# “MEASURES TO RESPECT FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AND THE FULL OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS DURING THE EMERGENCY CAUSED BY COVID 19*.*”

Resolutions presented by the Delegations of: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, and Colombia.

# THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

**RECOGNIZING** the political and other challenges faced by countries in the hemisphere inflicted by the COVID 19 pandemic, recognizing that questions about human rights had been raised by different stakeholders;

**HIGHLIGHTING** that preexisting social, economic and cultural gaps present to vulnerable groups and communities such as: Women, Older Persons, Persons with Disabilities, People of African Descent, Indigenous Peoples, LGBTQI People, Internally Displaced Persons, Migrants, Asylum-Seekers and Refugees, Persons Deprived of Liberty, Persons Living in Poverty and Extreme Poverty, Children and Adolescents; may have a different experience adapting to generalized measures put in place as stated in the Practical Guide to Inclusive and Rights-based Responses to COVID-19 in the Americas in accordance with Article 1 of the American Convention on Human Rights and the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man which states that that all people “*are born free and equal, in dignity and in rights, and, being endowed by nature with reason and conscience, they should conduct themselves fraternally*” in conjunction with International Human Rights Laws which prohibits actions of discrimination to any individual or community;

**EMPHASIZING** that Inter-American states have the responsibility to ensure compliance of the Provisions made in Resolution No. 1/ 2020, COVID 19 Vaccines and Inter American Human Rights Obligations, to make certain that unjust treatment toward citizens and their rights be upheld; in relation to the ongoing pandemic and the observation of Human Rights when enforcing emergency measures in combating the virus, furthermore the accountability of states in regards to the violation of Human Rights charter with provisions also being made in Article 106 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS);

**BEARING IN MIND** Article 15 of the American Convention on Human Rights and the talks of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and the Inter-American Democratic Charter (IADC) concerning the preservation of human rights and safeties amidst the COVID 19 emergency, which in essence states that every citizen has the right to peaceful assembly exempting occasions whereby it is necessary for state to act in conformity within the law as it relates to the priority of national security, public safety or public order along with the separation of powers, freedom of speech and press and rights to health care in the OAS member states ;

**NOTING** that according to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and Resolution No. 1/ 2020, COVID 19 Vaccines and Inter American Human Rights Obligations, “justice is a fundamental pillar of democracy” and that current and future emergencies cannot be reason to halt juridical proceedings nor deter access to information and transparency; that seeks to ensure the rights and freedoms of persons with added emphasis on those which manage authorities during these period in efforts to combat against corruption.

# RESOLVES:

1. To continue to implement measures that identify, analyze, and respond to the disproportionate impact of COVID 19; in conjunction with functional evaluation committees inclusive of representation to ensure that all vulnerable communities are treated equitably in a culturally acceptable and responsible manner in order to adopt courteous, nation-to-nation dialogues and collaborations with varied indigenous governments, communities, institutions, and knowledge-keepers; for current and future global emergencies with respect to all relations as it pertains to the Organization of American States (OAS).
2. To call upon the OAS to assist in ensuring member states uphold a citizen’s right to education through their respective Ministries by means of the distribution of easily accessible and accurate materials via relevant and appropriate mediums along with current updated, transparent statistics.
3. To persist in establishing protective systems and mitigation measures that aid in the prevention of the development and transition of the COVID 19 virus to maintain healthcare stability by means of:
	1. Continuing to ensure the equitable distribution of resources to vulnerable communities through fostering relations with manufacturers and distributors via the signing of multilateral agreements.
	2. Assisting communities in the distribution of resources from vaccines to personal protective equipment to limit scarcity and best support immunocompromised communities in accordance with OAS Resolution No. 1 of 2020, COVID 19 Vaccines and Inter American Human Rights Obligations.
4. To encourage that any public health or emergency precautions used to prevent the spread of COVID 19 and that impede the exercise of rights be time-limited and reviewed on a regular basis.
5. To stay well-informed of new and potential laws of the Inter-American System of Human Rights (IACHR-IACHR) through encouraging the freedom of the press and promoting journalism in member states of the OAS to allow for people to use their voices to freely speak out against injustice and assist in representing the diversity of the OAS membership and consultants to allow for a wider perspective in making decisions.
6. To assist in networking and funding from the OAS to allow for more efficient collaboration with regional and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and nonprofit organizations (NPOs) to gain local insight, resources and allow more efficient operations of all organizations seeking to assist in the advocacy of the fundamental freedoms and human rights in the face of the COVID 19 emergency.