EIGHTH MEETING of
CONSULTATION of
MINISTERS of
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SERVING AS ORGAN OF CONSULTATION
IN APPLICATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN
TREATY OF RECIPROCAL ASSISTANCE

PUNTA DEL ESTE, URUGUAY
JANUARY 22 31, 1962

FINAL ACT

1962

PAN AMERICAN UNION General Secretariat of the Organization of American States WASHINGTON, D.C.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Title / Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resolution I</td>
<td>Communist Offensive in America</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution II</td>
<td>Special Consultative Committee on Security Against the Subversive Action of International Communism</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution III</td>
<td>Reiteration of the Principles of Nonintervention and Self-Determination</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution IV</td>
<td>Holding of Free Elections</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution V</td>
<td>Alliance for Progress</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution VI</td>
<td>Exclusion of the Present Government of Cuba from Participation in the Inter-American System</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution VII</td>
<td>Inter-American Defense Board</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution VIII</td>
<td>Economic Relations</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution IX</td>
<td>Revision of the Statute of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## STATEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Honduras</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Argentina</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Colombia</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Mexico</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Haiti</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statements of Ecuador</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Brazil</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Uruguay</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Eighth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Serving as Organ of Consultation in Application of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, was held in the city of Punta del Este, Uruguay, from January 22 to 31, 1962.

The Meeting was convoked by a resolution of the Council of the Organization of American States adopted on December 4, 1961, the text of which is as follows:

The Council of the Organization of American States,

CONSIDERING:

The note presented by the Delegation of Colombia, dated November 9, 1961, in which it requests the convocation of a Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, in accordance with Article 6 of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, to consider the threats to the peace and to the political independence of the American states that might arise from the intervention of extracontinental powers directed toward breaking American solidarity,

RESOLVES:

1. To convocate a Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to serve as Organ of Consultation, in accordance with Articles 6 and 11 of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, in order to consider the threats to the peace and to the political independence of the American states referred to in the preamble of this resolution, and particularly to point out the various types of threats to the peace or certain acts that, in the event they occur, justify the application of measures for the maintenance of the peace and security, pursuant to Chapter V of the Charter of the Organization of American States and the provisions of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, and to determine the measures that it is advisable to take for the maintenance of the peace and security of the Continent.

2. To set January 10, 1962, as the date for the inauguration of the Meeting.
3. To authorize the Chairman of the Council to present to the Council, at the appropriate time, after consultation with the representatives of the member states, a recommendation on the site of the Meeting of Consultation.

On December 22, 1961, the same Council modified the provisions as to site and date of the Meeting by a resolution that reads as follows:

The Council of the Organization of American States

RESOLVES:

1. To thank the National Council of the Government of Uruguay and accept its generous offer to be host, in Punta del Este, Uruguay, to the Eighth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to Serve as Organ of Consultation in Application of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, which was convoked by a resolution of December 4, 1961, of the Council of the Organization.

2. To set the date of January 22, 1962, for the opening of the Meeting.

The Members of the Meeting, in the order of precedence determined by lot, are listed below:

PANAMA: His Excellency Galileo Solís, Minister of Foreign Affairs;
PARAGUAY: His Excellency Raúl Sapena Pastor, Minister of Foreign Affairs;
CUBA: His Excellency Osvaldo Dorticós Torrado, Minister of Foreign Affairs;
NICARAGUA: His Excellency René Schick, Minister of Foreign Affairs;
HONDURAS: His Excellency Andrés Alvarado Puerto, Minister of Foreign Affairs;
EL SALVADOR: His Excellency Rafael Eguízabal Tobías, Minister of Foreign Affairs;
ARGENTINA: His Excellency Miguel Angel Cárcano, Minister of Foreign Affairs;
The Meeting was also attended by His Excellency José A. Mora, Secretary General of the Organization of American States.
His Excellency Eduardo Víctor Haedo, President of the National Council of Government of Uruguay, opened the Meeting on the afternoon of January 22, 1962. At the inaugural session the speakers were: His Excellency Homero Martínez Montero, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay; His Excellency Alfredo Vargas Fernández, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica; and His Excellency José A. Mora, Secretary General of the Organization of American States. The Government of the Republic of Uruguay designated His Excellency Homero Martínez Montero, Minister of Foreign Affairs of that country, as Provisional President of the Meeting. Mr. Martínez was elected Permanent President at the first plenary session, held on January 23. At the same session His Excellency Galileo Solís, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Panama, was elected Vice President of the Meeting.

Pursuant to the Regulations of the Meeting, the Government of the Republic of Uruguay appointed Mr. Gustavo Magariños, as Secretary General of the Meeting.

The Meeting was governed by the Regulations of the Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Serving as Organ of Consultation in Application of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, approved by the Council of the Organization of American States at its meeting of July 29, 1960.

In accordance with the Regulations, the Meeting designated a Credentials Committee composed of El Salvador, Mexico, and Uruguay. A Style Committee composed of Colombia, Haiti, United States of America, and Brazil was also appointed.

In conformity with the provisions of Article 20 of the Regulations, a General Committee, composed of all the Members, was established to consider the topics of the Meeting and to submit its conclusions to a plenary session of the Meeting for approval. The General Committee appointed His Excellency Marcos Falcón Briceño, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela, and His Excellency Alfredo Vargas Fernández, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica as Chairman and Rapporteur, respectively. When the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica found it necessary to return to his country, His Excellency J. Rafael Oreamuno, Special Delegate from the same country, was elected to serve as Rapporteur.
At the closing session of the Meeting, which took place on January 31, this Final Act was signed. At that session addresses were given by His Excellency Homero Martínez Montero, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay, and His Excellency Luis Alvarado G., Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru.

As a result of their deliberations, the Eighth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs approved the following resolutions:

I

COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE IN AMERICA

1. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the American republics, convened in their Eighth Meeting of Consultation, declare that the continental unity and the democratic institutions of the hemisphere are now in danger.

The Ministers have been able to verify that the subversive offensive of communist governments, their agents and the organizations which they control, has increased in intensity. The purpose of this offensive is the destruction of democratic institutions and the establishment of totalitarian dictatorships at the service of extracontinental powers. The outstanding facts in this intensifying offensive are the declarations set forth in official documents of the directing bodies of the international communist movement, that one of its principal objectives is the establishment of communist regimes in the underdeveloped countries and in Latin America; and the existence of a Marxist–Leninist government in Cuba which is publicly aligned with the doctrine and foreign policy of the communist powers.

2. In order to achieve their subversive purposes and hide their true intentions, the communist governments and their agents exploit the legitimate needs of the less-favored sectors of the population and the just national aspirations of the various peoples. With the pretext of defending popular interests, freedom is suppressed, democratic institutions are destroyed, human rights are violated and the individual is subjected to materialistic ways of life imposed by the dictatorship of a single party. Under the slogan of "anti-imperialism" they try to establish an oppressive, aggressive imperialism which subordinates the subjugated nations to the militaristic and aggressive interests of extracontinental powers. By maliciously utilizing the very principles
of the inter-American system, they attempt to undermine democratic institutions and to strengthen and protect political penetration and aggression. The subversive methods of communist governments and their agents constitute one of the most subtle and dangerous forms of intervention in the internal affairs of other countries.

3. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs alert the peoples of the hemisphere to the intensification of the subversive offensive of communist governments, their agents, and the organizations that they control and to the tactics and methods that they employ and also warn them of the dangers this situation represents to representative democracy, to respect for human rights, and to the self-determination of peoples.

The principles of communism are incompatible with the principles of the inter-American system.

4. Convinced that the integrity of the democratic revolution of the American states can and must be preserved in the face of the subversive offensive of communism, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs proclaim the following basic political principles:

a. The faith of the American peoples in human rights, liberty, and national independence as a fundamental reason for their existence, as conceived by the founding fathers who destroyed colonialism and brought the American republics into being;

b. The principle of nonintervention and the right of peoples to organize their way of life freely in the political, economic, and cultural spheres, expressing their will through free elections, without foreign interference. The fallacies of communist propaganda cannot and should not obscure or hide the difference in philosophy which these principles represent when they are expressed by a democratic American country, and when communist governments and their agents attempt to utilize them for their own benefit;

c. The repudiation of repressive measures which, under the pretext of isolating or combatting communism, may facilitate the appearance or strengthening of reactionary doctrines and methods which attempt to repress ideas of social progress and to confuse truly progressive and democratic labor organizations and cultural and political movements with communist subversion;

d. The affirmation that communism is not the way to achieve economic development and the elimination of social injustice in America. On the contrary, a democratic regime can encompass all the efforts for economic advancement and all of the measures for improvement
and social progress without sacrificing the fundamental values of the human being. The mission of the peoples and governments of the hemisphere during the present generation is to achieve an accelerated development of their economies and to put an end to poverty, injustice, illness, and ignorance as was agreed in the Charter of Punta del Este; and

e. The most essential contribution of each American state in the collective effort to protect the inter-American system against communism is a steadily greater respect for human rights, improvement in democratic institutions and practices, and the adoption of measures that truly express the impulse for a revolutionary change in the economic and social structures of the American republics.

II

SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON SECURITY
AGAINST THE SUBVERSIVE ACTION OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNISM

WHEREAS:

International communism makes use of highly complex techniques of subversion in opposing, and in the task of counteracting such techniques which certain states may benefit from mutual advice and support;

The American states are firmly united for the common goal of fighting the subversive action of international communism and for the preservation of democracy in the Americas, as expressed in Resolution XXXII of the Ninth International Conference of American States, held in Bogotá, in 1948, and that for such purpose they can and should assist each other, mainly through the use of the institutional resources of the Organization of American States; and

It is advisable, therefore, to make available to the Council of the Organization of American States a body of an advisory nature, made up of experts, the main purpose of which would be to advise the member governments which, as the case may be, require and request such assistance,

The Eighth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Serving as Organ of Consultation in Application of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance,
RESOLVES:

1. To request the Council of the Organization of American States to maintain all necessary vigilance, for the purpose of warning against any acts of aggression, subversion, or other dangers to peace and security, or the preparation of such acts, resulting from the continued intervention of Sino-Soviet powers in this hemisphere, and to make recommendations to the governments of the member states with regard thereto.

2. To direct the Council of the Organization to establish a Special Consultative Committee on Security, composed of experts on security matters, for the purpose of advising the member states they may desire and request such assistance, the following procedures being observed:

   a. The Council of the Organization shall select the membership of the Special Consultative Committee on Security from a list of candidates presented by the governments, and shall define immediately terms of reference for the Committee with a view to achieving the full purposes of this resolution.

   b. The Committee shall submit reports to such member states as may request its assistance; however, it shall not publish these reports without obtaining express authorization from the state dealt with in the report.

   c. The Special Consultative Committee on Security shall submit to the Council of the Organization, no later than May 1, 1962, an initial general report, with pertinent recommendations regarding measures which should be taken.

   d. The Committee shall function at the Pan American Union, which shall extend to it the technical, administrative, and financial facilities required for the work of the Committee.

   e. The Committee shall function for the period deemed advisable by the Council of the Organization.

3. To urge the member states to take those steps that they may consider appropriate for their individual or collective self-defense, and to cooperate, as may be necessary or desirable, to strengthen their capacity to counteract threats or acts of aggression, subversion, or other dangers to peace and security resulting from the continued intervention in this hemisphere of Sino-Soviet powers, in accordance with the obligations established in treaties and agreements such as the Charter of the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance.
III

REITERATION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF NONINTERVENTION AND SELF-DETERMINATION

WHEREAS:

This Meeting has been convoked by a resolution of the Council of the Organization of American States that invoked Article 6 of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance;

It is necessary to maintain the principles of nonintervention and self-determination set forth in the Charter of the Organization of American States, because these principles are a basic part of the juridical system that governs relations among the republics of the hemisphere and makes friendly relations among them possible;

In the Charter of the Organization of American States and in the Declaration of Santiago, signed in August 1959, all the governments of the American states agreed voluntarily that they should result from free elections;

The will of the people, expressed through unrestricted suffrage, assures the formation of governments that represent more faithfully and without yielding to the interests of a privileged few the basic aspirations to freedom and social justice, the constant need for economic progress, and the call of brotherhood that all our peoples feel throughout the hemisphere;

Formation by free elections of the governments that comprise the Organization of American States is therefore the surest guarantee for the peace of the hemisphere and the security and political independence of each and every one of the nations that comprise it; and

Freedom to contract obligations is an inseparable part of the principle of the self-determination of nations, and consequently a request by one or more countries that such obligations be complied with does not signify intervention,

The Eighth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Serving as Organ of Consultation in Application of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance
RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate its adherence to the principles of self-determination and nonintervention as guiding standards of relations among the American nations.

2. To urge that the governments of the member countries of the Organization of American States, bearing in mind the present situation, and complying with the principles and aims set forth in the Charter of the Organization and the Declaration of Santiago, organize themselves on the basis of free elections that express, without restriction, the will of the people.

IV

HOLDING OF FREE ELECTIONS

WHEREAS:

The preamble to the Charter of the Organization of American States proclaims that the true significance of American solidarity and good neighborliness can only mean the consolidation on this hemisphere, within the framework of democratic institutions, of a system of individual liberty and social justice based on respect for the essential rights of man;

The same Charter reaffirms, among its principles, the requirement that the political organization of the American states be based on the effective exercise of representative democracy, even as it reasserts the fundamental rights of the individual;

The Charter confirms the right of each state to develop, freely and naturally, its cultural, political, and economic life, while respecting in this free development the rights of the individual and the principles of universal morality;

The Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance affirms as a manifest truth, that juridical organization is a necessary prerequisite of security and peace, and that peace is founded on justice and moral order and, consequently, on the international recognition and protection of human rights and freedoms, on the indispensable well-being of the people, and on the effectiveness of democracy for the international realization of justice and security; and
According to the principles and attributes of the democratic system in this hemisphere, as stated in the Declaration of Santiago, Chile, the governments of the American republics should be the result of free elections, and perpetuation in power, or the exercise of power without a fixed term and with the manifest intent of perpetuation, is incompatible with the effective exercise of democracy,

The Eighth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Serving as Organ of Consultation in Application of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance

RESOLVES:

To recommend that the governments of the American states whose structure or acts are incompatible with the effective exercise of representative democracy hold free elections in their respective countries, as the most effective means of consulting the sovereign will of their peoples, to guarantee the restoration of a legal order based on the authority of the law and respect for the rights of the individual.

V

ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS

WHEREAS:

The American states have the capacity to eradicate the profound evils of economic and social underdevelopment;

Resolution XI of the Fifth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Resolution V of the Seventh Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs declare that economic cooperation among the American states is necessary for the stability of democracy and the safeguarding of human rights, and that such cooperation is essential to the strengthening of the solidarity of the hemisphere and the reinforcement of the inter-American system in the face of threats that might affect it; and

In view of the fact that all the nations of the Americas have recognized their urgent need for economic and social development, it is necessary that they intensify immediately their self-help and cooperative efforts under the Alliance for Progress and the Charter
of Punta del Este, on the basis of the adoption of vigorous reforms and large-scale internal efforts by the developing countries concerned and a mobilization of all the necessary financial and technical resources by the highly developed nations,

The Eighth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Serving as Organ of Consultation in Application of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance

DECLARES:

1. That the preservation and strengthening of free and democratic institutions in the American republics require, as an essential condition, the prompt, accelerated execution of an unprecedented effort to promote their economic and social development for which effort the public and private, domestic and foreign financial resources necessary to those objectives are to be made available, economic and social reforms are to be established, and every necessary internal effort is to be made in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of Punta del Este.

2. That it is essential to promote energetically and vigorously the basic industries of the Latin American countries, to liberalize trade in raw materials by the elimination of undue restrictions, to seek to avoid violent fluctuations in their prices, to encourage the modernization and expansion of services in order that industrialization may rest on its own appropriate bases, to mobilize unexploited natural resources in order to increase national wealth and to make such increased wealth available to persons of all economic and social groups, and to satisfy quickly, among other aspirations, the needs for work, housing, land, health, and education.

VI

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF CUBA FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM

WHEREAS:

The inter-American system is based on consistent adherence by its constituent states to certain objectives and principles of solidarity, set forth in the instruments that govern it;

Among these objectives and principles are those of respect for the freedom of man and preservation of his rights, the full exercise of representative democracy, nonintervention of one state in the internal or external affairs of another, and rejection of alliances and agreements that may lead to intervention in America by extracontinental powers;
The Seventh Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, held in San José, Costa Rica, condemned the intervention or the threat of intervention of extracontinental communist powers in the hemisphere and reiterated the obligation of the American states to observe faithfully the principles of the regional organization;

The present Government of Cuba has identified itself with the principles of Marxist–Leninist ideology, has established a political, economic, and social system based on that doctrine, and accepts military assistance from extracontinental communist powers, including even the threat of military intervention in America on the part of the Soviet Union;

The Report of the Inter-American Peace Committee to the Eighth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs establishes that:

The present connections of the Government of Cuba with the Sino-Soviet bloc of countries are evidently incompatible with the principles and standards that govern the regional system, and particularly with the collective security established by the Charter of the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance [page 397];

The abovementioned Report of the Inter-American Peace Committee also states that:

It is evident that the ties of the Cuban Government with the Sino-Soviet bloc will prevent the said government from fulfilling the obligations stipulated in the Charter of the Organization and the Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance [page 407];

Such a situation in an American state violates the obligations inherent in membership in the regional system and is incompatible with that system;

The attitude adopted by the present Government of Cuba and its acceptance of military assistance offered by extracontinental communist powers breaks down the effective defense of the inter-American system; and

No member state of the inter-American system can claim the rights and privileges pertaining thereto if it denies or fails to recognize the corresponding obligations,

The Eighth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Serving as Organ of Consultation in Application of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance
DECLARATIONS:

1. That, as a consequence of repeated acts, the present Government of Cuba has voluntarily placed itself outside the inter-American system.

2. That this situation demands unceasing vigilance on the part of the member states of the Organization of American States, which shall report to the Council any fact or situation that could endanger the peace and security of the hemisphere.

3. That the American states have a collective interest in strengthening the inter-American system and reuniting it on the basis of respect for human rights and the principles and objectives relative to the exercise of democracy set forth in the Charter of the Organization; and, therefore

RESOLVES:

1. That adherence by any member of the Organization of American States to Marxism-Leninism is incompatible with the inter-American system and the alignment of such a government with the communist bloc breaks the unity and solidarity of the hemisphere.

2. That the present Government of Cuba, which has officially identified itself as a Marxist-Leninist government, is incompatible with the principles and objectives of the inter-American system.

3. That this incompatibility excludes the present Government of Cuba from participation in the inter-American system.

4. That the Council of the Organization of American States and the other organs and organizations of the inter-American system adopt without delay the measures necessary to comply with this resolution.

VII

INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD

WHEREAS:

The Inter-American Defense Board was established pursuant to Resolution 39 of the Third Meeting of Consultation of Foreign Ministers, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1942, recommending the immediate meeting of a commission composed of military and naval technicians appointed by each of the governments to study and to suggest to them measures necessary for the defense of the hemisphere;