembly or the Meeting of Consultation and implements the decisions of both organs when their implementation has not been assigned to any other body, it monitors the maintenance of friendly relations among the member states and the observance of the standards governing General Secretariat operations and also acts provisionally as Organ of Consultation under the Rio Treaty. The General Secretariat is the central and permanent organ of the OAS. The headquarters of both the Permanent Council and the General Secretariat is in Washington, D.C.

**MEMBER STATES:** Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, The Bahamas (*Commonwealth of*), Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica (*Commonwealth of*), Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

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