

CONSEJO PERMANENTE



OEA/Ser.G
CP/ACTA 1252/00
11 octubre 2000

ACTA
DE LA SESIÓN ORDINARIA
CELEBRADA
EL 11 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2000

Aprobada en la sesión celebrada el 9 de mayo de 2001

ÍNDICE

	<u>Página</u>
Nómina de los Representantes que asistieron a la sesión	1
Homenaje a la memoria del señor Pierre Elliot Trudeau, ex Primer Ministro del Canadá	2
Homenaje a la memoria del señor Roosevelt Douglas, Primer Ministro del Commonwealth de Dominica.....	3
Bienvenida a la nueva Embajadora Representante de Belice.....	5
Bienvenida al nuevo Embajador Representante de Barbados	8
Entrega de un malleto al Representante del Brasil, Presidente saliente del Consejo Permanente.....	11
Palabras del Representante del Canadá al asumir la Presidencia del Consejo Permanente.....	11
Informe verbal del Presidente de la Comisión Especial sobre Gestión de Cumbres Interamericanas sobre la XIX Reunión del Grupo de Revisión de la Implementación de Cumbres (GRIC)	14
Informe de la Comisión de Asuntos Jurídicos y Políticos sobre el otorgamiento al Reino de Dinamarca de la condición de Observador Permanente ante la Organización	16
[Aprobación del proyecto de resolución].....	16
Solicitud del Reino de Noruega para que se le conceda la condición de Observador Permanente ante la Organización.....	16
Informe de actividades de la Oficina del Inspector General para el período 1 de enero a 30 de junio de 2000	16
Estado de cuotas y contribuciones al 31 de agosto de 2000.....	25
Informe verbal del Secretario General Adjunto sobre la Misión de la OEA en Haití.....	26
Integración e instalación de la Comisión de Estilo del vigésimo séptimo período extraordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General	32

	<u>Página</u>
Establecimiento de un Fondo Específico de apoyo a la Misión de Alto Nivel al Perú	33
[Aprobación del proyecto de resolución].....	37
Informe de situación de la Fundación Museo de las Américas.....	37
Información sobre la solicitud del Gobierno del Ecuador referente a la extradición de un acusado de fraude bancario.	40
Elecciones municipales en Brasil.....	42
Otorgamiento del Premio Interamericano de Cultura Gabriela Mistral para el año 2000.....	43
Estado de los trabajos de la Comisión sobre la Participación de la Sociedad Civil en las Actividades de la OEA	45

ANEXOS

RESOLUCIONES APROBADAS:

CP/RES. 777 (1252/00), Otorgamiento al Reino de Dinamarca de la condición de Observador Permanente ante la Organización.....	47
CP/RES. 776 (1252/00), Fondo Específico Voluntario de Apoyo a la Misión de Alto Nivel al Perú.	49

DOCUMENTOS CONSIDERADOS EN LA SESIÓN
(SE PUBLICAN POR SEPARADO)

CP/CAJP-1679/00 rev. 1, Informe de la Comisión de Asuntos Jurídicos y Políticos sobre el otorgamiento al Reino de Dinamarca de la condición de Observador Permanente ante la Organización

CP/doc.3362/00 Solicitud del Reino de Noruega para que se le conceda la condición de Observador Permanente ante la Organización

CP/doc.3357/00 rev. 1, Informe de actividades de la Oficina del Inspector General para el período 1 de enero a 30 de junio de 2000

CP/doc.3360/00, Estado de cuotas y contribuciones al 31 de agosto de 2000

CP/doc.3363/00, Proyecto de resolución – Fondo Específico Voluntario de Apoyo a la Misión de Alto Nivel al Perú (Presentado por las Delegaciones del Canadá y del Perú)

CONSEJO PERMANENTE DE LA ORGANIZACIÓN DE LOS ESTADOS AMERICANOS

ACTA DE LA SESIÓN ORDINARIA
CELEBRADA EL 11 DE OCTUBRE DE 2000

En la ciudad de Washington, a las diez de la mañana del 11 de octubre de 2000, celebró sesión ordinaria el Consejo Permanente de la Organización de los Estados Americanos. Presidió la sesión el Embajador Peter M. Boehm, Representante Permanente del Canadá y Presidente del Consejo Permanente. Asistieron los siguientes miembros:

Embajador Richard Bernal, Representante Permanente de Jamaica y Vicepresidente del Consejo Permanente
Embajador Kingsley C.A. Layne, C.M.G., Representante Permanente de San Vicente y las Granadinas
Embajadora Beatriz M. Ramacciotti, Representante Permanente del Perú
Embajador Michael Anthony Arneaud, Representante Permanente de Trinidad y Tobago
Embajador Claude Heller, Representante Permanente de México
Embajador Hernán R. Castro H., Representante Permanente de Costa Rica
Embajador Luis Alfredo Ramos, Representante Permanente de Colombia
Embajadora Virginia Contreras, Representante Permanente de Venezuela
Embajador Diego Abente Brun, Representante Permanente del Paraguay
Embajador Luis J. Lauredo, Representante Permanente de los Estados Unidos
Embajadora Margarita Escobar, Representante Permanente de El Salvador
Embajador Marcelo Ostría Trigo, Representante Permanente de Bolivia
Embajador Juan José Arcuri, Representante Permanente de la Argentina
Embajador Valter Peçly Moreira, Representante Permanente del Brasil
Embajador Esteban Tomic Errázuriz, Representante Permanente de Chile
Embajador Blasco Peñaherrera, Representante Permanente del Ecuador
Embajador Juan Enrique Fischer, Representante Permanente del Uruguay
Embajadora Lisa Shoman, Representante Permanente de Belice
Embajador Juan Manuel Castulovich, Representante Permanente de Panamá
Embajador Michael I. King, Representante Permanente de Barbados
Ministro Consejero Jean Ricot Dorméus, Representante Interino de Haití
Primera Secretaria Michaela C. Samuel, Representante Interina de Grenada
Embajador Víctor M. Silva, Representante Alterno de Nicaragua
Consejera Sheila G. Carey, Representante Alterna del Commonwealth de las Bahamas
Consejera María Guadalupe Carías, Representante Alterna de Honduras
Consejera Mayerlyn Cordero Díaz, Representante Alterna de la República Dominicana
Consejera Renata E. Wielgosz, Representante Alterna del Canadá
Primera Secretaria Martha Louis Auguste, Representante Alterna de Santa Lucía
Segundo Secretario Henry Leonard Mac-Donald, Representante Alterno de Suriname
Primera Secretaria Deborah Yaw, Representante Alterna de Guyana
Ministro Consejero Kevin M. Isaac, Representante Alterno de Saint Kitts y Nevis
Ministro Consejero Starret D. Greene, Representante Alterno de Antigua y Barbuda
Consejera Carla Anaité Aguilar, Representante Alterna de Guatemala

También estuvieron presentes el Secretario General de la Organización, doctor César Gaviria, y el Secretario General Adjunto, Embajador Luigi R. Einaudi, Secretario del Consejo Permanente.

El PRESIDENTE: I am pleased to call to order this regular meeting of the Permanent Council, convened to consider the items on the order of business, document CP/OD.1252/00.

HOMENAJE A LA MEMORIA DEL SEÑOR PIERRE ELLIOT TRUDEAU,
EX PRIMER MINISTRO DEL CANADÁ

El PRESIDENTE: It is with sadness that I announce to the Permanent Council, on behalf of my government, the passing of the former Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honorable Pierre Elliott Trudeau. Pierre Trudeau was a leader unlike any other in Canada's history. He was a man of brilliance, a man of style, a man of charm and wit, a man of courage, and a man of action who transformed Canada and left his mark upon our people.

Pierre Trudeau's motto was "reason over passion," but he was driven above all by his passion for Canada and a desire to change it for the better. He once wrote about "a man who never learned patriotism in school but who acquired that virtue when he felt in his bones the vastness of his land and the greatness of its founders." Indeed, Pierre Trudeau embodied a love of his country, and he demonstrated this dedication through a lifetime spent working for change and reshaping Canada according to his vision of a just society.

La vision de Pierre Trudeau était celle d'un pays juste où les Canadiens d'expression française pourraient jouer le rôle qui leur revient. Une vision où le Canada, enrichi par ses deux langues officielles qui célèbrent sa vaste diversité et son multiculturalisme, serait un pays de compassion dans lequel chaque citoyen serait doté d'une chance égale de réussir dans la vie sans tenir compte de ses origines, ses croyances ou sa fortune. Il envisageait un pays où chaque individu posséderait des droits inaliénables et validés dans la Constitution, en foi de quoi il concevait la Charte canadienne des droits et libertés, ce qui a toujours fait sa plus grande fierté, ainsi que la plus grande fierté d'un peuple.

Sa vision également fut celle d'un Canada engagé sur la scène mondiale occupant une position unique et importante sur le plan international. Un Canada projetant ses valeurs de liberté, de paix et de justice à travers le monde promouvant la cause des pays en développement.

Pour son œuvre internationale et, en particulier, ses efforts contre la prolifération des armes nucléaires, il gagna le Prix de la paix « Albert Einstein ».

The news of the death of Pierre Trudeau came as a shock to all Canadians, because his passing represents more than the disappearance of a man. He represented a bold new era in the nation's history, and that era has now drawn to a close. This has been demonstrated clearly by the unprecedented outpouring of emotion and grief that has gripped our nation in recent days. He led Canada through some of its best times and some of its worst times, and the impact of his leadership will be long lasting.

Even Pierre Trudeau's most vociferous opponents respected and admired him for his passion, his intellect, and his determination. He represented, for many Canadians, what we hoped and believed we could be as a nation.

Canada has lost one of its best and its brightest. He will be forever remembered as a political giant who captured the imagination of the country and the world, forever changing an entire generation of Canadians. As Canada assumes the Chair of this Council, his legacy of fairness and of constructive international engagement will be in our minds as we work for enhanced cooperation and dialogue in the Americas, a goal shared by all of us here, and one that Pierre Elliott Trudeau would have applauded.

HOMENAJE A LA MEMORIA DEL SEÑOR ROOSEVELT DOUGLAS,
PRIMER MINISTRO DEL COMMONWEALTH DE DOMINICA

El PRESIDENTE: I also have the sad duty to inform the Council of the death of The Honorable Roosevelt Douglas, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica.

The Honorable Roosevelt Douglas, affectionately called Rosie Douglas, obtained his doctorate in political science at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. While in Canada, the late Prime Minister Douglas became active in the civil rights movement and was associated with such black civil rights organizations as the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee.

Mr. Douglas returned to Dominica in 1976. From 1977 to 1980, he served as Chairman of the Dominican Popular Independent Committee (PIC), joining the Dominica Labour Party (DLP) in 1980. He became a member of Parliament in 1985, and again in 1992. In 1992, he was also elected political leader of the DLP. On January 31, 2000, he led the DLP to victory and became Dominica's fifth Prime Minister.

Upon assumption of office, the late Prime Minister worked tirelessly in pursuit of his vision of the economic and social development of Dominica, about which he was most passionate. Indeed, less than two weeks ago he addressed this issue here in Washington at a forum organized by Georgetown University on "Caribbean Development Options in a Globalized World." In that address, Prime Minister Douglas spoke about the problems and opportunities that globalization presents to the developing world. He was clearly cognizant of the important focus that has to be placed on education and technology development when he stated:

If we focus on educating our population for this information age, we can ensure a niche for ourselves. As the nature island of the Caribbean, Dominica intends to link information technology to environmental protection and cement such a niche for itself as a world leader in ecotourism, education, bio-diversity management, and the development of health care products from our forest.

Little did he know that this was to be one of his last major presentations, but one which clearly demonstrated his advocacy of democracy, justice for all, and equitable development.

On behalf of the Permanent Council, I extend to the Government and the people of the Commonwealth of Dominica our sincere condolences. I give the floor to Ambassador Simon Richards, the Permanent Representative of Dominica to the United Nations in New York, who is with us today.

EI REPRESENTANTE DE DOMINICA ANTE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you and the members of the Permanent Council for arranging the tributes to the Honorable Roosevelt Douglas, the late Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Commonwealth of Dominica.

On behalf of the Douglas family and the Government and people of the Commonwealth of Dominica, I express thanks to those from whom we have received words of comfort and expressions of sympathy at this moment of sadness for all Dominicans.

The Honorable Roosevelt Douglas was born in Portsmouth, Dominica, on October 15, 1941. The son of a relatively prosperous family, Rosie, as he was popularly known throughout the Caribbean, demonstrated at an early age a willingness to assist the less fortunate and that caring and generous spirit that shaped his character and outlook.

After completing his secondary education, the Honorable Roosevelt Douglas left Dominica in 1961 to pursue studies in agriculture at the University of Guelph in Canada. Upon graduation from Guelph, young Roosevelt Douglas changed course and courses, proceeding to study political science at McGill University. That he should choose politics over agriculture is not surprising. Both his father and his older brother, Michael, had been successful politicians and members of Parliament before him.

But his political journey began in inauspicious circumstances, and he was destined to go down a political path not traveled by neither his father or brother. The late Honorable Roosevelt Douglas was pursuing doctoral studies in political science when the turbulent events of the sixties and his life experiences in Canada impelled him to take an uncompromising stand against racism and the discrimination and indignity associated with it. As a consequence, his studies came to an end.

On his return to Dominica in 1976, he immediately immersed himself in local politics and joined forces with those campaigning for independence from Britain. The late Roosevelt Douglas was elected to the Dominican Parliament for the first time in 1985. From 1992 until his death, he was the leader of the Dominica Labour Party, and from 1996 to 1999, he served as leader of the opposition in Parliament. On February 4, 2000, the Honorable Roosevelt Douglas was sworn in as the fifth Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica.

Throughout his adult life, the late Roosevelt Douglas had a singular, passionate commitment to the struggle for liberation of black people everywhere and for the economic and political empowerment of the poor and disadvantaged. Driven by that commitment and his concern for social and economic justice, he became involved in the 80s and 90s in international solidarity work in various parts of the world.

In southern Africa, in particular, he played an important role in support of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) and the African National Congress (ANC) in the struggle against apartheid. During that period, he also established significant relationships with other labor parties and governments in Europe, and in the course of his brief stewardship as Prime Minister of Dominica, he promoted those relationships as building blocks of a new cooperative approach with Europe.

Never a politician of the conventional mode, the late Prime Minister energized political debate in his own country and in the Caribbean by frequently expressing views and advocating positions considered politically unwise by some. In his quest for dignity, respect, and better economic conditions for the less privileged, the Prime Minister would not allow himself to be distracted by criticisms at home or abroad. Not everyone shared his vision for a humane and just society and the mechanism for achieving it.

If the late Prime Minister were able to speak to this Council today, I think that he would feel very comfortable with the following quote from George Bernard Shaw: "You see things as they are and ask, 'Why?' I dream things as they never were and ask, 'Why not?'" The legacy of Roosevelt Bernard Douglas is that he dared to ask why not, and in so doing he touched, in a fundamental way, the lives of many people in Dominica, in the Caribbean, and elsewhere.

The Honorable Roosevelt Douglas passed on suddenly on Sunday, October 1, 2000, at his residence in Portsmouth. The Commonwealth of Dominica has lost one of its illustrious sons, a consistent fighter for freedom and social and economic justice whose vision, engaging personality, sense of humor, and ability to communicate with people on all levels made him one of the Caribbean's leading political figures. While the people of Dominica mourn his loss, we are thankful for the 58 years he spent among us.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

EL PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador Richards. In memory of the late Honorable Roosevelt Douglas, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica, and in memory of the late Right Honorable Pierre Elliott Trudeau, former Prime Minister of Canada, I now invite the members of this Council to observe a minute of silence in their honor.

[El Consejo, de pie, observa un minuto de silencio.]

BIENVENIDA A LA NUEVA EMBAJADORA REPRESENTANTE DE BELICE

El PRESIDENTE: At this time, I extend a cordial welcome to the newly-appointed Permanent Representative of Belize to the OAS, Ambassador Lisa Shoman, who presented credentials recently.

Ambassador Lisa Shoman was awarded a law degree by the University of the West Indies in 1986. She was called to the Bar in Belize in 1988 and has occupied various public offices, such as Crown Counsel in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions in Belize and legal consultant to organizations such as Belize Women Against Violence and the Toledo Maya Cultural Council. Ambassador Lisa Shoman has several publications and research papers to her credit, most of them relating to women and children.

Ambassador Shoman, on behalf of the members of this Council and on my own behalf, I welcome you to this House of the Americas and extend our full cooperation to you and your mission. You have the floor.

La REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DE BELICE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Your Excellency, César Gaviria, Secretary General; Ambassador Luigi Einaudi, Assistant Secretary General; permanent and alternate representatives, friends:

Mr. Chairman, I am honored to congratulate you on your assumption to the Chair of the OAS Permanent Council, and my delegation pledges its full support to you during your term as Chair. My congratulations also go to the Ambassador of Brazil, Ambassador Pécly Moreira, for his able leadership of this Council during the last three months.

Mr. Chairman, it is my distinct honor to address this Permanent Council for the first time and to extend to all our friends here special greetings from the Government and people of Belize. Belize has closely observed—indeed actively participated in—this organization's dynamic metamorphosis into a highly respected leader in the defense of democracy, the rule of law, and human rights, and as a catalytic agent in the peaceful resolution of inter-state conflicts.

Even as we speak, Mr. Chairman, this organization is very much a part of the process of facilitation being used by Belize and Guatemala to arrive at a definitive solution to our age-old differendum. I am honored to avail myself of this opportunity to thank the Secretary General once again for his invaluable assistance in the ongoing negotiations between Belize and Guatemala.

I extend my sincere appreciation to those often overworked personnel of the General Secretariat—by us and others, I suspect—who have been involved in this process and who don't always get the credit that they deserve. I also applaud those member states that have pledged both financial and moral support to the efforts of my country and its neighbor to live in peace, as brother states should.

The political will of my government and that of Guatemala is evidenced by the agreement to focus all attention and efforts exclusively on the process at the OAS. We have also agreed to avoid all provocations and tension-generating situations and to focus instead on confidence-building measures to move the process forward. It is the fervent hope of all Belizeans that the efforts being invested will result in a not-too-distant resolution of our differences with Guatemala.

Mr. Chairman, I do wish that I could continue on this train of positive thought, but the situation in my country at the moment shackles me to the cold reality of the suffering of many Belizeans. As you all know, on the weekend of October 1, 2000, for three uninterrupted days, Belize was battered by Hurricane Keith, a category 4 force of nature that parked itself for three days off the northeastern coast of Belize. Keith pounded the islands of San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, and Caye Caulker and affected the entire northern part of Belize, from Belize City to the border with Mexico.

Preliminary estimates have quantified the damages at the appalling figure of \$200 million, or approximately 40 percent of the annual gross domestic product of Belize. This figure does not include damage to residential homes, which has been extensive and will affect the poor, who cannot afford insurance.

What this means, in terms of the damage figure given, is that a substantial part of the backbone of our tourism industry infrastructure has been damaged, with estimated damages in two islands alone amounting to \$100 million. Losses to agricultural products are estimated at some \$45 million. These are preliminary estimates, because there are many, many flooded agricultural fields at the moment, and if the water does not go down soon, we will have some more crop write-offs. This

includes damaged and destroyed traditional export crops, such as citrus and sugar; non-traditional exports, such as papayas; and domestic agricultural production.

Damage to public infrastructure is estimated at \$55 million, including damage to public buildings, roads, bridges, utility poles and cables, and flooding from the excessive rain. The flooding has several villages in the north of Belize incommunicado. Hundreds of people have had to leave their homes due to rising waters and then watch in utter helplessness as their homes and their crops are slowly destroyed under water.

Last week, Friday, October 6, I received from the Assistant Secretary General of the OAS, His Excellency Ambassador Luigi Einaudi, a check in the amount of \$20,000 from the Inter-American Emergency Aid Fund (FONDEM). For this, my country is truly grateful. We are also grateful to all those international agencies and friendly governments that have mobilized assistance for my country in its hour of need. As I mentioned to Ambassador Einaudi last Friday, my people are truly resilient and hardworking, and they have been known to pull through tremendously difficult hurdles, but this time we need all the help we are offered.

Mr. Chairman, Belize joined the Organization of American States eight years ago. Since then, we have seen this organization evolve to meet new challenges and those challenges it has faced head-on to remain politically viable. Today, we see the Organization facing perhaps its greatest challenge—to successfully and sustainably incorporate itself into the hemispheric process without losing its identity and its *raison d'être*. I say this is the greatest challenge, Mr. Chairman, because for many of the smaller member states, the OAS is more than a political forum, more than a converging platform for debating hemispheric issues. The OAS, for many smaller states like Belize, remains today an important partner in development and a source of invaluable technical cooperation.

We believe that this role, Mr. Chairman, must be safeguarded from the real possibility, albeit unintentional, of getting lost in the mainstream of the Summit's process. It is important that the OAS retain its practical approach to the fight against poverty by tackling underdevelopment through Partnership for Development activities. It is important that the OAS continue to educate the youth of our hemisphere through the Fellowships and Training Program. It is important that the OAS continue the fight against drugs, the fight for the protection and promotion of human rights, and for the protection and promotion of democracy.

Mr. Chairman, as the fourth Ambassador Permanent Representative of Belize to the Organization of American States, I pledge my country's unconditional commitment to the values enshrined in the Charter of the OAS: the equality of sovereign states, the defense of democracy, and the shared ideal of living together in peace, harmony, and security. The OAS is preparing itself for the future even as we deal with the challenges of today. Belize will always support these efforts, Mr. Chairman, for as my Prime Minister has said on more than one occasion, the future is now.

Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador, for a very eloquent and thought-provoking inaugural address. I think I echo the wishes of this Council in extending to you, your government, and the people of Belize our sympathies regarding those who were affected by the ravages of Hurricane Keith. Thank you very much.

BIENVENIDA AL NUEVO EMBAJADOR REPRESENTANTE
DE BARBADOS

El PRESIDENTE: The Chair would also like to welcome the newly appointed Permanent Representative of Barbados to the OAS, Ambassador Michael Ian King. Ambassador King received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the Brooklyn College of the City University of New York. He also pursued graduate work in Latin American studies at Queens College of the City University of New York.

Ambassador King has served in several departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of his country, has worked for the OAS, and has served most recently as Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium, to the European Communities, and to the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Ambassador King, as I have alluded to, is no stranger to this organization, having served here as his country's Alternate Representative.

Ambassador King, we are pleased to renew our relationship with you now as Permanent Representative of your country, and we look forward with enthusiasm to your participation in the Organization's agenda. You have the floor.

El REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DE BARBADOS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, Secretary General, Assistant Secretary General, fellow ambassadors and interim and alternate representatives, representatives of the Permanent Observer states, staff of the Secretariat, ladies and gentlemen:

When Barbados joined the OAS in 1967, we did so with a clear vision of our needs and a firm commitment to pursue our national development and that of the Hemisphere. We wanted to represent the interests of our small nation within the context of this multilateral forum and to mutually strengthen our cooperation with other member states. Today, 33 years later, that commitment remains unchanged, and I am honored to be chosen by my country to assist in that process at this interesting period of our participation in the inter-American system.

Mr. Chairman, I am not at all daunted by the responsibility that this new assignment places on me, for the stability and the constancy of the views of Barbados give me good ground on which to move forward. Like Barbados, the commitment and contribution of this organization to hemispheric development has been unquestionably strong.

The Organization, too, has been fortunate to have some of the most outstanding sons—and hopefully, one day, daughters—of the Hemisphere to lead its efforts. Barbados is pleased to have contributed to OAS leadership, as our own Ambassador Valerie McComie served as Assistant Secretary General from 1980 to 1990.

While the commitment of Barbados and the OAS to hemispheric development remains unchanged, much in the world in which we function has changed. As we continue to focus on eliminating the scourge of poverty from among our peoples and establishing free and just societies, we have had to adjust to such changes as the end of the Cold War, the onset of the information revolution, and the advent of globalization. These changes have impacted the way we see the world, the way the world sees us, and the way business is done. They have caused us to be confronted with the many challenges that currently engage our attention.

However, Mr. Chairman, these common challenges must continue to unite us and to encourage us to work more closely together. Challenges that confront us in our pursuit of democracy and the preservation of human rights immediately come to mind. We have witnessed over time, and indeed quite recently, several threats to democracy and the democratic process in some member states. The OAS has been called upon to respond and has done so in an admirable way. Barbados supports the view that democracy must remain one of the primary bases upon which we conduct our affairs.

We applaud the OAS for the role it continues to play through electoral observation missions; special missions mandated by the General Assembly or this Council, in the case of Haiti and Peru; and the ongoing work of the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD), especially in the area of education. May I also add the outstanding work by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) in the elimination of the scourge of drugs in our Hemisphere.

The OAS must continue to promote the development of instruments and mechanisms to protect the rights of women, children, indigenous populations, and migrant workers and their families. We support the initiative for the preparation of the draft Inter-American Convention against Racism and All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance, which was approved at the thirtieth regular session of the General Assembly in Windsor, Ontario, last June. We believe that the resolution recognizes that the diversity of ethnic groups and cultures enhances the societies of this hemisphere and must be given due consideration.

Barbados is pleased to continue its contribution in the area of human rights, as our membership in the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights shows. Our most recent formal acknowledgment of the jurisdiction of the Court also indicates our commitment.

Mr. Chairman, the establishment of just societies will not be possible without the proper administration of justice. The creation of the Justice Studies Center of the Americas is a laudable achievement and must serve as the avenue through which member states and the OAS tap the knowledge and experience of our best legal minds to guide our effort at reforming and updating legislation.

But there are other aspects to the administration of justice. Equal access to and equality in law, together with a reasonable response time, must be important considerations. Only when these three elements are present will we abide by the truism that "justice must not only be done, but must seem to be done."

Mr. Chairman, I stress justice because an appeal for justice is often the only recourse small states have when faced with contentious situations with larger and more developed states. As with our political and social and cultural development, our economic development must take a very practical approach. The year 2005 is approaching, and there is pressure upon us to get ready for the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). Barbados commends the Trade Unit on its work and its assistance to small states like Barbados, and we look forward to further cooperation with the Unit.

The establishment of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) represents member states' awareness of the need to refashion the administration and delivery of technical cooperation. Discussions are presently being held regarding the Strategic Plan for

Partnership for Development, and hopefully they will reflect the priority areas that are critical to our economic development. I commend the OAS for the insight of seeking to produce not only a Strategic Plan, but also the IACD Business Plan, which will more clearly define the actions that must be pursued. I do hope that this process is sustained.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that I will have other opportunities in this Council and in sessions of other bodies of the Organization to present Barbados's views on the OAS's proposals and actions in such areas as sustainable development, tourism, hemispheric security, natural disasters, the Summit of the Americas process, and the modernization and reform of the OAS, among others. When those times come, I will be guided by positions taken by my colleagues and the desirability of cooperation and consensus among member states, taking into consideration the resources of the Organization. I look forward to the convening of the special session of the General Assembly tomorrow, when attention will be focused on the financial situation of the Organization.

While I am a new Permanent Representative, Mr. Chairman, I am not new to the OAS, as you have indicated. From 1981 to 1986, I served as an Alternate Representative of Barbados, and I had the honor to serve as an employee of the OAS as Director of the Office of the General Secretariat in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas from 1990 until 1995.

In this new role, therefore, I start off with the advantage of some knowledge of the work of the OAS, the friendship and support of many colleagues among the representatives of member states, and especially the OAS staff. As my friends, they shall expect me to call on them in time of need and at other times. I look forward to establishing friendly working relations with those I am yet to meet, and I stand ready to assist anyone and everyone in any way possible, should it be necessary to call upon me. Mr. Chairman, I pledge to work cooperatively with all delegations and to give all my best as I seek to follow the footsteps of all the other distinguished Barbadian permanent representatives who have preceded me.

Before I end, Mr. Chairman, I would like to congratulate you on assuming the Chair of the Permanent Council for these three months. I also express my delegation's gratitude for the excellent work that was done in the same capacity by the distinguished Ambassador of Brazil prior to my arrival.

I thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you very much, Ambassador King, for your very substantive intervention. I think we can all draw upon it and upon your many years of experience. On behalf of the Council, let me say that we all will look forward to working with you very closely on that long list of subjects that you mentioned. Thank you.

ENTREGA DE UN MALLETE AL REPRESENTANTE DEL BRASIL,
PRESIDENTE SALIENTE DEL CONSEJO PERMANENTE

El PRESIDENTE: Before we consider the items on the order of business, I have the honor to present the commemorative gavel to our distinguished colleague, Ambassador Valter Pecly Moreira, Permanent Representative of Brazil, who chaired the Permanent Council during the last three months. I am confident that I speak for all members of this body in recognizing Ambassador Pecly Moreira's excellent chairmanship and in commending him for the efficient way in which he carried out his work at the helm of this Council, particularly since he didn't have a chance to adapt and was placed into this job right upon arrival. May I invite you, Ambassador Pecly Moreira, to approach the Chair to receive the gavel presented by this Council in recognition of your chairmanship. [Aplausos.]

[El Presidente hace entrega de un mallete al Representante del Brasil.]

PALABRAS DEL REPRESENTANTE DEL CANADÁ AL ASUMIR
LA PRESIDENCIA DEL CONSEJO PERMANENTE

El PRESIDENTE: Chers amis, comme il s'agit de la première occasion que j'ai, en qualité de Représentant permanent du Canada, de présider une séance du Conseil permanent, j'aimerais partager avec vous quelques réflexions sur la façon dont j'envisage d'accomplir mes devoirs pendant le semestre à venir.

Tout d'abord, j'aimerais aborder la question de l'application des règles de procédure du Conseil permanent. Par la suite, je voudrais indiquer quelques suggestions concernant l'apport substantiel du Conseil permanent aux activités de l'OEA à court et à moyen terme. Finalement, j'aimerais vous faire part de quelques réflexions préliminaires sur les priorités que voudrait vous proposer le Canada pour ce trimestre.

Vous n'êtes pas sans savoir que les règles du Conseil adoptées le 1er octobre 1980 ont par la suite été amendées à plusieurs reprises. Le 26 mai 1999, le Conseil permanent a adopté cinq suggestions relatives au fonctionnement de celui-ci auxquelles se sont ajoutées vingt-sept autres recommandations également endossées par le Conseil permanent. Des efforts substantiels ont été faits depuis lors pour la mise en œuvre de ces décisions et recommandations. Plusieurs demandent toutefois d'être rattachées et mises en œuvre plus systématiquement.

Permettez-moi, mes chers collègues, de vous mentionner les plus importantes à mon avis et de vous assurer que je ferai tous les efforts nécessaires pour respecter les règlements du Conseil permanent et les engagements pris à l'Assemblée générale tenue au Guatemala.

La présidence voudrait assurer un fonctionnement en douceur sans surprise de dernière minute pour que les délégations puissent contribuer le plus efficacement possible aux travaux et décisions du Conseil. Pour ce faire, sauf dans les cas d'extrême importance, les Etats membres qui souhaitent soumettre des questions à l'ordre du jour sont priés de les communiquer à la présidence dans un délai suffisant pour que l'on puisse faire parvenir aux missions permanentes l'ordre du jour, ainsi que les documents pertinents suffisamment à l'avance et dans les quatre langues.

Le programme des réunions sera distribué le jeudi précédant la semaine concernée. En cas de changement ultérieur et selon les règles du Conseil permanent, toute modification devra être communiquée dans les soixante-douze heures précédant la réunion. Tous les documents à l'ordre du jour seront distribués à l'avance dans les quatre langues via internet. Les rapports et leurs versions traduites seront mis à la disposition des délégations lors des séances durant lesquelles ils seront discutés.

Le temps, c'est de l'argent. Toutes les réunions du Conseil débiteront à l'heure exacte. Toutefois, les décisions ne seront prises qu'en présence d'un quorum minimum d'un tiers des Etats membres. Dans le même sens, la présidence demande également aux délégations de limiter la durée de leurs interventions au strict nécessaire et d'éviter de répéter des discussions qui ont déjà eu lieu dans les commissions, et ce, pour des raisons d'efficacité et d'économie.

Tout en exerçant la plus grande patience possible, la présidence s'efforcera de maintenir le débat et les interventions centrés seulement sur ce qui est pertinent au sujet en discussion, et ce, en application de l'article 44 du Règlement du Conseil permanent.

La présidence demande que les séances consacrées à la discussion d'importantes résolutions fassent usage des deux écrans électroniques pour permettre la révision simultanée des textes en anglais et en espagnol. A l'exception des réunions protocolaires, la présidence entend limiter la pratique des interventions d'adieux, de bienvenue et de félicitations collectives. Cette responsabilité a été transférée à la présidence par le rapport du Conseil permanent que je viens de mentionner. Les messages d'une délégation à l'autre pourront être transmis par courrier diplomatique ou lors des réceptions appropriées.

La présidence entend appliquer les articles 53 et 63 du Règlement concernant le vote et les procédures de vote. Ainsi, les décisions du Conseil permanent seront prises à la majorité absolue ou à la majorité des deux-tiers en ce qui concerne les questions relevant de l'article 56. La présidence encourage les commissions du Conseil permanent à suivre une démarche semblable pour rationaliser et augmenter l'efficacité de leurs travaux.

En trois mots, la marque de commerce de la présidence canadienne est la suivante : substance, continuité et efficacité. Comme nous l'avons déjà dit, et je me souviens des commentaires de l'Ambassadeur Heller du Mexique, la présidence prévoit d'inscrire à l'ordre du jour du Conseil une quantité appréciable de sujets de fond et de recevoir des invités spéciaux. Elle entend aussi inviter les observateurs permanents à prendre la parole ou à faire des déclarations lorsque des événements dans leurs pays s'avèrent pertinents pour le Conseil.

La présidence s'engage à travailler en étroite collaboration avec le Secrétaire général et le Secrétaire général adjoint et à assurer le maximum de coordination entre le Cabinet et le Conseil permanent. De même, dans un esprit de cohérence et de continuité, je travaillerai en étroite collaboration avec mon successeur, le Représentant permanent du Chili, l'Ambassadeur Esteban Tomic, pour l'élaboration d'un programme cohérent sur six mois. Nous aimerions inviter le Représentant permanent de la Colombie, l'Ambassadeur Ramos, à se joindre à notre démarche dans la perspective de continuité optimale dans la préparation de l'Assemblée générale au Costa Rica après le Sommet des Amériques.

In terms of the priorities of the Council, I think it is only fair that this Council reflect on the priorities of the Organization whenever it can. We have had a meeting to identify priorities. These meetings are important. Priorities will be looked at in our special session of the General Assembly tomorrow, and I believe it will also be a subject for continued study in this Council.

Similarly, the nature of the relationship of the OAS with the Summit is a priority needing study. In that context, at our last meeting a working group was established, under the chairmanship of Argentina, to look at this issue. Ambassador Shoman indicated her point of view on this as well in her inaugural remarks. All of these questions need to be filtered through and brought back to the Council.

Obviously, budget and funding issues are important, and the Chair would like to keep the Council informed as to where the Organization stands in terms of its fiscal and financial health. We should also study the suitability of an omnibus resolution for the thirty-first regular session of the General Assembly, if this will facilitate the planning of that Assembly by the Government of Costa Rica.

We should also not shy away from important issues that are evident in our hemisphere. I have spoken with Ambassador Ramos of Colombia about the prospect of holding a discussion or an information meeting of this Council devoted to Plan Colombia, which is a very important issue in the Hemisphere. At the recent Summit in Brazil, the presidents of South America singled the plan out as deserving a special declaration.

We will have any number of special invitees, beginning with the distinguished Foreign Minister of Chile, who will be with us on October 23. We will have a regular Council meeting on that day, with Her Excellency as our special guest.

We are also concerned and mindful, as we sit here being webcast throughout the Hemisphere, that in recent months the OAS has assumed a very important public persona in the media of the Hemisphere and of the world, and we should therefore also concentrate our activities on how our organization can be very visible and how it stands in the public domain.

Finally, and I again touch on Ambassador Shoman's intervention, disaster preparedness is an issue. The final quarter of every year sees the greatest concentration of natural disasters in our hemisphere, particularly hurricanes. It would be opportune during this quarter to review the progress that has been made with the Inter-American Committee for Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR) and our associated efforts to improve our coordination and to reduce our vulnerability.

Similarly, it would be valuable to receive an interim report on the status of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) after the meeting of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD). It may be useful to look at security review in its largest dimensions, with the cooperation of the distinguished Permanent Representative of Bolivia as Chair of the Committee on Hemispheric Security. We also have received a letter from the distinguished Foreign Minister of Venezuela expressing interest in reviewing election observation and how that is handled in the context of this organization.

In conclusion, the Chair plans to send all of you a little letter synthesizing this approach. These are some reflections that I have made over my three years sitting in the Council, and I would like to offer them to you at this time.

INFORME VERBAL DEL PRESIDENTE DE LA COMISIÓN ESPECIAL SOBRE
GESTIÓN DE CUMBRES INTERAMERICANAS SOBRE LA XIX REUNIÓN DEL
GRUPO DE REVISIÓN DE LA IMPLEMENTACIÓN DE CUMBRES (GRIC)

El PRESIDENTE: We now proceed to item 1 on the order of business, an oral report by the Chair of the Special Committee on Inter-American Summits Management on the nineteenth meeting of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) in Quebec City.

El PRESIDENTE DE LA COMISIÓN ESPECIAL SOBRE GESTIÓN DE CUMBRES INTERAMERICANAS: I have the good fortune of being Chair of that particular committee, so I will now provide you with a very quick overview. [Risas.]

The meeting took place last week and was geared towards looking ahead to the Third Summit of the Americas, which will take place in Quebec City from April 20 to 22 of next year. It was the first opportunity for all national coordinators to discuss the Summit agenda, the framework that Canada wished to bring forward, and to focus especially on the basket, as some have called it, of strengthening democracy in the Hemisphere. There was participation by all, including some representatives who are here today, and a long discussion that reflected considerable airing of views. Sometimes the discussion did not go as fast as it could have for some, and this will come, of course, in the fullness of time.

Delegations agreed to provide additional written comments on the language related to the democracy issue, and the next SIRG meeting will be devoted to the "Realizing Human Potential" portion of the draft Plan of Action. That meeting will take place at the headquarters of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) from November 28 to 30. However, an extra portion will be added to finish the discussion of the language on the democracy item.

Many proposals were made at this meeting in Quebec City. The Secretary General addressed the group on the role of the OAS and, in particular, the crisis related to resources and finances in terms of assuming additional Summit mandates. The Assistant Secretary General also addressed the group to begin the discussion on democracy. Certainly there was a common feeling that the inter-American system should be strengthened. The Office of Summit Follow-up, headed by Ambassador Jaime Aparicio, will be producing a report on the implementation of the mandates of the Miami and Santiago summits. Much of this already has been done.

The report of the national coordinator of Brazil on the meeting of the presidents of South America provided details on that particularly successful meeting in Brazilia at the end of August.

There was a status report by Argentina, which now chairs the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC), indicating that everything was on schedule so far.

The importance of the involvement of civil society and the full participation of smaller economies was stressed, and the agenda has been reduced to only 102 concrete and achievable measures.

The distinguished Deputy Foreign Minister of Colombia presented a report from the Rio group with emphasis on the Declaration of Cartagena, which has been entrenched in the United Nations Millennium Summit.

The Delegation of Mexico provided a report on education, suggesting renewed dedication to that commitment made in Santiago by leaders and that education requires greater partnership with institutions.

As Chair of the Special Committee, I reported at the last meeting on the creation 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. I also highlighted the quality of the contributions by civil society organizations.

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), in an important development, offered to host the next SIRG meeting, called for congruence of action and social sector and economic integration.

The Delegation of Argentina proposed better coordination of the OAS and Summit process and offered to host the next Summit to match the FTAA deadline of 2005. Coordination is a task that falls us to here in this Council and to the working group that I mentioned.

There was support for the idea of broadening the Troika. As members here today know, the Troika consists of three countries: the United States, Chile, and Canada. There was talk of enlarging it to include regional groups, and consideration is underway. Canada will present a paper on behalf of the Troika, following consultations with the United States and Chile, as to how a steering committee—since it would no longer would be a Troika—would look at that point.

The importance of cross-cutting issues was emphasized, particularly women and gender mainstreaming. Connectivity—this very difficult word that Canada has brought forward—is to be operationalized, and we're looking at fleshing out some ideas on that. There was a comment on whether a democratic clause is needed in the Summit, and this issue is still open for debate. There was also a collective feeling that the successes of the Action Plan of Santa Cruz de la Sierra should be included in the Summit process.

I'm just reading a note that has just been passed to me, which states that documents from the SIRG meeting in Quebec City are on the website of the Office of Summit Follow-up under "Government."

I will stop here and offer the floor to any delegation wishing to address this matter. [Pausa.] Well, that's easy. If there are no observations, the Chair suggests that the Council take note of the verbal report provided by the Chair of the Special Committee.

INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN DE ASUNTOS JURÍDICOS Y POLÍTICOS SOBRE
EL OTORGAMIENTO AL REINO DE DINAMARCA DE LA CONDICIÓN DE
OBSERVADOR PERMANENTE ANTE LA ORGANIZACIÓN

El PRESIDENTE: The next item is the report of the Chair of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) on granting the status of Permanent Observer to the Organization to the Kingdom of Denmark. This item has been extensively discussed at the CAJP under the capable chairmanship of Ambassador Escobar, and a draft resolution has been approved by consensus. The Chair would recommend that this Council resolve to grant the Kingdom of Denmark the status of Permanent Observer to the Organization of American States. If there is no objection, the draft resolution shall be considered approved. Approved.¹

SOLICITUD DEL REINO DE NORUEGA PARA QUE SE LE CONCEDA LA CONDICIÓN
DE OBSERVADOR PERMANENTE ANTE LA ORGANIZACIÓN

El PRESIDENTE: The next item refers to the request from the Government of the Kingdom of Norway to be granted the status of Permanent Observer to the Organization of American States. You have the document before you [CP/doc.3362/00]. If there are no objections, the Chair suggests that this matter be submitted to the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) for its consideration. It is so agreed.

INFORME DE ACTIVIDADES DE LA OFICINA DEL INSPECTOR GENERAL
PARA EL PERÍODO 1 DE ENERO A 30 DE JUNIO DE 2000

El PRESIDENTE: The next item on the order of business is the activity report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period January 1 to June 30, 2000. For the presentation of this report, I am pleased to give the floor to Mrs. Linda Fealing, Inspector General of the Organization.

La INSPECTORA GENERAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Assistant Secretary General, distinguished representatives, I am pleased to present this report of the activities of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) for the period ended June 30, 2000.

In the first audit that was completed, we examined selected operational procedures and transactions to verify whether the Office of Science and Technology (OST) was carrying out its responsibilities in accordance with OAS policies and procedures. The audit determined that for the most part, internal controls within the OST are adequate. The main weaknesses identified were that monthly leave reports of staff members did not agree with the summaries obtained from the records provided by the Department of Financial Services (DFS), that project expenditures needed to be correctly classified, and that follow-up action needed to be taken on balances remaining from completed projects. Seven recommendations were provided and were approved by the Secretary General.

Two systems audits were undertaken primarily for follow-up action and to review the progress made in implementing recommendations of prior projects. The first audit reviewed systems security and operations, including the security of the Foreign Trade Information System (SICE)

1. Resolución CP/RES. 777 (1252/00), anexa.

domain, which is managed by the Trade Unit; the NT server; and the functions and performance of the newly-appointed Information Security Officer (ISO). We determined that overall progress has been made within OAS information systems with regard to the NT domains and Oracle Server security and operational control. Physical security is much better. Many technical exposures have been closed. An internal reorganization has provided administrative responsibilities, and the appointment of the ISO has increased security focus.

Although the Secretariat for Management is in agreement with the findings and recommendations of the report, the OAS information system faces a number of challenges that should be effectively addressed. One concern of the Inspector General at the time of the audit was that although some progress had been made, many of the original findings and recommendations of the previous audit, which had been declared complete, were still incomplete. At the time of the audit, 20 of the original 44 findings were completed and closed and 24 were incomplete and still outstanding, in the opinion of the auditor. We were told that funds requested in the 2001 budget for implementing critical recommendations for systems upgrades, increased systems security, and additional human resources were not approved.

The Secretary General approved the nine high-risk recommendations, to be implemented in 30 days, and four medium-risk recommendations, to be implemented in 90 days. All of these recommendations were provided to address the findings of this audit. The OIG continues to monitor efforts by the Secretariat for Management to address audit findings, and the Inspector General is satisfied that every effort is being made by the Secretariat to comply with these recommendations within the restraints of available resources.

The second systems audit reviewed progress made in implementing recommendations of the prior audit of the Oracle Government Financials System and the new Oracle Human Resources family of applications, which went into production this year. The audit determined that of the 20 approved recommendations in the 1999 audit, only two were said to be completed. The lack of completion of the work does not solve the problems identified in the prior audit and causes the Office of the Inspector General serious concern, particularly because recommendations for standards of auditability were not implemented. Additionally, no responsibilities were established for the auditors to effectively trace activities within the Oracle Financials or project account.

Because the requested access to the system was not given, the technical auditor had to use a more difficult means of extracting the technical evidence. The data control issues addressed in the audit report are extremely serious and should be addressed as a priority, particularly since the auditor found that the financial data in the Oracle Financials system did not always represent the financial status of certain programs, projects, offices, or organizations. The audit also identified a need for formally documented, organization-wide security policies and procedures, and we are pleased to report that this is now in process. However, there is an urgent need for written policies and procedures for the operational processes resulting from the Oracle Financials system.

The Office of the Inspector General is responsible for ensuring compliance with written procedures. If these procedures do not exist, not only does it make my job difficult, but the external auditors have to establish procedures to verify procedures. The audit also determined that control over significant aspects of the Oracle Financials and payroll applications and related systems and hardware is not adequate and needs improvement.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Secretary General, you may recall that in the 1999 audit report, the Board of External Auditors stated that weaknesses in control structure identified by the OIG during 1999 were not immediately addressed, and these impacted the 1999 financial operations. In that report, they also addressed the issue of the “reportable condition” documented by Ernst and Young LLP auditors for the first time in 15 years. They added that because ongoing problems are significant, OAS management must continue to take appropriate action to ensure adequate and reasonable controls over financial resources. Most recently, in his address to the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP) on September 12, the Chairman of the Board reported that failure to address the “reportable condition” could impact auditors’ reports in the future.

Nine high-risk recommendations and five medium-risk recommendations were approved by the Secretary General. We wish to point out, however, that the recommendations outlined in this report had been originally provided in a prior audit report.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished representatives, management’s commitment to competence is an important factor in ensuring a positive control environment. The Inspector General’s audit report states that the Assistant Secretary for Management must:

- ensure that appropriate arrangements are made for more effective overall management of the Oracle Technical Environment;
- ensure that critical business processes that are conducted are properly documented; and
- determine appropriate financial and staffing requirements for an environment that sets a positive and supportive attitude toward internal controls.

We are pleased to report that work has now started on the recommendations, and we commend the Secretariat for Management for the significant progress that has been made. Training classes have been offered to some departments to specifically meet their needs. Discussions to address the apparent overlap of responsibilities between the Department of Technology and Facility Services (DTFS) and the Department of Management Analysis, Planning and Support Services (MAPSS) are ongoing and should soon be resolved.

Subsequent to the audit report, MAPSS designed a series of systematic, detailed Oracle training courses to provide users, including OAS executives, with the necessary knowledge for performing assigned responsibilities. In addition, a memorandum dated July 27 from the Assistant Secretary for Management to all executives and assistant secretaries, directors, and office chiefs provided an outline of some of the attributes of the Oracle Financials. It also proposed hands-on training and evaluation for all staff members to ensure that all staff members possess the required skills for performing their assigned responsibilities.

That memorandum, which was issued in response to specific audit recommendations, is designed to improve overall system security and awareness and to provide staff with the ability to manage their financial information within the Oracle system and retrieve required financial information from the system for reporting purposes.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to advise also that the audit of internal controls with the Department of Financial Services, which is planned for later this year, will address data integrity, which is important when the Board of External Auditors does the next audit.

Audit SG/OIG/04/00 was undertaken to evaluate the administrative and internal controls of petty cash funds at headquarters and to ensure compliance with OAS directives. Our examination determined that all petty cash accounts were accounted for and that all expenses were supported by documentation. However, we found that the Department of Financial Services (DFS) and the petty cash custodians do not always comply with OAS procedures regarding the maintenance and disbursement of petty cash funds. The main weaknesses identified were:

- The listing provided by DFS was incomplete, as it omitted one custodian;
- Petty cash funds, although not large amounts, were inappropriately deposited in the personal OAS Credit Union accounts of two custodians;
- Six of the 15 custodians did not have prior authorization before disbursing funds and some did not complete the required OAS form;
- In some cases, certain custodians both disbursed and approved the transactions, and some custodians did not maintain on file the required specimen signature of the individual authorized to disburse these funds; and
- Although no transactions were processed since 1998, one custodian still retained the vouchers and did not submit them to DFS for recording of the expenses and retirement of the account.

Four recommendations were provided and were approved by the Secretary General.

In Audit SG/OIG/5/00, we examined selected operational and financial activities, including cash receipts and disbursements for January to December 1999, in the Office of the General Secretariat in Saint Kitts and Nevis to determine whether that office is executing its responsibilities in accordance with OAS rules. We ascertained that for the most part, internal controls in the National Office in Saint Kitts and Nevis are adequate for providing proper authorization and recording of transactions. The main weaknesses identified during the audit were the need for that office to:

- Comply with directives regarding personal use of the telephone;
- Maintain a mileage log for the official vehicle;
- Ensure that attendance reports are accurate; and
- Provide an annual inventory listing for proper recording of OAS assets.

The Director of National Office in Saint Kitts and Nevis reimbursed the OAS for his personal telephone calls, which were identified during the audit. We also found that the DFS did not maintain a record of authorized signatures for all bank accounts in national offices.

We also reviewed two projects executed in Saint Kitts and Nevis during the audit period. We determined that:

- The project balances in the Oracle Financials at headquarters did not agree with disbursement registers in the National Office because amounts were erroneously posted to the wrong projects and there were clerical errors in the disbursement register; and
- There is need for more effective management of projects by project managers at headquarters to ensure that disbursements are properly recorded and account balances are accurate.

The thirteen recommendations were approved by the Secretary General.

In Audit SG/OIG/06/00, we examined selected operational and financial activities in the Office of the General Secretariat in Antigua and Barbuda to determine whether it is executing its responsibilities in accordance with OAS rules. The main weaknesses identified were the need for that office to:

- Comply with OAS directives regarding personal use of the telephone;
- Maintain a mileage log;
- Ensure that attendance reports are accurate;
- Submit quarterly reports on goods imported duty-free; and
- Provide the annual inventory listing.

The Director of the National Office in Antigua and Barbuda reimbursed the OAS for his personal telephone calls. The audit also identified a need for training in OAS operational directives for the secretary/technician. In an effort to reduce costs, the training was provided by the National Office in Saint Kitts and Nevis prior to the completion of the audit report.

The two projects executed in Antigua and Barbuda were “The Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Agricultural Pest Management Systems through the Use of Biopesticides” and “The Integrated Approach to Development Planning.” We were unable to review these projects because the project records are located in another member state. In addition, the disbursement period was extended due to delays in carrying out project activities because of hurricane damages.

The audit also identified an unpaid liability for automobile expenses relating to the Parham Project, which was completed in 1997.

At the date of writing the report, the 12 recommendations had not yet been approved by the Secretary General. However, I am pleased to say that they now have been approved.

During the period ended June 30, 2000, the recruitment of auditors to fill the four vacant positions in the OIG was in process. I am pleased to report that three auditor positions are now occupied by significantly experienced and qualified auditors. Recruitment for the position of Deputy Inspector General—the only remaining vacant position—is in its final stages, and it is expected that the position will be filled as soon as the Advisory Committee on Selection and Promotion makes a decision.

Staff members of the OIG continue to participate as observers in meetings, particularly those related to the Contract Awards Committee and the training classes related to the Oracle Financials.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished representatives, I thank you for the opportunity to present this report to you and for your continued support of the OIG. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you very much, Madam Inspector General, for that detailed and comprehensive presentation.

I now offer the floor to delegations that wish to address this matter. The distinguished Representative of the United States has the floor.

El REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS: Madam Inspector General, on behalf of my delegation and my country, please accept our highest support for your outstanding work.

This is a frightening report in a lot of ways. In the interests of a shorter discussion, I would like to make sure that my fellow colleagues understand the seriousness of some of the observations in this professional audit. Specifically, I call to your attention the Oracle Financials systems. Twenty-four of the 44 deficiencies of the 1999 audit have yet to be corrected, and in the Oracle system, only two of 20 deficiencies can be said to be completed.

Madam Inspector General has been a little bit more diplomatic than I have, but she did approximate my words by saying there were “serious concerns” and that the situation was “extremely serious.” I would only urge therefore, Mr. Chairman, in the interest of time, that you would instruct whomever—and management—to come back to this Permanent Council urgently to address these deficiencies. I call to your attention the seriousness of the situation, particularly in the Oracle System, as it may relate to having a full opinion rather than a qualified opinion of the operations.

So I end by again congratulating the unsung, extremely important work of the Inspector General and sharing with you my deepest concerns that some of her recommendations have gone unaddressed, for whatever reasons. I gather that we will hear the reasons when we receive that report. We’ll discuss quotas later, and tomorrow we’ll have a budget meeting. This is a boring subject, but it’s at the crux of management reform and moving this organization toward efficiency and accountability. So I take note of the seriousness of the report and urge that the Chair find a way to put on the agenda a report for management to address.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador. The distinguished Representative of Saint Lucia has the floor.

La REPRESENTANTE ALTERNA DE SANTA LUCÍA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My delegation thanks the Inspector General for the comprehensive audit reports of the Secretariat, which reflect the commitment of the Inspector General’s Office to set the Organization in the right direction.

This delegation therefore urges that the various recommendations of the Inspector General be complied with in all areas. We applaud the Inspector General’s Office for the excellent work done to date and offer this delegation’s continued support. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you. The distinguished Representative of Saint Kitts and Nevis has the floor.

La REPRESENTANTE ALTERNA DE SAINT KITTS Y NEVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My delegation congratulates you on your assumption to the Chair of the Permanent Council, and we pledge our full support to you and your efforts as you lead us to the end of this year.

We extend our deepest condolences to the Government and the people of Dominica as they mourn the loss of one of their distinguished sons, the late Prime Minister Roosevelt Douglas.

We also thank the distinguished Permanent Representative of Brazil for his leadership of the Council in the past three months, and we take this opportunity to welcome the distinguished Permanent Representative of Belize, Ambassador Shoman, and the distinguished Permanent Representative of Barbados, Ambassador King. We pledge the support of the Delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis to you both, and we look forward to working with you as we advance the work of the Organization.

My delegation thanks the Inspector General for her report on the audit of the National Office in Saint Kitts and Nevis. We note the deficiencies indicated in the report and would expect an immediate implementation of the suggested recommendations. We embrace all measures that would ensure efficient use of that office. In that regard, we take the opportunity to reiterate the importance of the Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States to the governments and people of this hemisphere, particularly that of Saint Kitts and Nevis.

We believe, as we have expressed on several occasions, that the functions of the national offices go beyond project implementation and follow-up. We rely on the offices to promote the OAS and its work, not only in Saint Kitts and Nevis, but in the Hemisphere. We believe that the offices must be maximized, and they must be used as they were originally intended. The growth of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) would necessitate an expansion of the use of these offices, thus giving greater importance to the recommendations of the Inspector General.

We thank the Inspector General once again for her report and look forward to a follow-up report on the implementation of the recommendations. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you. The distinguished Representative of Peru has the floor.

La REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DEL PERÚ: Gracias, señor Presidente.

La Delegación del Perú desea agradecer a la señora Inspectora General por su excelente trabajo, así como este informe de auditoría y control que nos ha traído esta mañana, que consideramos esencial para asegurar el buen uso, la buena administración de los escasos recursos que tiene la Organización.

El comentario va a ser muy breve, señor Presidente, pero queremos decir que nos han llamado poderosamente la atención las irregularidades o los problemas que han sido detectados en relación con el sistema Oracle. El hecho de que se presenten en este informe algunas consideraciones, como, por ejemplo, que el auditor técnico tuvo que utilizar métodos más complicados para extraer las evidencias técnicas porque no se le concedió el acceso al sistema solicitado, entre otras circunstancias, creemos que es preocupante. Por esta razón esperamos que la auditoría en relación con este sistema, que ha resultado tan costoso, efectivamente pueda llevarse adelante y se pongan en práctica las recomendaciones que se están haciendo a través de todo este trabajo de auditoría de la señora Inspectora General.

Gracias, señor Presidente.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador. The Inspector General has the floor once again.

La INSPECTORA GENERAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to add a clarification so that the distinguished representatives understand precisely what was presented.

In August 1999, we audited the system. Some of the recommendations provided were high-risk and a number were medium-risk. High-risk recommendations were supposed to be implemented within 30 days and medium-risk recommendations within 90 days. Lower-risk recommendations—there were very few of them—were to be implemented within 180 days.

When this audit was completed in February 2000, we were very disappointed that many of the recommendations were not implemented within the given timeframe. These are what were documented. I would like to add that since this audit in 2000, the Secretariat for Management has done considerable work and expended considerable effort to implement the recommendations, within the financial constraints.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, distinguished guests.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you very much for that clarification. I think that in response to the concerns expressed by several delegations, notably Peru and the United States, the Chair would like to put the Assistant Secretary General for Management on the spot, very briefly, to provide the necessary clarification. We thank you, Inspector General Linda Fealing, for your comprehensive and thought-provoking report.

Mr. Harding, you have the floor.

El SUBSECRETARIO DE ADMINISTRACIÓN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also appreciate the work that the Inspector General has done in this area. First of all, please be assured that we welcomed her to begin the work. We had a technical issue in which we didn't have outside expertise to come in and look at the areas. As a result, management welcomed the first audit in August and September, the report delivered in November, and the approved recommendation, so that it could identify and ask for outside assistance.

We agreed with most of the recommendations. Some of them we didn't agree with, frankly, because they went far beyond where we had envisioned that the security of the Organization ought to be, and we hadn't planned the money for it. Subsequently, we put that into the \$83.7 million 2001 budget and it was not approved.

So we first received a list of the recommendations in November. The auditors came back three months later, and we hadn't done everything. She was absolutely correct. We had a plan in which, based on the original set of recommendations, we wanted to get some things done, but they were not all going to be completed in the first 30 or 60 days. We simply don't have the manpower nor the resources to get them all done.

Now remember that this report came out six months ago. At the end of this summer, we delivered to the Inspector General a report on the accomplishment of 42 recommendations, if my numbers serve me correctly. So we agree with the issues that she raised; we wanted the audit to be done and we wanted outside experts to come in and identify the areas we needed to work on.

We've just submitted 42 of the implemented recommendations to the Inspector General, and I hope that she finds the responses satisfactory. So the plan to bring closure to the system is part of our

overall objective of making sure that it's the best possible system. By way of history, I'm told that in the last system change in 1979, it took two and a half years to provide a financial statement.

We brought the system online, although all of the policies were not written and everything was not accomplished to the satisfaction of myself and the Inspector General. Why? Because we had to have a new system operational on January 1, 2000, and the old, Cobol-based system would not work. We reported to this Council a number of years ago that based upon evaluation by outside consultants, the old system was not satisfactory and that it would fail. We would have liked to have brought it online years before, but the resources and the planning were not approved by this Council until 1997.

So we brought it on as quickly as we could. We wanted the Inspector General to come in, bring in outside help, evaluate every weakness of the system, and then work through each of those and correct them. We included in the budget those areas for which we had no resources, and we turned to the Council to decide whether or not those particular risks that the Inspector General identified were worth the price that she wanted to go with. In our opinion, it wasn't in the original plan. We didn't seek the risk. Things change, and some people saw an increased risk that somebody from the outside might come through what's called a demilitarized zone into the Organization to change our financial statements. How much do you want to pay for that? Big money, if you want a high security system.

So, Mr. Chairman, we welcome the Inspector General. It was part of our plan to identify every single weakness. We have no other means to do it except using her office to help us see through these problems, and then we have a plan to resolve them. I'm pleased to report that 42 recommendations were recently resolved, and the report on that was sent to the Inspector General. This is not included in the report that she gave you, because that covered the period from January to June. Her earlier report is absolutely correct in stating that we didn't complete some 20 recommendations by January-February, as we received the report in November. We could not get to all of those recommendations in the time frame and with the resources we had. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Mr. Harding. Mr. Secretary General, you have the floor.

El SECRETARIO GENERAL: Gracias, señor Presidente del Consejo.

Creo que el Consejo debe recibir una información completa sobre este asunto. Considero que a la vuelta de dos, tres o cuatro semanas –no sé exactamente cuánto tiempo sea necesario– debe recibir información sobre cuáles de esas recomendaciones se han cumplido, cuáles no se han cumplido y qué es lo que se necesita para que se puedan cumplir.

No creo que este tema se pueda dejar en el aire, porque va a circular por el Consejo un mundo de temores al respecto. No sé exactamente de qué manera la Presidencia del Consejo se propone llevar este asunto a buen término, a que el Consejo sepa si las recomendaciones que se le han hecho a la Subsecretaría de Administración se pueden cumplir, y dónde hay problemas de recursos que tal vez no estén a nuestra disposición.

Creo que el Consejo Permanente debe ser totalmente informado al respecto; debe ser consciente o de las limitaciones del sistema o de las limitaciones de la OEA para acceder a los

recursos que sean necesarios para tener una respuesta que sea totalmente satisfactoria para los miembros del Consejo. No creo que pueda ser de ninguna otra manera.

Gracias, señor Presidente.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Secretary General. In providing a summary and a course of action, I would suggest that the Council take note of the report of the Inspector General and the clarifications provided by the Assistant Secretary for Management, and also welcome the offer by the Secretary General that this subject be revisited in a short time period. I would suggest three to four weeks, to observe the pace of implementation of the recommendations, and I would be very pleased if the Council would agree with that recommendation. So we take note and appreciate the clarifications, and we urge the continued implementation of the recommendations and a return to this matter at a future date. Thank you. It is so agreed.

ESTADO DE CUOTAS Y CONTRIBUCIONES AL 31 DE AGOSTO DE 2000

El PRESIDENTE: We now move on to item 5, the status of contributions and quotas as of August 31, 2000 [CP/doc.3360/00]. The floor is open to representatives wishing to speak. [Pausa.] Since no delegations wish to take the floor, I give the floor to Mr. Harding to provide a brief update.

El SUBSECRETARIO DE ADMINISTRACIÓN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm pleased to report that during the month of September, Argentina paid \$1,658,000; Costa Rica, \$5,315.27; Dominica, \$12,560.00; the Dominican Republic, \$89,141.00; El Salvador, \$52,300.00; Haiti, \$82,925.00; Peru, \$283,700.00; and during the month of October to date, I am pleased to report that Ecuador paid \$78,710.00.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you. I give the floor to the Representative of Costa Rica.

El REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DE COSTA RICA: Muchas gracias, señor Presidente.

Señor Presidente, simplemente para hacer una aclaración. Costa Rica aparece con una deuda de \$5.315 al 31 de agosto. Tenemos el gusto de decir que, a esta fecha, estamos perfectamente al día. Se hizo un pago de cinco mil y pico de dólares; quedó un remanente de \$61 que se pagaron hace poco. Mi Gobierno ha hecho un esfuerzo muy grande por ponerse al día y quiero que así conste en acta.

Gracias.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you. The Representative of Chile has the floor.

El REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DE CHILE: Gracias, señor Presidente.

Quisiera saber si la información que ha dado el señor Harding puede ser distribuida, de manera que podamos enviar todos estos antecedentes a nuestros respectivos gobiernos hoy mismo. Gracias.

El PRESIDENTE: I give the floor to General Harding.

El SUBSECRETARIO DE ADMINISTRACIÓN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First, in response to the Representative of Costa Rica, and second, in response to the distinguished Ambassador of Chile, the report that you are looking at is as of August 31. The September report is in publication now, so the August report reflects the \$5,315 owed by Costa Rica and the September payment, which then satisfies that country's debt. I am happy to provide the other information on Costa Rica, but that report as of September 30 is being printed for delivery to the member states. I'd be happy to make verbal information available to any member state that wishes it.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you. If there are no further requests for the floor, I'd like to thank General Harding for his report and his response to the queries.

INFORME VERBAL DEL SECRETARIO GENERAL ADJUNTO SOBRE LA MISIÓN DE LA OEA A HAITÍ

El PRESIDENTE: We move on to item 6—the oral report by the Assistant Secretary General on the Mission of the OAS to Haiti. I give the floor to the Assistant Secretary General.

El SECRETARIO GENERAL ADJUNTO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the Council will recall that the Secretary General reported in September on his August mission to Haiti—a mission organized in accordance with Permanent Council resolution CP/RES. 772 (1247/00) of August 4. In that mission, he was accompanied by three members of this Council, the ambassadors of Argentina, Chile, and Venezuela; by the Assistant Secretary General of CARICOM; and by yours truly. The key finding of that mission was an acute need for dialogue to address the problems caused by the May 21 local and parliamentary elections; to improve prospects for the prospective presidential and senatorial elections; and, more generally, to strengthen democracy.

I would like to report to you very briefly on events since then. In mid-September, at the request of Foreign Minister Longchamp of Haiti, I made a very brief consultation trip to Haiti. I met with President Préval and with the head of *La Fanmi Lavalas*, former President Aristide. Convinced by those conversations that the Government was prepared to show some flexibility on at least a number of the points of interest to a dialogue, I returned to Haiti from September 21 to September 29. President Préval made a strong television statement welcoming the presence of the OAS, calling for dialogue among the political parties, and pledging to implement the results of such a dialogue.

During my visit, I met with a wide variety of Haitians, parties, civil society. In hopes of generating an accord, I concentrated on political parties; in particular, *La Fanmi Lavalas* and the major grouping of opposition parties, *Convergence démocratique*. For a week I shuttled, meeting alternately with the *Convergence* and *Lavalas* leaderships. In many of these meetings, I am pleased to report that I was accompanied by representatives of member and observer states, CARICOM, and the United Nations. In fact, though many of these were the representatives normally assigned to Port-au-Prince, Canada and the United States dispatched their senior officials concerned with Haiti to

accompany me, and CARICOM did the mission the honor of sending former Minister Charles Maynard of Dominica as its representative.

On September 29, I left Haiti without an accord and, in fact, without even being able to bring the parties into face-to-face dialogue. This said, all parties agreed on the vital importance and need for a dialogue; the Government and *La Fanmi Lavalas* repeated some signs of flexibility; and the opposition began to define their positions. A possible framework for negotiation began to emerge, centered around what one might broadly call the problem of freedom and, more specifically, the problems of how to overcome past electoral difficulties and ensure successful current ones. Because of these initial signs of progress, when I left Haiti I said that we had begun a pause for reflection.

It has been an active pause.

In both Quebec and here in Washington, I've had a chance to meet informally with a variety of Haitian delegations, with the Secretary General, of course, with diplomatic colleagues, including consultations with the United Nations and CARICOM, with members of both the U.S. Executive and Legislative branches, and I attended an informal donors' meeting for Haiti that had been convened by the World Bank. In Haiti, meanwhile, the *Convergence* has been further refining written expressions of its positions, and former President Aristide and *Lavalas* are apparently beginning to do so also. And I should note that the current Electoral Council, which is very much under fire, extended the process of registration for presidential candidates.

This activity was and is very badly needed. The differences to be overcome are still great, and time is rapidly becoming an enemy; fortunately, I think, a common enemy for all Haitian parties. In the absence of a political accord on how to resolve the differences arising from the May 21 elections and how to ensure legitimate elections for the presidency and the Senate, the schedule is clearly going to be kept: voting on November 26, which is barely six weeks away. Even if there is an accord, the provisions of that accord will need to be implemented in conformity with the Constitution of Haiti, which calls for an end to the current presidency and a transfer of power on February 7, 2001.

Because of the progress taking place on the ground and in the various contacts here and, frankly, also because of the pressure of time, I plan to return to Haiti this week, leaving tomorrow immediately after the special session of the General Assembly.

I do not know how likely it is that Haiti's political forces will actually be able to reach an agreement, but I would like to draw your attention to one very important point. If the parties do agree on how to approach the very different problems that are posed by May 21 and November 26, that will inevitably have important implications for this organization and for its member states.

We will, for example, probably need to develop and lead a follow-up mechanism to accompany Haiti's efforts, perhaps taking as a model the efforts that the Secretary General and the Foreign Minister of Canada have developed in Peru with a permanent secretary and a mission, though not large, nonetheless of critical importance.

We will certainly also need to prepare active technical and observational support for a new Electoral Council. There will be no agreement without a new Electoral Council, and this in turn will need the support of the international community in order to increase the confidence of all concerned that what has been agreed to will, in fact, be complied with.

Let me just quickly say that I am very grateful to Canada, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States which, as far as I'm aware, are the only three countries that have made contributions so far to enable this mission to be carried forth and, of course, to the governments of Argentina, Chile, and Venezuela, and to CARICOM, who defrayed the costs of their accompanying the Secretary General in August.

Finally, let me say that the current political difficulties in Haiti come in the midst of an economic downturn and social tensions that are making life there increasingly difficult. The OAS is in the forefront of international efforts to help Haiti, and a great deal is riding on our efforts.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

El PRESIDENTE: Merci, Monsieur le Secrétaire général adjoint pour ce rapport. Le Représentant d'Haïti a la parole.

El REPRESENTANTE INTERINO DE HAITÍ: Merci, Monsieur le Président. Qu'il me soit permis de remercier le Secrétaire général adjoint, l'Ambassadeur Einaudi, pour l'attention particulière qu'il accorde à la question d'Haïti et pour les efforts qu'il a déjà déployés, de concert avec le Secrétaire général, pour aboutir à une entente entre les différentes parties haïtiennes au sujet des élections du 21 mai 2000.

La mission qu'il a conduite récemment en Haïti a été productive à plus d'un titre et a permis de déblayer le terrain en le préparant pour le dialogue fructueux dont les contours se profilent déjà. Déterminé à rétablir l'harmonie politique, le Gouvernement de la République a cru saisir une opportunité en invitant l'OEA à jouer le rôle de facilitateur du dialogue entre les différents protagonistes sociaux et politiques. En outre, il a manifesté sa parfaite disposition à mettre en œuvre toute solution de compromis qui aura été trouvée. Cet esprit d'ouverture restera un trait marquant de la politique du Président de la République.

Parallèlement, je crois savoir que le parti majoritaire au Parlement – le parti La Fanmi Lavalas – a fait montre de flexibilité en articulant certaines propositions pour s'accommoder à des exigences de l'opposition et de la Communauté internationale. C'est donc une garantie d'atteindre un vrai dialogue, pourvu que chacun y mette du sien.

Mon gouvernement reste confiant que l'OEA parviendra à contribuer à rapprocher les positions sur le terrain. Il fera de son mieux pour que les élections de novembre prochain puissent se dérouler dans une ambiance de confiance restaurée et méritent en tout point et sans conteste les qualificatifs de « libres, honnêtes, transparentes et démocratiques ». En conséquence, il ne manquera pas d'accorder tout l'appui nécessaire à l'équipe de l'OEA.

En terminant, je voudrais remercier tous ceux qui ont concouru à la réalisation de la mission, en particulier nos alliés de la CARICOM, le Gouvernement des Etats-Unis d'Amérique et le Gouvernement du Canada. Les défis sont de taille, mais qui peut résister à la détermination d'en arriver à des institutions stables et à la floraison de l'espoir et du bien-être?

El PRESIDENTE: Je vous remercie pour cette intervention si importante. La Représentante du Canada a la parole.

La REPRESENTANTE ALTERNA DEL CANADÁ: Merci, Monsieur le Président. Comme vous êtes le premier à le savoir, la position du Canada n'a guère changé depuis la tenue des élections haïtiennes. Nous souhaitons remercier le Secrétaire général adjoint de son rapport et nous croyons qu'il peut être opportun en ce moment de réitérer certains points.

La tournure des événements en Haïti demeure inquiétante et nous exhortons les autorités à faire preuve d'une volonté à répondre aux préoccupations, entre autres, de la Communauté internationale. Nous appuyons pleinement les efforts de l'OEA pour faciliter un dialogue entre acteurs politiques haïtiens. Nous souhaitons que ce dialogue ait pour résultat une correction par les Haïtiens des principaux problèmes de leurs élections législatives et la prise de mesures pour le renforcement de leur démocratie.

Nous croyons que le peuple haïtien a besoin, plus que jamais, d'une aide internationale, mais nous réalisons également que la Communauté internationale se doit d'être cohésive dans son approche. Comme nous l'avons dit par le passé, notre capacité de continuer à offrir un appui soutenu à la démocratisation et au développement d'Haïti demeure en question tant que les circonstances restent inchangées.

Pour terminer, Monsieur le Président, le Canada voudrait signaler qu'Haïti se retrouvera bientôt en situation électorale. Il est possible que l'on demande à l'OEA d'envisager la mise sur pied d'une nouvelle mission d'observation avec, cette fois, très peu de préavis. L'OEA ne peut répondre aux demandes de ses membres qu'en fonction de ses moyens et seulement lorsque les conditions le permettent. Dans le cas d'Haïti, tout repose à présent sur les résultats de la visite prochaine du Secrétaire général adjoint. Merci.

El PRESIDENTE: Merci beaucoup. The distinguished Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. You have the floor, sir.

El REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DE SAN VICENTE Y LAS GRANADINAS: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I first wish to take this opportunity, sir, to congratulate you on assuming the Chair of the Council and to express my complete confidence that you will manage the affairs of our body with professionalism and great efficiency.

I speak on behalf of the member states of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), and I begin by expressing our sincere appreciation for the hard work being undertaken by the Assistant Secretary General on behalf of the OAS. We know the difficulty of his task, as we are also intimately involved. Ambassador, this shuttle diplomacy must be very physically demanding. We look forward to your next mission, because it seems to me that there is a ray of hope, which we all welcome.

We are aware of the extreme distrust among the political players in the country, and we are following events closely. This morning, the Chairman of CARICOM, the Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, instructed me to let this Permanent Council know that despite its financial limitations, CARICOM wishes to be engaged actively in moving this process forward. CARICOM will have some presence in the Haitian elections, according to its means.

However, we do not think that this is the time to abandon Haiti. This might be the darkest hour, but indeed there is light at the end of the tunnel. We note particularly the new-found willingness of the opposition candidates to engage in some form of dialogue. We welcome

announcements by the Government and the former president and leader of the majority *Lavalas* party. We hope that by working closely with you and emphasizing the principles of democracy and the need for Haiti to demonstrate a certain transparency in its electoral processes, we can emerge from this situation with a Haiti that is stronger and better positioned to deal with the pressing problems facing its people.

In our Caribbean, the suffering of the Haitian people touches us most closely and most profoundly. We are not surprised to hear the Assistant Secretary General say that at this moment of political uncertainty, there is also an economic downturn that affects the lives of the already hard-pressed Haitian people. We wish, on behalf of CARICOM, to emphasize to all involved the urgency of dealing with this political impasse so that Haiti can use its best efforts to alleviate the poverty and suffering among its people.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador Layne. This Council takes note of the key role being played by CARICOM in this issue, and we appreciate your comments very much.

L'Observatrice de la France a la parole.

La OBSERVADORA INTERINA DE FRANCIA: Merci, Monsieur le Président. Je souhaiterais porter à la connaissance des membres du Conseil permanent, au titre de la présidence de l'Union européenne, les éléments d'information suivants. Les premières consultations prévues dans le cadre de l'article 96 du nouvel Accord Union européenne/Afrique/Caraïbes/Pacifique (Accord de Cotonou) pour examiner la situation en Haïti ont eu lieu à Bruxelles (Belgique) le 26 septembre dernier. Y ont participé pour la partie haïtienne, Monsieur Longchamp, Ministre des Affaires étrangères, au titre des amis d'Haïti, les Ambassadeurs à Bruxelles de la République dominicaine, de Saint-Vincent-et-Grenadines et de Sainte-Lucie, et enfin pour la partie européenne, la Troïka (France, Portugal, Suède) et la Commission.

Au cours de cette rencontre, la partie haïtienne n'a répondu à aucune des préoccupations de l'Union européenne, en se retranchant derrière l'indépendance du Conseil électoral provisoire, responsable formellement de l'organisation des élections et les résultats de la mission de Monsieur l'Ambassadeur Einaudi, qui se déroulait au même moment. L'Union européenne a donc déploré l'absence de volonté, à ce stade, du Gouvernement d'Haïti de remédier aux irrégularités dûment constatées. Elle a cependant noté l'engagement des autorités haïtiennes à mettre en œuvre les propositions qui pourraient être formulées à l'issue de la mission de Monsieur Einaudi.

Par ailleurs, lors de l'entretien qu'il a accordé à Monsieur Longchamp le 27 septembre dernier à Paris, Monsieur Josselin, Ministre délégué à la Coopération et à la Francophonie, a exposé avec une grande fermeté la position de la France à l'égard de la composition du Conseil électoral provisoire. De nouveaux membres réellement indépendants doivent être impérativement nommés sans délai en concertation avec l'opposition.

Nous espérons vivement que, grâce aux efforts méritoires déployés par l'OEA, un dialogue s'engage sans tarder entre toutes les parties sur des bases constructives permettant d'aboutir à un véritable compromis garantissant la tenue, le 26 novembre, d'élections présidentielles et sénatoriales libres et transparentes.

La France, comme l'Union européenne, reste toutefois pleinement consciente de la situation socio-économique catastrophique qui règne en Haïti et de l'importance de ne pas pénaliser la population haïtienne par des mesures inappropriées. Je vous remercie.

El PRESIDENTE: Je vous remercie pour cette intervention au nom de l'Union européenne.

The Representative of the United States has the floor.

El REPRESENTANTE ALTERNO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My delegation joins others in thanking the Assistant Secretary General for his report and in acknowledging his extraordinary efforts on behalf of the OAS in Haiti and the extraordinary efforts of his staff and those members that accompanied him—in particular the ambassadors of Chile, Argentina, and Venezuela. We fully support the efforts of the Organization and the Assistant Secretary General in Haiti, and we are committed to working toward a successful resolution of the issues currently facing Haiti and all Haitians. We would welcome an agreement between the Government and the opposition parties to sit down in face-to-face dialogue, and we call on all parties to demonstrate flexibility in conducting such talks.

Mr. Assistant Secretary General, we look forward to your upcoming mission to Haiti, with the expectation of progress on the key issues of restructuring the Provisional Electoral Council (CEP), the fair participation of political parties in the electoral process, and the creation of a process to review the May 21 election results. We wish you good luck. Thank you very much.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador Shannon. The distinguished Permanent Representative of Chile has the floor.

El REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DE CHILE: Gracias, señor Presidente.

Quisera manifestar que el Gobierno de Chile da la máxima importancia a la situación en Haití; que ha dado también mucha importancia al papel que nuestra Organización ha desempeñado y puede seguir desempeñando en dicho país.

A pesar de la distancia geográfica, Chile y Haití han tenido en el pasado vínculos muy profundos. En Chile han encontrado asilo prominentes políticos haitianos de hoy; no solo encontraron asilo sino que, además, vivieron largos años en mi país. Tal como se ha expresado aquí, me tocó formar parte de la Misión que acompañó al Secretario General Adjunto en agosto pasado, y una de las impresiones del Embajador que habla fue encontrar, tanto en el entorno de la Presidencia de la República en Haití como en el del ex Presidente Aristide y en los partidos de la oposición, gente que conocía mi país, que había vivido en él y que conocía también de cerca nuestro propio proceso político. Por esa razón, como señalaba, a pesar de la distancia geográfica entre Chile y Haití, mi país ha tomado este tema con extremo interés.

La posición chilena ha sido siempre de optimismo en relación con la situación de Haití, la cual no es compartida por todos los países. Hay muchos países que han visto el futuro con un pesimismo bastante claro y así se han expresado sus embajadores al respecto. Este no ha sido el caso de Chile; nosotros pensamos que en Haití estamos viendo una democracia muy nueva. La experiencia democrática en Haití no tiene más de diez años; ha tenido tropiezos muy importantes,

pero esos tropiezos no deben llevarnos a alimentar una visión pesimista sobre la posibilidad de que Haití encuentre, efectivamente, un camino hacia una democracia que funcione.

Esta posición ha sido sostenida por el Embajador que habla durante la Misión, por el Embajador de Chile en Haití y por nuestra Ministra de Relaciones Exteriores. A comienzos de septiembre hubo una reunión en Nueva York, fuimos invitados por la Secretaria de Estado, la señora Madeleine Albright, algunos representantes de los países amigos de Haití y el propio Secretario General Adjunto. En esa ocasión la Ministra de Relaciones Exteriores de Chile manifestó –en ese momento la situación de diálogo estaba mucho menos madura que lo que nos ha expresado hoy día el Secretario General Adjunto– que si el diálogo no llegaba a producirse en Haití, nuestro país no era partidario de sancionar económicamente al Gobierno de Haití de manera de privar a ese país de la asistencia que le otorga la comunidad internacional, sino de buscar algún mecanismo que permitiera que esa ayuda siguiera llegando al pueblo haitiano, y recurrió a la idea que en algún momento planteó la Argentina, que es la creación de los Cascos Blancos de la OEA.

La proposición de la Ministra de Relaciones Exteriores de Chile fue que si no había diálogo, si la comunidad internacional privaba al Gobierno de Haití de los recursos que le proporciona, que esos recursos pudieran seguir llegando al pueblo de Haití a través de esta figura de los Cascos Blancos de la OEA.

Por la información que nos transmite nuestro Secretario General Adjunto, está claro que hay una luz de esperanza, está claro que se ha abierto esta voluntad de diálogo por el lado del Gobierno y del partido mayoritario *Lavalas*. Espero que su próxima misión concluya con la buena noticia de que ese diálogo efectivamente se está produciendo y abre caminos, y que no sea necesario recurrir a los Cascos Blancos. No obstante, me parece importante expresar aquí lo que ha sido y lo que sigue siendo la posición de Chile en relación con la República de Haití, a la cual tenemos mucho aprecio.

Finalmente, también una nota muy especial de aprecio por la labor diplomática realizada por nuestro Secretario General Adjunto. Esta es una tarea sumamente difícil, delicada, que para llegar a buen éxito requiere el empleo de la diplomacia en su más fina y más alta expresión. He visto desarrollarse esa diplomacia y también quiero rendir aquí mi homenaje.

Gracias.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador. There being no further observations, the Chair suggests that this Council take note of the important oral report presented by the Assistant Secretary General on the mission of the OAS to Haiti. We wish him well in his delicate and important task as he moves to Port-au-Prince later this week. Bonne chance, Monsieur l’Ambassadeur.

INTEGRACIÓN E INSTALACIÓN DE LA COMISIÓN DE ESTILO DEL
VIGÉSIMO SÉPTIMO PERÍODO EXTRAORDINARIO DE SESIONES
DE LA ASAMBLEA GENERAL

El PRESIDENTE: We now move to item 7, the installation of the Style Committee of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly. In accordance with Article 28 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, the Permanent Council shall install a Style Committee at its last meeting before a regular or special session of the General Assembly. The Committee shall

include representation of the four official languages of the Organization. Therefore, the Chair suggests that this Committee be composed of Brazil for Portuguese; Colombia for Spanish; the United States for English; and Canada for French. The Style Committee shall receive the resolutions and declarations approved by the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly, shall correct their defects of form, and shall ensure equivalency among the versions in the official languages. If there are no objections, it is so agreed. Agreed.

CREACIÓN DE UN FONDO VOLUNTARIO ESPECÍFICO EN APOYO DE LA MISIÓN DE ALTO NIVEL A PERÚ

El PRESIDENTE: We move now to item 8, the establishment of a specific voluntary fund in support of the high-level mission to Peru [CP/doc.3363/00]. To introduce the draft resolution, I call on the Alternate Representative of Canada.

La REPRESENTANTE ALTERNA DEL CANADÁ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is indeed a pleasure and a privilege to present this draft resolution to the Permanent Council for its consideration today.

I wish to draw the Council's attention to two points. First, this is a joint draft resolution, and we are pleased to cosponsor it with the Delegation of Peru. Second, this text refers to General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 1753 (XXX-O/00), which all member states endorsed at Windsor earlier this year.

Much has happened in Peru since the OAS high-level mission first visited Lima in late June, and I think it is fair to say that there is an overwhelming consensus in that country that the OAS is playing an effective role in keeping the dialogue process moving. Most would also agree that through the high-level mission, our hemisphere has undertaken a new and more ambitious type of multilateral exercise. The establishment of a permanent secretariat in Lima attests to the unique nature of the mission and to the vital function it is being asked to assume. Now, more than ever, rapid developments in Peru leading to new elections call upon the mission to accelerate the pace of its work in support of urgent electoral and other democratic reforms.

However, it must also be recognized that the OAS is ill-equipped to sustain a mission of this type for any extended period. The cost of maintaining the mission simply cannot be met through the regular budget. The purpose of this draft resolution is to establish a specific voluntary fund that would allow the mission to continue carrying out its mandate.

In the same spirit of solidarity that we saw at Windsor, all member states—as well as observers and other potential donors—are now urged to contribute to the fund that we are about to create through this draft resolution, as neither the OAS, the Hemisphere, nor Peru can afford the cost of a mission that fails for lack of support. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you very much. The distinguished Representative of Peru has the floor.

La REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DEL PERÚ: Gracias, señor Presidente.

Como no lo pude hacer antes, señor Presidente, primero, permítame expresar nuestra más cordial bienvenida a los distinguidos Embajadores de Belice y Barbados, ofreciéndoles desde ya nuestra más amplia colaboración y deseándoles una brillante gestión. Asimismo, señor Presidente, deseamos felicitarlo a usted por haber asumido la presidencia del Consejo Permanente. En la Organización todos conocemos la gran trayectoria y experiencia del Embajador Boehm, lo cual nos da confianza de que tendremos una excelente conducción de nuestros trabajos en este período. Estamos prontos, señor Embajador, a colaborar con los objetivos, la metodología, las prioridades, que usted ha señalado en su presentación inaugural.

Deseamos expresar también nuestra gratitud al Embajador Valter Pecly Moreira, del Brasil, por el dedicado y excelente trabajo que realizó como Presidente de este Consejo en el período anterior.

Pasando al punto del temario, señor Presidente, tal como lo ha hecho la distinguida Delegación del Canadá, deseo destacar la importancia de este proyecto de resolución, que nos ayudará a apoyar las labores de la Misión de Alto Nivel de la OEA y a su Secretaría Permanente, a cargo del ex Canciller Latorre, que está cumpliendo una magnífica labor, un magnífico rol, facilitando el diálogo entre los sectores políticos y la sociedad civil en mi país.

En ese marco, deseo reiterar la convicción de mi Gobierno de que el diálogo es el mecanismo idóneo para alcanzar consensos que nos permitan avanzar en la agenda de democratización y fortalecimiento de las instituciones democráticas en mi país.

Tal como lo señala el segundo informe provisional de la Misión de Alto Nivel, el proceso de diálogo ha logrado importantes avances sobre la base de las recomendaciones efectuadas por la Misión de Alto Nivel de la OEA. En ese sentido, el Congreso del Perú, por ejemplo, ha aprobado una ley que desactiva el Servicio de Inteligencia Nacional y una enmienda constitucional que adelanta las elecciones generales, tal como lo anunciara el señor Presidente de la República el 14 de septiembre último. Asimismo, dicha enmienda cancela la reelección inmediata y fija un plazo de cuatro meses para que renuncien los funcionarios públicos que deseen ser candidatos en las próximas elecciones.

Señor Presidente, también deseo destacar que la participación del señor Secretario General de la OEA, doctor César Gaviria, en relación con los últimos sucesos ocurridos en mi país, ha constituido un importante aporte para preservar la gobernabilidad y para consolidar este proceso de diálogo, asegurando su continuidad. En ese sentido, el mecanismo que se ha creado, esta mesa de diálogo, ha sabido adaptarse a las nuevas circunstancias, dirigiendo su atención prioritaria al proceso electoral, sin perder de vista, obviamente, los objetivos primigenios y velando por una transición ordenada que permita que nuestro país avance, sin sobresaltos, en forma pacífica, en forma madura, hacia la consolidación de la democracia.

Finalmente, señor Presidente, reitero, frente a nuestros distinguidos colegas, frente a todas las delegaciones que nos acompañan en este Consejo Permanente, la importancia que tiene la aprobación de este proyecto de resolución, la misma que contribuirá, conjuntamente con la clara voluntad política de mi Gobierno, a que este positivo proceso concluya exitosamente en los próximos meses.

Gracias, señor Presidente.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador, for that very important intervention. I give the floor to the distinguished Representative of Mexico.

El REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DE MÉXICO: Muchas gracias, señor Presidente.

Me disculpo, señor Presidente, de no atender sus recomendaciones para el funcionamiento del Consejo, pero sí deseo felicitarlo por haber asumido la presidencia el día de hoy. Deseo agradecer al mismo tiempo al distinguido Representante del Brasil por su exitosa gestión.

Deseo también dar la más cordial bienvenida a los Representantes Permanentes de Belice y de Barbados.

Señor Presidente, creo que el proyecto de resolución, como ya lo han mencionado sus copatrocinadores, es relevante, porque tiene que ver con una de las principales gestiones que realiza la Organización en estos momentos. Sin embargo, sí quisiera hacer tres sugerencias al texto que tenemos ante nosotros.

La primera sugerencia, señor Presidente, sería en el primer párrafo preambular. Después de donde dice “CONSIDERANDO que el fortalecimiento y la consolidación de los procesos democráticos en el Hemisferio”, sugerimos agregar: “dentro del respeto al principio de no intervención”; el resto del párrafo continuaría igual. Diría, entonces: “CONSIDERANDO que el fortalecimiento y la consolidación de los procesos democráticos en el Hemisferio, dentro del respeto al principio de no intervención, es uno de los objetivos principales de la Organización de los Estados Americanos.”

La segunda sugerencia es en el párrafo siguiente. Diría: “CONVENCIDO de que la Organización, a solicitud de un Estado Miembro, debe expresar su solidaridad hemisférica y respaldar los esfuerzos...”; o sea, simplificar la frase eliminando “haciendo todo lo posible para”.

La tercera sugerencia es en el punto 3 resolutivo. Aquí mi Delegación sugeriría agregar, al final del punto, lo siguiente: “y que informe al Consejo Permanente sobre el cumplimiento de la presente resolución”. Diría: “Invitar al Secretario General a que administre el Fondo Específico Voluntario, de conformidad con las Normas Generales para el Funcionamiento de la Secretaría General y otras normas y reglamentos de la Organización, y que informe al Consejo Permanente sobre el cumplimiento de la presente resolución”. Decimos esto, señor Presidente, porque, en aras de la transparencia, consideramos que es importante ver cómo funcionan las contribuciones a tareas específicas de la Organización que venimos realizando los Estados Miembros.

Estas son las sugerencias de mi Delegación. Gracias, señor Presidente.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador, for your suggestions regarding the text of the draft resolution. We will return to that once we've heard from other speakers, and the Secretariat will then read your suggestions. The distinguished Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has the floor.

El REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DE SAN VICENTE Y LAS GRANADINAS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did not consciously ask for the floor. If my name came up, it was accidental, but I will take the opportunity to say something that I wished to say later. [Risas.] I

wanted to thank the distinguished Permanent Representative of Brazil for his very fine leadership of the Council during the last period and to welcome to the Organization two colleagues from the Caribbean Community—the ambassadors of Belize and Barbados. They are very worthy additions to our corps. Thank you very much.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador. The Chair recognizes that nothing you ever do is accidental [Risas.], so your intervention is appreciated. The Delegation of the United States has the floor.

El REPRESENTANTE ALTERNO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. In reference to the draft resolution under consideration, my delegation is pleased to endorse the establishment of a specific fund to facilitate support from other member states, OAS observer states, and multilateral institutions to carry forth the work of the OAS in Peru.

The OAS has opened a very important path in Peru that involves all the Peruvian people in a process of dialogue and confidence building. We note, with interest, the accomplishments detailed in the interim report on the high-level mission released recently by Secretary General Gárriga and Canadian Foreign Minister Axworthy.

My delegation thanks the Secretary General and his staff and the Canadian Mission for their extraordinary efforts on behalf of the OAS in Peru. We also commend the participants in the OAS reform talks for their success in negotiating the constitutional amendments that provide for early elections. We trust that this spirit of cooperation will carry through to the full package of reforms under consideration by the parties engaged in the OAS-sponsored dialogue. Thank you very much.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador Shannon. The Chair recognizes the distinguished Representative of Uruguay.

El REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DEL URUGUAY: Muchas gracias, señor Presidente.

Simplemente queríamos respaldar las enmiendas propuestas por el distinguido Embajador Heller, las cuales compartimos plenamente, en particular la que se refiere a la necesaria mención del respeto al principio de no intervención, cuando hablamos de nuestros esfuerzos por fortalecer y consolidar los procesos democráticos en el Hemisferio.

A propósito de esto, permítame señalar, además, en nombre de la Delegación del Uruguay, que reconocemos en el esfuerzo que se viene emprendiendo en el Perú una determinación por observar estos principios. Al mismo tiempo queremos que esta resolución sirva de espaldarazo material a los esfuerzos que vienen cumpliendo con un resultado muy auspicioso y alentador el Secretario General y el señor Presidente de este Consejo.

Muchas gracias.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador Fischer. We have before us a proposal by the Ambassador of Mexico and supported by the Ambassador of Uruguay. I ask the Secretariat to read the changes suggested by the Delegation of Mexico.

La JEFA DE GABINETE DEL SECRETARIO GENERAL ADJUNTO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the “CONSIDERANDO” paragraph:

CONSIDERING that the strengthening and consolidation of democratic processes in the Hemisphere, within the principle of respect for nonintervention, is one of the principal objectives of the Organization of American States.

In the “CONVENCIDO” paragraph:

CONVINCED that the Organization, at the request of a member state, should express its hemispheric solidarity and support democratization efforts in that country.

And in the third resolute paragraph:

To invite the Secretary General to administer the specific voluntary fund in accordance with the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat and with other norms and regulations of the Organization, and to inform the Permanent Council on the fulfillment of this resolution.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you. Representative of Mexico, have we have properly captured your suggestions? [Pausa.] Thank you. If there are no other comments, the Chair suggest that the draft resolution be approved with the amendments suggested by the Delegation of Mexico. It is so approved.^{2/}

INFORME SOBRE LA SITUACIÓN DE LA FUNDACIÓN MUSEO DE LAS AMÉRICAS

El PRESIDENTE: We move on to item 9, the status report on the Museum of the Americas Foundation. I am pleased to give the floor to Mr. Ronald Scheman, Director General of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD), to present this issue.

El DIRECTOR GENERAL DE LA AGENCIA INTERAMERICANA PARA LA COOPERACIÓN Y EL DESARROLLO: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I'm very pleased to come before this body to report to you on the status of the efforts over the last 18 months regarding the possible establishment of a Museum of the Americas here in collaboration with the OAS. I think that it's useful to very briefly give you some history, because many people in this room today may not have been present at the original presentation.

The concept of a major museum of the Americas—Latin America and the Caribbean—arose several years ago in discussions with the Smithsonian Institution and consultations with Dr. Iglesias at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and Secretary General Gárriga here at the OAS. At that time, it was entirely a U.S. private sector effort to build a museum that would encompass the major collections that the Smithsonian currently holds, mostly in warehouses. The Smithsonian did an inventory, and it had over 500,000 pieces relating to the Americas that had been collected since the early 19th century. The Smithsonian had neither space in any of their museums nor any mandate to

2. Resolución CP/RES. 776 (1252/00), anexa.

display those articles. They did have mandates for an African Art Museum. They had a mandate and contributions that related to the Middle East and to the Far East, but strangely, they had nothing on the Americas, and a group of U.S. private citizens felt that we needed a major museum on the Americas here in Washington.

Thus, action began to be taken at that time to establish such a museum that would house the Smithsonian collection. At that time, and until today, it has been a separate operation, but it now wishes to seek collaboration with the OAS along the lines that were discussed in the meeting that we had about a year and a half ago.

The concept of the museum, as it has evolved, has two levels. One is a physical museum in Washington. The rapid development of the Internet and the fact that the Smithsonian Institution was digitizing its entire collection made it possible, however, to think of a virtual museum that would link all the museums of the Hemisphere, both for scholarly and research purposes. A virtual museum could present exhibits in museums in different cities of the countries of the Hemisphere and enable them to be seen in other cities of the Hemisphere. It would also allow for the museum to be brought to the classroom—a major goal—and to benefit countries and areas of our countries where children cannot get to major museums. The museum could be used to enhance content in education.

I'm pleased to report to you that the virtual museum is now well underway. A matter of fact, a reception will be held here this evening, Mr. Chairman, to inaugurate it and to describe its timing. In the last year, thanks a great deal to Mr. Carlos Slim of Mexico, who contributed a major sum towards the virtual museum and several U.S. companies, over \$2 million in cash has been raised, about \$500,000 is already in the bank, and the commitments of equipment in kind, roughly \$8 million, have been received. We have now the wherewithal to go forward with the virtual museum, and we are working very closely with several organizations to create its educational content. This will be announced this evening; a press conference in progress right now is discussing it. Our goal is that the museum would be in operation in time for the Quebec Summit of the Americas, as connectivity is one of the themes being considered by the Summit. It is primarily an educational program and is moving along very well.

The physical museum is before you today for information purposes. We are still not near the point at which decisions are required. Let me recall for you the concept behind the physical museum. Ambassador Marrero was here as Permanent Representative of the United States to the OAS when we discussed this first. The idea was that this Council needed better and more room and that a conference center on OAS premises could link the new Museum of the Americas with the current Art Museum of the Americas. This would give the current museum more modern display space and more facilities to properly maintain its artwork.

We were requested to look at an engineering study and to establish the cost of building the museum, a conference center, and a larger conference room. We raised some money, and it was considerably expensive to have the engineering studies done, to conduct soil borings to test the groundwater and the bedrock, and to estimate the cost of this undertaking.

The document before you sets forth the conceptual study of the Museum as it relates to the conference center. There are no architectural drawings here, because considerable money would have to be raised if we were to move forward, as you will note in a moment. We would hold an architectural competition, and architects from all over the Hemisphere, indeed all over the world,

would be invited to submit proposals. It would ultimately go before the DC Planning Commission and the DC Fine Arts Commission, which control the height and structure of buildings in this area. I would remind you that the building that we are in today is an historic monument, and it has been so registered in the proper registries of the United States.

The report gives you a pretty good idea of what is involved. I'm not going to go into detail, because you will have time to look through and our office is always open to discuss any aspects of it and to reply to questions.

The major issue we were concerned with was the water table here. As some of you know, the Potomac used to cover this land here. This is all filled land, so there is very high water table in this area. We found, much to our surprise, that our concern for the water table could be handled. It would cost an extra \$17 million to cover the extra construction for the water table.

However, we also found out that this building is sitting on wooden piles in water, and we have to be very careful that these piles do not dry out. The engineers have assured us that the water for the building has to be preserved, while the water for the new edifice would have to be protected. Of course much more work would have to be done on that. There are adequate ways of doing that, and as you know, much construction has been done here.

The cost of the entire project—museum and theater, the conference center, and the Council room—would range from \$130 million to \$180 million. This would be a living museum in which theatre, dance, film, and music would be available to the population as a representation of all the Americas. The museum and theater would run between \$90 million and \$130 million, so that the extra cost of building a conference center and the facilities is \$40 million to \$50 million.

At the time of the discussion, it appeared that some funds could be made available from the Council towards that project. The Council would have to decide how to handle it. But when I presented this to the Board of the Museum Foundation, which I chair, I made it very clear that if it is decided that this museum can be built here on OAS property, it would not be a gift to the Museum. To the contrary, we would have to raise \$20 million to \$40 million extra in order to cover the cost of the OAS facility. The Board expressed its willingness to undertake that task, should that be the decision of this Council.

The document shows how the engineers have considered building this museum because of the water table and the configuration of the property. It would be built in that far corner on the north side of the property, where the parking lot is. The old carriage house, which is on the northwest side of the property, had been moved many years ago, and its proper location is about where the driveway is now, so it would be put back there. A little bit would be above ground, but most of it would be underground. It would extend across the north side underground and then continue under the Aztec Garden.

It will be a spectacular museum, and the idea of having a Museum of the Americas here in this city and in this location has attracted a lot of attention and interest. Andrew Carnegie donated this building to the OAS, and the original documents relating to this building set it forth as a house of culture. The entire north wing of the building consisted of stacks for a library, and the idea was that this would be a library of the Americas. The library isn't there any more.

So we have before us an opportunity to build this museum, which will be located here on OAS property. We are certainly open to discussions as to whether this can be combined with a conference center and other facilities for the OAS, but this would have to be taken into account when we've had time to study this documentation. Thank you very much.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, very much, Mr. Scheman, for that interesting presentation and the documentation that comes with it. I offer the floor to delegations that may wish to address the issue. [Pausa.] Since there are no observations, the Chair recommends that this Council take note of the information presented by Mr. Scheman and that we continue to look at this issue as it evolves. Thank you, again.

INFORMACIÓN SOBRE LA SOLICITUD DEL GOBIERNO DEL ECUADOR REFERENTE A LA EXTRADICIÓN DE UN ACUSADO DE FRAUDE BANCARIO

El PRESIDENTE: We now move on to item 10, "Other business." The distinguished Representative of Ecuador has the floor.

El REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DEL ECUADOR: Gracias, señor Presidente.

Ante todo quisiera expresar nuestra congratulación por el inicio de sus funciones y nuestro total acuerdo con ese verdadero vademécum para la buena conducción del Consejo Permanente que usted ha desarrollado en su primera intervención. En todo ello podrá usted contar con nuestro apoyo firme y cordial.

Asimismo, quisiera dejar constancia de nuestro reconocimiento por la acertada, pulcra y afable conducción del Consejo en el período anterior por el distinguido Embajador Valter Pecly Moreira.

El propósito de mi intervención, señor Presidente, es el de plantear un tema de muy especial importancia para mi país y también para el Consejo y la Organización. El día 22 de marzo del año en curso, el doctor Heinz Moeller Freile, Canciller del Ecuador, tuvo el honor y la satisfacción de ser recibido por este Consejo y en el discurso que pronunció puso énfasis en uno de los temas que constituye parte de la agenda principal del Gobierno del Ecuador, presidido por el doctor Gustavo Noboa Bejarano. Me refiero al tema de la corrupción.

Dijo el señor Canciller Moeller Freile: "Estamos comprometidos definitivamente en la lucha contra la corrupción."^{3/} Señaló, asimismo, que ese compromiso va más allá de la propuesta y del discurso y que se han tomado acciones concretas a este respecto. El Canciller se refirió luego al caso que más duramente ha golpeado la economía y la conciencia social de mi país, que es el de los repetidos y múltiples fraudes bancarios.

En los últimos días se ha producido, en relación con este tema, un muy lamentable incidente. Uno de los más notables acusados de fraude bancario fue apresado por la policía en el Líbano. Conocedor de este hecho, el Gobierno del Ecuador empuñó sus máximos esfuerzos para lograr que esta persona fuera extraditada al Ecuador por tener a su cargo resoluciones judiciales en firme que lo condenan por fraude bancario. Tras estos esfuerzos, se consiguió que el Gobierno del Líbano

3. Acta CP/ACTA 1225/00.

concediera la extradición al Gobierno del Ecuador. Se envió una delegación policial para que acompañara al detenido desde Beirut a Quito. Lamentablemente, en el tránsito ineludible por París, es decir, a través de Europa hacia América, el detenido sorpresivamente fue entregado a las autoridades españolas por las autoridades policiales francesas, atendiendo gestiones, según dijeron, del más alto nivel realizadas por el Gobierno español y sustentadas, además, en una certificación concedida por la Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Refugiados (ACNUR) en la ciudad de Beirut, en la que se calificaba a este caballero, señor Alejandro Peñafiel, como refugiado político. Fundado en esto y en una petición planteada por una persona de nacionalidad española que aducía ser la esposa de este individuo, el Gobierno español solicitó la extradición pero a nivel estrictamente policial, y el señor Peñafiel, sin mayor reflexión por parte de las autoridades francesas, fue entregado a las españolas, como ya señalé, burlando la petición y la presencia de la policía del Ecuador.

Las autoridades españolas, a la vez, en un trámite relativamente sumario y sobre la base de una resolución judicial también, pusieron virtualmente en libertad al señor Peñafiel y lo condujeron de Madrid a Marbella, precioso lugar en el cual este señor tiene una de sus mansiones. Está naturalmente disfrutando de Marbella, bajo vigilancia policial, por suerte.

Este hecho, naturalmente, ha tenido efectos sumamente negativos en el interior de mi país, porque, como vivimos una época en que la democracia efervescente y la oposición efervescente encuentran cualquier pretexto para deteriorar la imagen de los gobernantes y pretender alcanzar sus objetivos de carácter político, se acusó al Gobierno por lo menos de lenidad, si no de complicidad en lo ocurrido.

Por suerte, las gestiones realizadas han concluido por motivar al ACNUR para que confiese que la resolución fue basada en un informe erróneo, así se llama lo que en el buen romance debe llamarse delictivo, del funcionario pertinente en Beirut. De modo que la condición de refugiado político de este señor ha quedado, como es obvio y como era necesario que ocurriera, sin efecto.

Ante esta realidad, tengo la certeza de que el ilustrado Gobierno de España y las autoridades judiciales pertinentes, respetables y eficaces, no demorarán en acceder a la petición de extradición planteada y legalmente presentada por el Gobierno del Ecuador y harán posible que concluya este lamentable, desagradable, episodio.

Con este convencimiento, no pido al Consejo, de momento, otra cosa que su amabilidad de escucharme. Sin embargo, me reservo el derecho de pedir un pronunciamiento y la acción administrativa de la Organización de los Estados Americanos si esto no sucede, es decir, si es que se burla la petición del Gobierno del Ecuador en un tema de suma complejidad y delicadeza para la Organización, porque es, según muchos analistas, la causa que determina en gran medida el subdesarrollo de nuestros países; es decir, la dilapidación de dineros, la creación de estados de corrupción y de inseguridad que desalientan las inversiones y hacen imposible el desarrollo.

En este sentido, la exposición que agradezco se me haya escuchado tiene el propósito de reafirmar la posición y el compromiso del Gobierno ecuatoriano en la lucha en este campo crucial en el que nos encontramos y de pedir, asimismo, la compañía y la solidaridad, cuando esto sea necesario, de las misiones aquí representadas y de los gobiernos que dignamente forman parte de la Organización.

Gracias, señor Presidente.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador. You have requested the Council to listen, and I think we have. We've taken note of your presentation. I have an observer who would like to speak, but it only says "*Observadores*" on my *pantalla* here, so I don't know ... is it France or Portugal at the back of the room?

L'Observatrice de la France a la parole.

La OBSERVADORA INTERINA DE FRANCIA: Merci, Monsieur le Président, d'avoir bien voulu m'accorder une nouvelle fois la parole. Cette fois-ci je m'exprime simplement en qualité de Représentante de la France.

Je vous ai demandé la parole à la suite de l'intervention de Son Excellence Monsieur l'Ambassadeur Blasco Peñaherrera, Représentant permanent de l'Equateur, et je voudrais tout d'abord lui dire que je comprends tout à fait son émotion et que, bien sûr, la France salue les efforts de son pays pour lutter contre la corruption. Sur ce point, il n'y a aucun doute bien entendu.

Cependant, je souhaiterais apporter quelques précisions sur l'affaire évoquée par l'Ambassadeur de l'Equateur. Tout d'abord, j'ai lu dans la presse ce matin que le Haut-Commissariat pour les Réfugiés avait reconnu son erreur et qu'il avait présenté ses excuses au Gouvernement de l'Equateur, de l'Espagne et de la France. Je crois que c'est là un élément à prendre en compte. En ce qui a trait à ce qui s'est passé le 5 octobre à Paris, je voudrais simplement rappeler que Monsieur Alejandro Peñafiel Salgado, nom du ressortissant équatorien en cause, sous le coup d'une procédure d'extradition du Liban vers l'Equateur, est arrivé en transit le 5 octobre à l'aéroport de Roissy-Charles de Gaulle. Le HCR avait fait savoir, avant même l'arrivée de Monsieur Peñafiel, que ce dernier avait formulé une demande d'asile auprès des autorités espagnoles et que celles-ci l'avaient considérée comme recevable, ce qui avait été confirmé au Ministère de l'Intérieur français par les autorités espagnoles. L'intéressé a donc été réadmis en Espagne pour l'examen de sa demande d'asile. En agissant de la sorte, les autorités françaises se sont conformées au strict respect de leurs engagements internationaux, d'une part de la Convention de Genève du 28 juillet 1951 relative au Statut des Réfugiés et Apatrides et, d'autre part, de la Convention de Dublin du 16 juin 1990 relative à la détermination de l'Etat responsable de l'examen des demandes d'asile dans l'un des Etats membres de l'Union européenne, en l'occurrence l'Espagne. Je voulais simplement faire cette petite mise au point pour l'information du Conseil permanent. Je vous remercie, Monsieur le Président.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you very much for the information provided. The Council takes note.

ELECCIONES MUNICIPALES EN BRASIL

El PRESIDENTE : The distinguished Representative of Brazil has the floor.

El REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DEL BRASIL: Muito obrigado, Senhor Presidente. Sendo a primeira vez que a Delegação do Brasil intervém após a posse de Vossa Excelência na Presidência do Conselho Permanente, transmito as calorosas congratulações e votos de êxito nas novas funções.

Desejo também dar as boas-vindas ao novo Representante Permanente de Belize e ao novo Representante Permanente de Barbados, bem como expressar profundas condolências pelo falecimento dos líderes políticos Pierre Trudeau e Roosevelt Douglas.

Senhor Presidente, desejo em nome da Delegação brasileira reportar sucintamente as eleições realizadas no Brasil no dia 1º de outubro. Foram eleições municipais em todo o Brasil, sendo eleitos prefeitos de 5.559 cidades.

As eleições realizaram-se pela primeira vez utilizando métodos eletrônicos, desde as maiores cidades até as mais remotas vilas e lugarejos. Houve comparecimento de 85% do eleitorado, o que perfaz a impressionante soma de 92.230.000 eleitores, dos mais de 108 milhões de eleitores inscritos. Deverá haver segundo turno – pois o segundo turno é geralmente feito nas cidades com mais de 200.000 habitantes – apenas em 31 cidades, porque nessas cidades não houve maioria absoluta.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you very much for that information on the municipal elections in Brazil. The Council takes note.

OTORGAMIENTO DEL PREMIO INTERAMERICANO DE CULTURA GABRIELA MISTRAL PARA EL AÑO 2000

El PRESIDENTE: I am pleased to inform this Council that last week the jury formed to award the Gabriela Mistral Inter-American Culture Prize for the year 2000 in the field of literature and philosophy selected the Peruvian poet and educator Antonio Cisneros. The jury also recognized the contribution of Helen Umaña of Honduras for her research on the literature of Honduras. On behalf of the members of the Permanent Council, and on my own behalf, I extend congratulations to this year's winner of the Gabriela Mistral Inter-American Culture Prize.

The distinguished Representative of Peru has the floor.

La REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DEL PERÚ: Gracias, señor Presidente.

La Delegación del Perú desea intervenir muy brevemente para expresar su reconocimiento al jurado calificador por haber decidido otorgar el Premio Interamericano de Cultura Gabriela Mistral al poeta peruano Antonio Cisneros. Creemos, señor Presidente, que este premio es un merecido reconocimiento a la vasta obra y a la fecunda labor realizada por el poeta peruano más importante de nuestro tiempo.

Por su enorme calidad formal y estética, la obra de Antonio Cisneros se ha convertido en referencia obligatoria e inevitable en cualquier estudio de literatura hispanoamericana. La docena de tesis de grado sobre su obra en las universidades peruanas y del extranjero, así como la traducción de sus obras a cinco idiomas, lo confirman.

Antonio Cisneros obtuvo su doctorado en literatura en la Universidad de San Marcos, en Lima, y ha ejercido la cátedra en diversas universidades del Perú, de los Estados Unidos y Europa. Tiene más de veintisiete obras de poesía publicadas, así como guiones cinematográficos y obras en prosa. Su amplia trayectoria intelectual lo ha hecho merecedor de importantes distinciones, como el Premio Nacional de Poesía, el Premio Casa de las Américas, el Premio Rubén Darío de Poesía, a las

que se suma hoy este reconocimiento continental que le otorga nuestra Organización y del que mi país se enorgullece.

Muchas gracias, señor Presidente.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Ambassador. The distinguished Representative of Honduras has the floor.

La REPRESENTANTE ALTERNA DE HONDURAS: Muchas gracias, señor Presidente.

Ante todo, señor Presidente, permítame extenderle las felicitaciones de mi Delegación por haber asumido la presidencia del Consejo Permanente.

Es para mi Delegación motivo de satisfacción que el jurado del Premio Interamericano de Cultura Gabriela Mistral en su veredicto haya reconocido el trabajo meritorio de Helen Umaña, intelectual hondureña que ha realizado una obra muy valiosa de investigación sobre el acervo escrito de Honduras y Centroamérica, y cuya obra ha coadyuvado a difundir en forma más profunda la producción intelectual de Honduras y Centroamérica, en general.

Aprovecho, señor Presidente, para agradecer a quienes hicieron posible la convocatoria de este premio en el presente año, ya que esta importante actividad, que mucho honra a la Organización, estuvo a punto de desaparecer por reajustes programáticos. Mi Delegación espera y confía en que la adjudicación de este premio y su mayor difusión quede establecida como una actividad permanente de la Organización.

Muchas gracias, señor Presidente.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you very much. I give the floor to the Representative of Paraguay.

El REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DEL PARAGUAY: Muchas gracias, señor Presidente.

Siendo esta la primera oportunidad en que hago uso de la palabra, quiero comenzar por felicitarlo por su asunción como presidente de este Consejo Permanente, ofrecer toda la colaboración de nuestra Misión a sus gestiones y expresar que, con el liderazgo que usted ha sabido demostrar en sus años como Embajador en la OEA, nos asiste la confianza de que las tareas de nuestro Consejo Permanente serán impulsadas con dinamismo y con vigor.

Deseo expresar también mi agradecimiento al Presidente saliente, el distinguido Embajador Valter Pecly Moreira, del Brasil, por su acertada gestión en el período que le correspondió presidir este Consejo Permanente. Además, quiero dar la bienvenida a los Embajadores de Belice y de Barbados, que hoy se incorporan a nuestras tareas.

En verdad, señor Presidente, es una coincidencia muy grata que en la sesión del día de hoy podamos tratar dos temas de contenido cultural. Uno es el otorgamiento del Premio Gabriela Mistral, y quiero felicitar a las Delegaciones del Perú y de Honduras por la distinción que recibieron sus compatriotas. El otro es la presentación hecha por el señor Scheman, en su carácter de Presidente de la Fundación Museo de las Américas.

Creo que estos dos hechos y estos dos temas que hemos tratado en la sesión de hoy, señor Presidente y distinguidos Embajadores, demuestran que el tema de la cultura no puede ni debe estar ajeno a la agenda de nuestra Organización. Quizás sea oportuno recordar que la Carta de la Organización, en su artículo 2, inciso (f), establece que uno de los objetivos de la OEA es la promoción, a través de la acción cooperativa, del desarrollo económico, social y cultural de nuestros pueblos, en su artículo 3, inciso (m), reconoce que la unidad espiritual del Continente se basa en el respeto de los valores culturales de los países americanos, y en su capítulo VII, sobre el desarrollo integral, hace numerosas e importantes referencias al tema de la cultura.

Ahora, mucho menos que antes, señor Presidente, en el contexto del acelerado proceso de globalización actual, podemos ignorar el papel de la cultura en el fortalecimiento de las identidades de nuestros pueblos y su contribución decisiva a robustecer nuestras sociedades y nuestras democracias.

Gracias, señor Presidente.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you very much, Ambassador. I'm sure the Council shares the sentiments that you have expressed on the value of culture in our organization.

ESTADO DE LOS TRABAJOS DE LA COMISIÓN SOBRE LA PARTICIPACIÓN DE LA SOCIEDAD CIVIL EN LAS ACTIVIDADES DE LA OEA

El PRESIDENTE: The Chair has chosen to add one item. Members present will recall that the Council had taken a decision, ratified by the General Assembly, to establish the Committee on Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities. This committee has not met. It does not have a chair. At the moment it is a bit of unfinished business that I have chosen, in my capacity as Chair, to put under "Other business."

In that context, I would like to ask Dr. Jaime Aparicio to give us a brief report on the status of the requests that we have received for accreditation. Dr. Aparicio, you have the floor.

El DIRECTOR DE LA OFICINA DE SEGUIMIENTO DE CUMBRES INTERAMERICANAS: Gracias, señor Presidente.

Seré muy breve, para que la sociedad civil no retrase este almuerzo de los señores Representantes.

Como ustedes saben, en diciembre del año pasado el Consejo Permanente aprobó un conjunto de directrices para la participación de la sociedad civil en las actividades de la OEA. Posteriormente, el Consejo Permanente recibió de la Comisión sobre la Participación de la Sociedad Civil en las Actividades de la OEA una propuesta de aprobar las solicitudes de cuatro organizaciones de la sociedad civil, las cuales fueron aprobadas en mayo de este año.

Posteriormente, la Asamblea General de Windsor recomendó continuar con este proceso de acreditación y hacer de este la puerta de participación y de ingreso de las organizaciones de la sociedad civil en las actividades de la OEA. Desde junio de este año la Comisión no ha estado funcionando, y hay ahora cerca de doce organizaciones no gubernamentales en espera de que su

solicitud sea aprobada. Estas organizaciones vienen de los más diversos países de la región y de las más diversas áreas y sectores de la agenda interamericana, desde universidades hasta organizaciones vinculadas a los derechos humanos, a temas jurídicos, a temas sociales, etcétera.

Esa es la situación al momento. La Oficina de Seguimiento de Cumbres Interamericanas, que tiene la responsabilidad de este tema, ha hecho un trabajo de difusión y promoción enorme con todas las organizaciones y redes de organizaciones de la región para que procedan a acreditarse. Hay que admitir que el entusiasmo inicial ha venido de organizaciones que tienen un trabajo con la OEA ya de mucho tiempo atrás, que conocen las actividades de la OEA y están interesadas. Otras organizaciones no han tenido ese mismo interés. Como señalé, tenemos ahora cuatro organizaciones aprobadas y cerca de una docena en lista de espera. Para darle credibilidad a este proceso, hay que ver la forma de solucionar este tema. Nuestra propuesta sería, si la Presidencia está de acuerdo, circular entre todos los Estados Miembros un resumen sobre las doce organizaciones que quieren acreditarse para que ustedes puedan revisarlas. En caso de que algún país esté interesado en ver la información de alguna organización en particular, la documentación completa está en la Oficina de Seguimiento de Cumbres. Serían doce organizaciones que tienen sus papeles al día, y, si ese es el caso, en una futura sesión del Consejo Permanente se podría tomar una decisión respecto a esta participación.

Gracias, señor Presidente.

El PRESIDENTE: Thank you, Dr. Aparicio, for your presentation. It is also important that this organization follow up on its previous commitments. So in that spirit, and as Dr. Aparicio has already indicated, the Chair takes note of the necessity to take action with the shortest delay, accepts the proposal by the Secretariat that the documentation be circulated to all delegations, and agrees that we look at this accreditation issue at a future meeting of the Permanent Council. In that way, we leave open the possibility of more consultations as to what we should do with the committee that we have established.

So this is an interim measure that would allow for the accreditation of those organizations that have been waiting in line for some time, and it provides credibility to the process that we ourselves have established. We can then decide collectively what to do with our committee. That would be my proposal. Unless there are comments, we will follow that procedure. Thank you.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Vice Chair, Ambassador Bernal of Jamaica, for his support today. I thank you all for your attention and for your punctuality, which will be particularly important tomorrow, as we have a wreath-laying ceremony, a protocolary meeting, a special session of the General Assembly, and a reception, all in one day. [Risas.] Thank you. The meeting is adjourned.

ANEXOS

RESOLUCIONES APROBADAS

OEA/Ser.G
CP/RES. 777 (1252/00)
11 octubre 2000
Original: español

CP/RES. 777 (1252/00)

OTORGAMIENTO AL REINO DE DINAMARCA DE LA CONDICIÓN
DE OBSERVADOR PERMANENTE ANTE LA ORGANIZACIÓN

EL CONSEJO PERMANENTE DE LA ORGANIZACIÓN DE LOS ESTADOS
AMERICANOS,

VISTOS la solicitud del gobierno del Reino de Dinamarca para que se le conceda la condición de Observador Permanente ante la Organización de los Estados Americanos (CP/doc.3347/00) y el informe correspondiente de la Comisión de Asuntos Jurídicos y Políticos (CP/CAJP-1679/00 rev. 1);

CONSIDERANDO:

Que mediante resolución AG/RES. 50 (I-O/71), la Asamblea General estableció la condición de observador permanente en la Organización de los Estados Americanos y encomendó al Consejo Permanente la tarea de determinar los criterios y la oportunidad de dar efecto y cumplimiento a esa disposición; y

Que de acuerdo con la resolución CP/RES. 407 (573/84), cualquier Estado independiente podrá solicitar la condición de Observador Permanente ante la Organización de los Estados Americanos, de conformidad con lo establecido en la resolución AG/RES. 50 (I-O/71),

RESUELVE:

1. Otorgar al Reino de Dinamarca la condición de Observador Permanente ante la Organización de los Estados Americanos, de conformidad con los términos de la resolución AG/RES. 50 (I-O/71) de la Asamblea General y de la resolución CP/RES. 407 (573/84) de este Consejo.

2. Invitar al Gobierno del Reino de Dinamarca para que acredite un Observador Permanente ante los órganos, organismos y entidades de la Organización, de conformidad con lo que establece el párrafo dispositivo 7 de la resolución CP/RES. 407 (573/84).

3. Solicitar al Secretario General que comunique lo precedente a los órganos, organismos y entidades de la Organización, incluyendo a los organismos especializados interamericanos, una vez que el Gobierno del Reino de Dinamarca sea informado de la presente decisión.

OEA/Ser.G
CP/RES. 776 (1252/00)
11 octubre 2000
Original: español

CP/RES. 776 (1252/00)

FONDO ESPECÍFICO VOLUNTARIO DE APOYO
A LA MISIÓN DE ALTO NIVEL AL PERÚ

EL CONSEJO PERMANENTE DE LA ORGANIZACIÓN DE LOS ESTADOS AMERICANOS,

CONSIDERANDO que el fortalecimiento y la consolidación de los procesos democráticos en el Hemisferio dentro del respeto al principio de no intervención es uno de los objetivos principales de la Organización de los Estados Americanos;

CONVENCIDO de que la Organización, a solicitud de un Estado Miembro, debe expresar su solidaridad hemisférica y respaldar los esfuerzos de democratización en ese país;

RECORDANDO:

Que por resolución AG/RES. 1753 (XXX-O/00), a invitación del Gobierno del Perú se resolvió enviar a ese país una misión integrada por el Presidente de la Asamblea General y el Secretario General de la OEA, con el fin de explorar, con el Gobierno del Perú y otros sectores de la comunidad política, opciones y recomendaciones dirigidas a un mayor fortalecimiento de la democracia en ese país; y

Que la visita inicial de la Misión de Alto Nivel de la OEA, que tuvo lugar del 27 al 30 de junio de 2000, condujo al establecimiento de una agenda para la reforma y una Secretaría Permanente en Lima a fin de facilitar el diálogo sobre esa agenda entre el Gobierno del Perú y otros sectores de la comunidad política;

TOMANDO NOTA de los primeros dos informes de la Misión de Alto Nivel de la OEA sobre el progreso logrado, y especialmente del segundo, que se refiere al establecimiento, mediante el proceso de diálogo de la OEA, de una metodología, una agenda detallada y un calendario para las reformas en los próximos seis meses;

TENIENDO EN CUENTA los hechos recientes en el Perú, que están conduciendo a la convocatoria de nuevas elecciones presidenciales y legislativas y están acelerando el cronograma conforme al cual deben completarse algunas de las reformas;

RECONOCIENDO:

La necesidad, en el contexto político actual, de preservar el diálogo que ha sido iniciado por los peruanos, facilitado por la Misión de Alto Nivel de la OEA; y

Que la continuación de la crítica función de apoyo de la Misión de Alto Nivel de la OEA a este proceso de formación de consenso nacional, reforma y fortalecimiento de la democracia en el Perú requerirá la obtención de recursos financieros suficientes,

RESUELVE:

1. Establecer, con vigencia inmediata, un Fondo Específico Voluntario de Apoyo a la Misión de Alto Nivel al Perú, a fin de proporcionar a la Secretaría Permanente de la Misión en Lima los recursos humanos, logísticos y de infraestructura necesarios para cumplir su mandato.

2. Invitar a todos los Estados Miembros, Estados Observadores Permanentes, instituciones multilaterales y otros donantes potenciales, como se definen en el artículo 69 de las Normas Generales para el Funcionamiento de la Secretaría General y de conformidad con otras normas y reglamentos de la Organización, a que contribuyan al mencionado Fondo Específico Voluntario.

3. Invitar al Secretario General a que administre el Fondo Específico Voluntario de conformidad con las Normas Generales para el Funcionamiento de la Secretaría General y otras normas y reglamentos de la Organización y que informe al Consejo Permanente sobre el cumplimiento de la presente resolución.

AC00476T01.doc

CP08339T01.doc

ISBN-0-8270-4326-0