

ASAMBLEA GENERAL



COMISIÓN PREPARATORIA

OEA/Ser.P
AG/CP/ACTA 378/11
25 mayo 2011

ACTA DE LA SESIÓN
DE LA COMISIÓN PREPARATORIA DE LA ASAMBLEA GENERAL
CELEBRADA EL 25 DE MAYO DE 2011
Aprobada en la sesión del 24 de febrero de 2012

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DOCUMENTOS CONSIDERADOS EN LA SESIÓN
(SE PUBLICAN POR SEPARADO)

AG/CP/Sub.AAP-364/11, Informe del Presidente la Subcomisión de Asuntos Administrativos y Presupuestarios de la Comisión Preparatoria del cuadragésimo primer período ordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General

AG/CP/Sub.AAP-360/11 rev. 2, Proyecto de resolución: Financiamiento del programa-presupuesto de la Organización 2012

CP/CAAP-3108/11 rev. 1 Proyecto de resolución: Modificación de la resolución AG/RES. 1757 (XXX-O/00) titulada “Medidas destinadas a alentar el pago oportuno de las cuotas”

COMISIÓN PREPARATORIA

ACTA DE LA SESIÓN CELEBRADA EL 25 DE MAYO DE 2011

En la ciudad de Washington, a las diez y nueve de la mañana del miércoles 25 de mayo de 2011, celebró sesión la Comisión Preparatoria de la Asamblea General. Presidió la sesión la Embajadora Gillian M. S. Bristol, Representante Permanente de Grenada y Presidenta de la Comisión Preparatoria. Asistieron los siguientes miembros:

Embajador Bayney R. Karran, Representante Permanente de Guyana
Embajador Héctor Virgilio Alcántara, Representante Permanente de la República Dominicana
Embajador John E. Beale, Representante Permanente de Barbados
Embajador Hugo de Zela, Representante Permanente del Perú
Embajador Joaquín Alexander Maza Martelli, Representante Permanente de El Salvador
Embajador Allan Culham, Representante Permanente del Canadá
Embajador Diego Pary, Representante Permanente de Bolivia
Ministra Consejera Ann-Marie Layne Campbell, Representante Alternativa de Antigua y Barbuda
Consejera Patricia D. M. Clarke, Representante Alternativa de Grenada
Consejero Paul Prompt Youri Emmanuel, Representante Alternativo de Haití
Ministra Consejera Carmen Luisa Velásquez de Visbal, Representante Alternativa de Venezuela
Ministra Olga Graziella Reyes Marfetan, Representante Alternativa del Uruguay
Ministro Consejero Jorge Eduardo Contreras, Representante Alternativo de Guatemala
Ministro Carlos Iván Plazas, Representante Alternativo de Colombia
Consejera Cherie Nisbet, Representante Alternativa de Belize
Consejera Ana Marcela Pastorino, Representante Alternativa de la Argentina
Embajadora Rita María Hernández Bolaño, Representante Alternativa de Costa Rica
Consejero Iván Lara Palacios, Representante Alternativo de Nicaragua
Primer Secretario Luiz Augusto Ferreira Marfil, Representante Alternativo del Brasil
Ministro Luis Alberto del Castillo, Representante Alternativo de México
Embajador José de Jesús Martínez González, Representante Alternativo de Panamá
Nicola Alice Victoria Virgill-Rolle, Representante Alternativa del Commonwealth de las Bahamas
Asram Yahir Santino Soleyn, Representante Alternativo de San Vicente y las Granadinas
Consejera Avianne Conyette Boney, Representante Alternativa de Trinidad y Tobago
Ministro Fernando Augusto Suarez Moreno, Representante Alternativo del Ecuador
Milton K. Drucker, Representante Alternativo de los Estados Unidos
Primera Secretaria Chantal Merryl Elsenhout, Representante Alternativa de Suriname

APROBACIÓN DEL PROYECTO DE ORDEN DEL DÍA

La PRESIDENTA: I call to order this meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly, convened to consider the items included in the draft order of business, document AG/CP/OD.378/11.

[El proyecto de orden del día contiene los siguientes puntos:

1. Aprobación del orden del día (AG/CP/OD.378/11)
2. Informe del Presidente de la Subcomisión de Asuntos Administrativos y Presupuestarios (AG/CP/Sub.AAP-364/11)
 - Proyecto de resolución: “Financiamiento del Programa-Presupuesto de la Organización 2012” (AG/CP/Sub.AAP-360/11 rev. 2)
 - Modificación de la resolución AG/RES. 1757 (XXX-O/00) titulada “Medidas destinadas a alentar el pago oportuno de las cuotas” (CP/CAAP-3108/11 rev. 1 y CP/CAAP-3117/11)
3. Otros asuntos.]

If there are no comments or observations on the draft order of business, we will consider it approved as presented. Thank you. So approved.

INFORME DEL PRESIDENTE DE LA SUBCOMISIÓN DE ASUNTOS ADMINISTRATIVOS Y PRESUPUESTARIOS

La PRESIDENTA: The second item on our order of business is the report of the Chair of the Subcommittee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters (SAAP). For the presentation of this report, I am very pleased to give the floor to the Chair of the Subcommittee, His Excellency Ambassador Virgilio Alcántara, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic. Ambassador, good morning; you have the floor.

El PRESIDENTE DE LA SUBCOMISIÓN DE ASUNTOS ADMINISTRATIVOS Y PRESUPUESTARIOS: Gracias. Buenos días, señora Presidenta y señores Representantes Permanentes.

En mi condición de Presidente de la Subcomisión de Asuntos Administrativos y Presupuestarios de la Comisión Preparatoria del cuadragésimo primer período ordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General, tengo el honor de presentar a los Estados Miembros una reseña de las tareas llevadas a cabo en preparación de la Asamblea General a celebrarse en San Salvador, El Salvador, del 5 al 7 de junio de 2011.

La Subcomisión de Asuntos Administrativos y Presupuestarios fue instalada por la Comisión Preparatoria el 23 de febrero de 2011 y eligió como su Presidente al Presidente de la CAAP.

La Asamblea General, en su sesión extraordinaria de 2010, encomendó a la Subcomisión de Asuntos Administrativos y Presupuestarios de la Comisión Preparatoria la consideración de una propuesta para establecer el nivel global presupuestario y las fuentes de financiamiento para el programa-presupuesto de la Organización para el 2012. En ese sentido, la Comisión Preparatoria encomendó a la SAAP la consideración de los temas de carácter presupuestario que deberán ser considerados y sometidos a la aprobación de la Asamblea General.

La Subcomisión consideró el nivel total del presupuesto de gastos para el año 2012 y el monto total de ingresos por concepto de cuotas de los Estados Miembros.

En la sesión del Consejo Permanente, celebrada el 13 de mayo de 2011, el Secretario General presentó ante los Estados Miembros la situación financiera de la Organización para el año 2012 e indicó que el proyecto de resolución a elevarse al cuadragésimo primer período ordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea debe abordar dos temas fundamentales:

1. El monto total del presupuesto del Fondo Regular de la Organización; y
2. La fijación del monto de las cuotas con que los Estados Miembros contribuirán a financiar las operaciones de la Organización.

Con base en la presentación hecha por el Secretario General, la Subcomisión celebró su primera reunión el 19 de mayo a fin de considerar los temas expuestos y el proyecto de resolución “Financiamiento del programa-presupuesto de la Organización 2012”. La Subcomisión se enfocó en la consideración del tema sobre el ingreso por concepto de cuotas de los Estados Miembros, tomando en consideración la propuesta del Secretario General sobre un incremento de un 3% en las cuotas.

La SAAP culminó sus labores en su reunión del 23 de mayo al haber alcanzado un consenso sobre el nivel global del programa-presupuesto para el 2012 y el ingreso por concepto de cuotas de los Estados Miembros para el mismo año. En la mencionada reunión, las delegaciones llegaron al acuerdo de no adoptar un mecanismo automático que ajustara el monto total hasta un máximo del 3% anual del Fondo Regular para el período 2012–2014.

En ese sentido, la SAAP aprobó el proyecto de resolución “Financiamiento del programa-presupuesto de la Organización 2012”, documento AG/CP/Sub.AAP-360/11 rev. 2.

Al concluir el informe sobre las labores de la SAAP en preparación del próximo período ordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General, deseo expresar mi gratitud a todas las delegaciones por sus contribuciones y por su activa participación.

Muchas gracias, señora Presidenta.

La PRESIDENTA: On the contrary, the Preparatory Committee is very grateful to you, Ambassador, and to the members of the Subcommittee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters (SAAP) for your excellent work. Thank you very much for your report and for bringing to our attention this draft resolution.

I now offer the floor to delegations that wish to make use of it. The Delegation of Brazil is recognized.

EI REPRESENTANTE ALTERNO DEL BRASIL: Obrigado, Senhora Presidente. Bom dia a todos.

A Delegação do Brasil gostaria de agradecer imensamente ao Presidente da Subcomissão de Assuntos Administrativos e Orçamentários, Embaixador Virgílio Alcântara, pelo seu relatório. É um relatório importante, é um relatório que mostra realmente como os Estados membros atingiram um consenso num tempo bastante tempestivo, numa grande demonstração de que as preocupações sobre os aspectos financeiros da Organização são compartilhadas, são entendidas e são apreendidas pelos Estados membros.

A Delegação do Brasil gostaria de simplesmente fazer uma observação sobre o relatório do Presidente Virgílio no sentido de que o relatório detalha os elementos numéricos da proposta original do Secretário-Geral, não o faz em relação ao projeto de resolução que será definitivamente elevado à Assembléia Geral.

Então, seria talvez uma sugestão, e obviamente fica a critério do próprio Embaixador Virgílio, que talvez fosse possível um detalhamento dos valores como eles seguirão para San Salvador. O projeto original está detalhado, mas o projeto que finalmente foi negociado em última instância somente está mencionado no seu documento. Obviamente isso é um detalhe menor e mostra o nosso interesse, mostra a nossa preocupação e o nosso reconhecimento pelos trabalhos da Subcomissão que foram muito bem conduzidos pela presidência do Embaixador Virgílio Alcântara.

Muito obrigado, Senhora Presidente.

La PRESIDENTA: Thank you very much, Brazil. I give the floor to the Ambassador of the Dominican Republic for a response.

EI PRESIDENTE DE LA SUBCOMISIÓN DE ASUNTOS ADMINISTRATIVOS Y PRESUPUESTARIOS: Gracias, señora Presidenta.

Tiene razón el distinguido Representante del Brasil en cuanto a su observación, de la cual hemos tomado nota. Claro que en el informe formal de la Presidencia de la CAAP está agregado el proyecto de resolución que fue aprobado, pero haremos constar en el informe la parte numérica que él ha sugerido, que fue la que se refiere a los acuerdos definitivos tomados por consenso en la Comisión de Asuntos Administrativos y Presupuestarios.

Muchas gracias al distinguido Representante del Brasil por su observación.

La PRESIDENTA: Thank you very much, Ambassador, for your flexibility. We look forward to receiving an amended version of the report, which will be circulated to all the delegations. Thank you so much. I now recognize the Delegation of Peru.

EI REPRESENTANTE ALTERNO DEL PERÚ: Gracias, Presidenta.

Mi Delegación quiere agradecer la presentación efectuada por el Embajador Alcántara así como la tan ponderada y profesional conducción de la SAAP durante su gestión, lo que nos permitió arribar a los consensos necesarios para seguir avanzando de manera consistente en el proceso de modernización y conducción administrativa y presupuestaria de la Organización.

Nuevamente, muchas gracias.

La PRESIDENTA: Thank you very much, Delegation of Peru. I now recognize the Delegation of the United States.

EI REPRESENTANTE ALTERNO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

First, I would like to thank the people who have led the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP) so ably: the Chairman, who has done a spectacular job; the vice chairs; and the Chairman of the Working Group, who has also done a great job in moving us forward. The work of the CAAP this year has been excellent and demonstrates what we can accomplish when we all put our minds to developing a consensus on real issues.

I know this is a meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly; nonetheless, we need to look forward to the mandate review in which we eliminate unnecessary or old mandates that no longer can be or will be funded. We need to organize our mandates a little better than they currently are.

We need to continue to look at the recommendations of the Board of External Auditors, and we need to carefully consider improving the management of the real property of the Organization of American States. New rules on how to deal with the issue of the Inspector General is yet another matter to be considered. We had hoped to be able to have the CAAP speak this year with department heads about the indirect cost recovery (ICR) problem that was touched on at yesterday's meeting.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

La PRESIDENTA: Thank you very much, Delegation of the United States. I now recognize the Delegation of Canada.

EI REPRESENTANTE ALTERNO DEL CANADÁ: I thank you, Chair.

I join my colleagues in underlining the excellent work done in the Subcommittee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters (SAAP), which reflects the excellent work done by the Chair and the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP). Thank you very much, Ambassador Alcántara. We're looking forward to discussions in the new Working Group after June when we start the process of trying to resolve the serious challenges that the new budget will present to us.

Thank you very much.

La PRESIDENTA: Thank you very much, Canada. Delegations, I thank you for your interventions.

This Preparatory Committee will take note of the report presented by the Chair of the Subcommittee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters (SAAP) and will approve, for submission to the General Assembly at its forty-first regular session, the draft resolution entitled "Financing of the 2012 Program-Budget of the Organization" as presented this morning, with the recommendation that

the General Assembly approve that draft resolution and the recommendations contained therein. It is so agreed.

RETIRO DE UN TEMA DEL PROYECTO DE TEMARIO DEL
CUADRAGÉSIMO PRIMER PERÍODO ORDINARIO DE SESIONES DE LA
ASAMBLEA GENERAL

La PRESIDENTA: The Subcommittee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters (SAAP) has agreed to postpone consideration of the draft resolution entitled “Modification of resolution AG/RES. 1757 (XXX-O/00): Measures to encourage the timely payment of quotas” until the special session of the General Assembly scheduled for October of this year.

The Delegation of Argentina has requested the removal of item 101 on the draft agenda of the forty-first regular session of the General Assembly. Permit me to recall that Article 32 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly establishes that: “Once the Preparatory Committee has approved the draft agenda, new topics may be included only by the vote of two thirds of the members of that committee, at least 30 days prior to the opening date of the session of the General Assembly.”

The removal of agenda items would fall under Article 32 by inference, and, as we did at a previous meeting of the Preparatory Committee when we removed other items from the draft agenda, we will vote to amend the draft agenda of the upcoming General Assembly session. That vote will be by a show of hands.

We’re voting in favor of removing item 101, “Modification of resolution AG/RES. 1757 (XXX-O/00): Measures to encourage the timely payment of quotas.” I now ask for delegations that are in favor of removing this item from the draft agenda of the regular session of the General Assembly to raise their hands and keep them raised until I indicate that the Secretariat has concluded its count of the votes.

[Se realiza el conteo.]

Is Guatemala joining the vote or not, since you just sat down? [Risas.]

[Pausa.]

We’ll count once again. Bear with us for one moment. Please raise your hands if you are in favor of removing the item from the draft agenda. The Secretariat is counting.

[Se realiza el conteo.]

Thank you. I’ll ask the Secretariat to report. Ambassador Quiñónez.

La SECRETARÍA: Veintisiete votos a favor, señora Presidenta.

La PRESIDENTA: Thank you. We’ll now take a vote against deleting this item. Any delegations not in favor of removing the item? None? Any delegations abstaining from the vote? One? [Pausa.] The Secretariat will give the final count of the vote.

La SECRETARÍA: Veintisiete votos a favor, ninguno en contra, una abstención.

La PRESIDENTA: Thank you very much to the Secretariat and to the representatives.

PALABRAS DEL REPRESENTANTE DEL CANADÁ

La PRESIDENTA: We are now on the last item on the order of business of this meeting, "Other business." If delegations have any other matters they wish to raise, the floor is open. The Delegation of Canada is recognized. Good morning, Ambassador Culham! You have the floor.

El REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DEL CANADÁ: Good morning! Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

I would like to reflect on our meeting held exactly a week ago on May 18. My delegation indicated at that time that we were ad referendum to the Declaration of San Salvador on Citizen Security in the Americas; in particular, paragraph 16, and we took the opportunity to indicate that we would like to carry out consultations and present alternate language in hopes of lifting our ad referendum to this paragraph prior to our departure for El Salvador next week.

I note that the documentation provided by the Secretariat states that the Declaration of Salvador was agreed upon by the Preparatory Committee at its meeting on May 18 when this is clearly not the case. Two member states had ad referenda with respect to the Declaration.

In the spirit of our consultations, we did circulate last week what we thought were some very modest, positive, and constructive alternatives to paragraph 16 that would make the Declaration stronger and more focused. A number of delegations have indicated that they have no problem with our proposals, but we remain concerned that there won't be an opportunity to consider our language and discuss it any further until we get to the General Committee in El Salvador.

I'll just state for the record, Madam Chair, that we had hoped to solve this issue prior to our departure. We were addressing it in good faith, with the objective of lifting our ad referendum before we departed.

Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

La PRESIDENTA: Thank you very much, Ambassador. The Chair understands, and understood quite clearly, as you have said, that the draft Declaration of San Salvador was agreed ad referendum of the delegations of Canada and Mexico, with specific reference, in the case of Mexico, to the title; and with reference to declaratory paragraph 16, in the case of Canada, as you mentioned.

I wish to apologize on behalf of the Secretariat if that was not correctly indicated in the text that was published. You're right; it says: "Agreed upon by the Preparatory Committee." It should say: "Agreed ad referendum. . . ." I'll ask the Secretariat to make sure that a correction is issued with that note.

I'd also like to thank you, on behalf of all the members of the Preparatory Committee, for Canada's flexibility and willingness to work towards consensus, especially on paragraph 16. We

understand that there is full consensus on all the other paragraphs in the draft Declaration of San Salvador, and that is a milestone for the Organization of American States because it has not necessarily been the case in previous years. So it's very encouraging to hear that Canada is almost in a position to join the consensus. It was the desire of the Chair to have full consensus on the entire text prior to going to the General Assembly, and yes, as you know, we have been in consultations with you and the distinguished Ambassador of El Salvador on how this could be resolved.

Considering the positions of both countries, and in the interest of moving forward in a smooth and harmonious manner, I would respectfully suggest that we continue the consultations that Canada has begun and arrive at the General Assembly session with a consensus position on paragraph 16, which could be easily presented at the General Committee.

This in no way diminishes, Ambassador, the appreciation of the Preparatory Committee—and, I would venture to say, of the Permanent Council—for Canada's efforts to join the consensus on paragraph 16. Thank you again, and we look forward to seeing the matter resolved at the General Assembly session.

Are there any other matters that members wish to bring to the attention of the Preparatory Committee today? There being no other requests for the floor, this meeting stands adjourned.