**ACTIONS TO ENSURE TRANSPARENT AND INCLUSIVE ELECTORAL PROCESSES DURING THE PANDEMIC**

Resolution presented by the delegations of the United States of America, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

**THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,**

**CONSIDERING** the fact that the COVID-19 pandemic is very likely to result in a lower voter turnout, OAS member states will need to make changes to the electoral processes due to public health concerns amid the pandemic, Electoral processes, in particular the pre-electoral stage and on election day, involve mass meetings or community events, for example, campaign activities, training of table members, preparation of electoral material and attendance of citizens at their polling station;

**WELCOMING** the thoughts of marked distrust as per the election, which is being held as per the humanitarian crisis, and experiencing the risks which were posed by the Covid-19 pandemic;

**DEEPLY CONCERNED** that the global health crisis generated by the spread of COVID-19 created a disinformation crisis, a phenomenon that will probably extend to electoral processes.

**NOTING** measures of social distancing and current context could affect the principle of transparency which is linked to the fundamental right of citizens to seek, receive and impart information, as well as the right to participate in government and public affairs; In the same way, a health crisis of this type requires the authorities to take new measures to guarantee inclusive elections, which offer equal opportunities so that all citizens with the right to vote and to be elected can participate;

**RECOGNIZING** the facts which help in solving the issues relating to the electoral processes during the time of pandemic are necessary, it makes certain sections as following the COVID-19 guidelines it is important to work on developing better changes and even in engaging new facilities which will ensure better rewards that are considerably necessary;

**TAKING NOTE** that it is not possible to find out the exact ways of getting fundamentally right decisions but there are certain ways which are needed to check whether the electoral processes during the time of pandemic are appropriate, There are several areas which need to be followed to make the necessary changes and even in considering the processes so that it makes valuable changes as per the concerns, It must help in strengthening the processes which become weak because of the pandemic on the electoral system of the country,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To continue until the restrictions that are imposed due to the impacts of the pandemic and make several decisions that are established by the members of the National Electoral Council.
2. To ensure voter turnout amid the pandemic by allowing for more flexibility of the electoral process through; Encouraging governments to incorporate postal voting as it is safer than in person voting.
3. Implementing voting outside of a polling location or voting at polling locations over multiple days to move away the burden of voting on single day, in person voting locations
4. To request governments to make the electoral processes simpler and faster so that people have more options with zero to no crowding while attempting to cast their votes during the times of pandemic.
5. To request the National Electoral Council to make it mandatory for individuals who are eligible to vote, to follow all guidelines while casting their respective votes.
6. To instruct the Permanent Council, the General Secretariat, and the other bodies referred to in Article 53 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) to continue working on the implementation of the applicable current mandates set out in previous General Assembly resolutions assigned to the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP), except as stated otherwise in any resolution.