

AG/RES. 2607 (XL-O/10)

MODEL INTER-AMERICAN LAW ON ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 8, 2010)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING resolution AG/RES. 2514 (XXXIX-O/09), "Access to Public Information: Strengthening Democracy," which called for the drafting of a model law on access to public information and a guide for its implementation, in keeping with international standards in this field;

RECALLING ALSO that the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas, held in Quebec City in 2001, indicates that governments will ensure that national legislation is applied equitably to all, respecting freedom of expression and access to public information by all citizens;

RECALLING FURTHER that, in the Declaration of Nuevo León of the Special Summit of the Americas, held in Monterrey in 2004, the Heads of State and Government expressed their commitment to providing the legal and regulatory framework and the structures and conditions required to guarantee the right to access to public information;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that, in order to carry out the mandate contained in resolution AG/RES. 2514 (XXXIX-O/09), the General Secretariat established a group of experts, in which representatives of the Inter-American Juridical Committee, the Office of the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression, the Department for State Modernization and Governance [now: Department for Effective Public Management], and the Department of International Law participated, along with experts in access to information from a number of countries and civil society; and

WELCOMING the presentation made to the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs of the Permanent Council on April 29, 2010, on the Model Inter-American Law on Access to Public Information and its Implementation Guide,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the Model Inter-American Law on Access to Information (document CP/CAJP-2840/10), which is part of this resolution; as well as its Implementation Guide, contained in document CP/CAJP-2841/10.

2. To reaffirm, as applicable, the mandates contained in resolution AG/RES. 2514 (XXXIX-O/09) "Access to Public Information: Strengthening Democracy." In this regard, to establish that the special meeting scheduled for the second half of 2010 take into account the Model Inter-American Law on Access to Public Information and any observations on it that member states may present.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat to provide support to the member states that so request in the design, execution, and evaluation of their regulations and policies on access to public information by citizens.

4. To thank the General Secretariat and the experts for preparing the Model Inter-American Law on Access to Public Information and its Implementation Guide.

5. Execution of the activities envisaged in this resolution shall be subject to the financial resources available in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.