**STRENGTHENING REGIONAL INTEGRATION AND COOPERATION FOR EFFECTIVE REGIONAL GOVERNANCE FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC RECOVERY**

Resolution Presented by the Delegations of: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, and Colombia.

**THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,**

NOTING that disasters, both natural and man-made, have threatened lives, infrastructure and economies, which have exacerbated socioeconomic inequality and poverty within the Americas;

DEEPLY CONCERNED BY the adverse effects of climate change, which amplifies natural disasters and causes countries to become more susceptible to food insecurity, damage to infrastructure and displacement of citizens, many of whom would become more vulnerable to illnesses due to flooding, heat waves, lack of food etc. These factors hinder regional development and productivity;

CONSIDERING the global and regional impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which highlighted the need for cooperation among Member States in order to mitigate disaster risks and to make countries more socio-economically resilient;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which has been adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and embraced by a number of Member States of the OAS, provides a roadmap for reducing disaster risk and builds resilience and international cooperation;

RECOGNIZING that economic inclusion of all citizens in the Americas, including those of all genders, races, and social backgrounds, may aid in socio-economic recovery and disaster risk reduction by increasing socio-economic security and access to resources which may result in greater economic integration between member states;

RESOLVES:

1. To continue to prioritize the vulnerable populations who are affected the most when planning for disaster risks through measures that include the implementation of social infrastructure so that emergency benefit programmes may go into effect promptly after a disaster to minimize socio-economic impact.
2. To promote the formation of new policies and specific risk management strategies such as digitalization at all levels, strengthening regional integration and cooperation. These strategies may be inclusive of conducting risk assessments, implementing more early warning systems, and region-specific risk reduction plans through the use of modern technologies in an attempt to make these strategies more efficient.
3. To appeal to the Secretariat for Integral Development of the OAS to support the consideration of funding and executing the plans presented regarding risk reduction and disaster and emergency services.
4. To emphasize the member states’ commitment to collective economic development through incentivizing small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) start-up by increasing accessibility within related legal processes, including regulations and procedures within opening and closing such enterprises, as well as implementing initiatives that would encourage long-term business operation, such as tax exemptions within the early stages of operation.
5. To foster collaboration with regional and international organizations with a focus on socioeconomic recovery through previously stated measures which encourage an equitable approach to social infrastructure and community wealth-building while improving economic democracy.
6. To request the Department of Sustainable Development (OAS/DSD), specifically the Risk Management and Adaptation to Climate Change section (RISK-MACC), to deliberate on presenting this resolution at the VI CIDS Sectoral Meeting in 2023 regarding sustainable development.