

AG/RES. 2931 (XLIX-O/19)

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY^{1/2/3/4/5/6/}

(Adopted at the first plenary session, held on June 27, 2019)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

REAFFIRMING the norms and general principles of international law as well as those contained in the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS);

AWARE that the Charter of the Organization of American States establishes in its preamble “that representative democracy is an indispensable condition for the stability, peace and development of the region” and that one of the essential purposes of the Organization is “[t]o promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention”;

RECALLING resolutions AG/RES. 2703 (XLII-O/12), AG/RES. 2768 (XLIII-O/13), AG/RES. 2853 (XLIV-O/14), AG/RES. 2891 (XLVI-O/16), AG/RES. 2894 (XLVI-O/16), AG/RES. 2905 (XLVII-O/17), and AG/RES. 2927 (XLVIII-O/18), as well as all previous resolutions adopted on this topic;

HAVING SEEN the “Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly June 2018-June 2019” (AG/doc.5649/19 add. 1), in particular the section on the activities of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP); and

CONSIDERING that the programs, activities, and tasks set out in the resolutions under the purview of the CAJP help to further the essential purposes of the Organization enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of American States,

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1. Mexico reiterates the position expressed in its statement delivered at the first plenary session of the forty-ninth regular session of the General Assembly ...
 2. The Plurinational State of Bolivia places on record its position in accordance with Article 1 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which stipulates: “*The American States ...*”
 3. Further to the Statement of the delegation of the Republic of Suriname on June 27, 2019 at the General Assembly of the Organization of American States and with reference to its Statement ...
 4. The Government of Barbados did not support Resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019 which sought to appoint Mr. Gustavo Tarre as the National Assembly’s designated Permanent ...
 5. The Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica places on record its reservations to the participation and voting by the purported representative(s) of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela...
 6. Antigua and Barbuda considers that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is not a member state of the Organization of American States since, on 27 April 2017, the Government of the Bolivarian...

I. ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON JURIDICAL AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS

RESOLVES:

1. 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.

2. To urge member states to continue contributing to the attainment of the objectives established in said resolutions through the development and execution of activities, submission of reports, exchange of information, and adoption of measures and policies, as well as through cooperation, support, and mutual assistance; and to instruct the General Secretariat to provide necessary support to those ends.

i. Follow-up to the Inter-American Democratic Charter

SHARING the conviction that democracy is one of our region's most valued accomplishments and that the peaceful transfer of power through constitutional means and in strict compliance with the constitutional rules of each of our states is the product of a continuous and irreversible process in which the region admits no interruptions or stepping backward;

HIGHLIGHTING that the Charter of the Organization of American States establishes in its preamble "that representative democracy is an indispensable condition for the stability, peace and development of the region" and that one of the essential purposes of the Organization is "[t]o promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention";

RECALLING that the Inter-American Democratic Charter reaffirms that the promotion and protection of human rights is a basic prerequisite for the existence of a democratic society and recognizes the importance of the continuous development and strengthening of the inter-American human rights system for the consolidation of democracy;

REAFFIRMING that "essential elements of representative democracy include, inter alia, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; access to and the exercise of power in accordance with the rule of law; the holding of periodic, free, and fair elections based on secret balloting and universal suffrage as an expression of the sovereignty of the people, the pluralistic system of political parties and organizations, and the separation of powers and independence of the branches of government";

REAFFIRMING ALSO that "transparency in government activities, probity, responsible public administration on the part of governments, respect for social rights, and freedom of expression and of the press are essential components of the exercise of democracy";

RECALLING that the Inter-American Democratic Charter establishes that "[t]he promotion and observance of economic, social, and cultural rights are inherently linked to integral development, equitable economic growth, and to the consolidation of democracy in the states of the Hemisphere"; and

REAFFIRMING all the mandates issued in resolution AG/RES. 2835 (XLIV-O/14), "Promotion and Strengthening of Democracy: Follow-up to the Inter-American Democratic Charter,"

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm the obligation of the OAS member states to promote and defend democracy in the region as essential for the social, political, and economic development of the peoples of the Americas.

2. To continue promoting efforts to strengthen democratic institutions, values, practices, and governance; fight corruption; consolidate the rule of law; bring about the full and effective enjoyment and exercise of human rights, and reduce poverty, inequality, and social exclusion.

3. To request the General Secretariat to continue implementing training programs to promote the principles, values, and practices of a democratic culture, on the basis of Articles 26 and 27 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and to improve awareness and promote the application of this inter-American instrument in the countries of the Hemisphere, upon request. Furthermore, to instruct the General Secretariat to continue to support the Permanent Council and the member states that so request with implementation of the Inter-American Program on Education for Democratic Values and Practices.

4. To reaffirm the validity of the Inter-American Democratic Charter as an instrument for promoting and defending the values and principles of representative democracy at both the national and regional levels; and to instruct the Permanent Council to support the holding of a Special Meeting as part of the ongoing dialogue on the effectiveness of the implementation of the Inter-American Democratic Charter in protecting and preserving democracy in the Hemisphere, and to report to the General Assembly, at its fiftieth regular session, on the results of that special meeting.

ii. Follow-up on the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and on the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption

BEARING IN MIND the commitment of the member states to prevent and combat corruption, set forth in the Comprehensive Strategic Plan of the Organization and in the mandates of the Summits of the Americas, especially those contained in the Lima Commitment: “Democratic Governance against Corruption,”^{7/} adopted in Lima, Peru, in April 2018, related to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and to the Mechanism for Follow-Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC), as well as the Inter-American Program of Cooperation to Fight Corruption [AG/RES. 2275 (XXXVII-O/07)]; and the “Recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of States Parties to the MESICIC” (MESICIC/CEP-IV/doc.2/15 rev. 1),

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Department of Legal Cooperation of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, in its capacity as the Technical Secretariat of the Mechanism for Follow-Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC), to continue implementing the mandates contained in the “Recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of States Parties to the MESICIC,” in accordance with the resources allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

2. To endorse the commitment of the member states to resolutely prevent and combat corruption and promote transparency in order to help improve efficiency in public and private management and promote accountability and continue to make progress with effective implementation of the recommendations of the MESICIC while working together to continue moving forward with the Fifth Round of Review of the MESICIC.

7. The Government of the Republic of Nicaragua attaches particular importance to the fight against corruption in its various manifestations. However, as regards the reference to the Eighth Summit...

3. To instruct the MESICIC Technical Secretariat to continue, within the sphere of its competence, among other activities, providing technical support and legal advice to the Conference of States Parties and the Committee of Experts of the MESICIC and facilitating the sharing of best practices and cooperation, with a view to meeting the objectives of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and to continue providing technical support, as necessary, to the Inter-American Program of Cooperation to Fight Corruption, maintaining the Anticorruption Portal of the Americas and pursuing efforts to raise funds to finance regional cooperation activities, including legal cooperation, in the fight against corruption.

4. To also urge the MESICIC Technical Secretariat to continue strengthening its coordination and collaboration with the secretariats of other international cooperation agencies, entities, and mechanisms active in that area; promoting synergies and an anti-corruption culture; and discharging its various other functions under the Document of Buenos Aires and the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of States Parties to the MESICIC and of its Committee of Experts.

5. To request the Technical Secretariat of the MESICIC to take steps, in coordination with the Department for Effective Public Management, within the spheres of their respective competence, to facilitate the identification of opportunities and the offering of technical cooperation to the states party that so request, through the use of the capacities of the Inter-American Cooperation Mechanism for Effective Public Management (MECIGEP).

6. To request that the MESICIC, within the sphere of its competence and in accordance with the resources assigned in the Organization's program-budget and other resources, continue implementing the mandates assigned to it by the Lima Commitment: "Democratic Governance against Corruption,"^{8/} adopted at the Eighth Summit of the Americas held in April 2018 in Lima, Peru, and, through the Chair of the Committee of Experts, present a report to the Permanent Council on the progress made with that implementation, before the fiftieth regular session of the General Assembly.

7. To urge member states to take effective measures to combat tax evasion and avoidance, money laundering, and illicit financial flows deriving from corruption, and to identify beneficial owners.

8. To encourage the member states and permanent observers to cooperate and support the funding of the MESICIC in order to ensure that it meets its objectives.

iii. Strengthening Cadastre and Property Registry in the Americas

EMPHASIZING the importance of cadastre and property registry as basic government activities and sources of information for more efficient and transparent rural and urban land management; and to safeguard social and economic rights, strengthen democratic governance and the rule of law, and promote the socioeconomic development of the region;

CONSIDERING section iii, "Strengthening cadastre and property registry in the Americas," of resolution AG/RES. 2927 (XLVIII-O/18), "Strengthening Democracy," which recommends that the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management, continue supporting efforts by member states to strengthen their cadastre and property registry management and to share experiences and good practices that will advance the regional agenda on this matter;

UNDERSCORING the commitment of the member states participating in the Inter-American Network on Cadastre and Property Registry (RICRP) to the strengthening of the regional cadastre and

8. Idem 7.

property registry systems and to the sharing of experiences and best practices among national cadastre and property registry agencies, as well as to dialogue and decision-making on the regional agenda for these areas;

TAKING NOTE of the 2018 activities report of the RICRP, delivered at its Fourth Assembly on December 5, 2018 in Bogotá, Colombia, and at the meeting of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs on March 18, 2019, in Washington, D.C.; and

THANKING the Government of Colombia for holding in 2018 the IV Conference and Assembly of the RICRP, organized in collaboration with the World Bank and the OAS General Secretariat, as well as Uruguay as President, and Paraguay, Colombia, Nicaragua, and Jamaica, as representatives on the RICRP's Executive Committee for 2019,

RESOLVES:

1. To underscore the recognition of the Inter-American Network for Cadastre and Property Registry (RICRP) as a mechanism of the inter-American system, and to entrust the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management, to continue its support in its role as Technical Secretariat of the RICRP, promoting activities, programs, and projects, and creating partnerships and cooperation.

2. To reaffirm the importance of expanding efforts to reduce underregistration of property, of promoting interactions among institutions and the interoperability of cadastre and property databases, and of updating and maintaining cadastres and registries in the region.

3. To encourage all member states and permanent observers to continue supporting the RICRP and to maintain their active participation in its activities.

4. To urge cadastre and registry institutions in member states to participate in the development of initiatives to meet the objectives set forth in this resolution, through the sharing of experiences to strengthen cadastre and registry management.

iv. Rights of Children and Adolescents

CONSIDERING:

The inescapable link between citizen participation and strengthening of democracy in the Americas;

That the principles of active participation by children and adolescents, nondiscrimination, their best interest, and their right to life, survival, and development, enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child,^{9/} are basic components in building a responsible citizenry; and

The significant progress that the Organization, through the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN), has made in this regard in recent years,

RESOLVES:

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9. The United States is committed to respecting the human rights of all individuals, including children. The United States joins consensus on this resolution with the express understanding that it does...

1. To acknowledge the effort being made by the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) to promote the participation of children and adolescents and the responsible exercise of their freedom to seek, receive, and disseminate information and ideas and develop in a complementary manner in the authorities, political actors, and adults in general, the ability and willingness to listen to and respect opinions and proposals from children and adolescents.

2. To expand and consolidate within the OAS, bodies that include participation by children and adolescents and hear their opinions and proposals in formulating, monitoring, and evaluating social policies related to their interests.

v. Inclusive Dialogue for Preventing, Effectively Managing, and Comprehensively Resolving Social Conflicts in Investments for Integral Development

REAFFIRMING, as Article 11 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter acknowledges, that democracy and social and economic development are interdependent and mutually reinforcing;

EXPRESSING its conviction that preventing, effectively managing, and comprehensively resolving social conflicts associated with investment projects from a rights-based perspective and through dialogue and other peaceful means for the prevention and alternative resolution of disputes, in accordance with respective national laws, contributes to democratic governance and integral development, including its economic, social, and environmental dimensions; and

REAFFIRMING the commitment to promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, to facilitating access to justice for all, and to building effective, responsible, and inclusive institutions at all levels,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue supporting member states, upon request, in developing institutional capacities for preventing, effectively managing, comprehensively resolving, and monitoring social conflicts associated with investment projects for advancing integral development; eradicating poverty, particularly extreme poverty; and promoting equality, equity, and social inclusion.

2. To request the General Secretariat to continue strengthening coordination of the projects and programs implemented by the various areas of the Organization, as well as their ties to other entities in the inter-American system and international organizations, with a view to promoting peaceful and inclusive societies, taking into account, among others, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development^{10/} and its Sustainable Development Goals.

3. To request the Permanent Council to promote, subject to the availability of resources, the holding of a special meeting of the CAJP to share experiences and information in this area.

vi. Mission to Support the Fight against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras

STRESSING that corruption undermines the legitimacy of public institutions and threatens democracy, peace, the rule of law, justice, and the integral development of peoples;

10. The United States recognizes the 2030 Agenda as a global framework for sustainable development that can help countries work toward global peace and prosperity. We applaud the call for shared...

MINDFUL of the conclusion, on January 19, 2016, of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Honduras and the OAS General Secretariat to establish the Mission to Support the Fight against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (MACCIH); and

TAKING NOTE of the semiannual reports of the MACCIH submitted to the Permanent Council (first semiannual report, October 2016; second semiannual report, May 2017; third semiannual report, October 2017; fourth semiannual report, April 2018; fifth semiannual report, October 2018; and sixth semiannual report, May 2019),

RESOLVES:

1. To take into account that the Mission to Support the Fight against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (MACCIH) has provided support to Honduran institutions in fighting against corruption and the elimination of impunity from a holistic perspective, in the interest of Honduran democracy.

2. To thank the member states and permanent observers that have contributed to the MACCIH and to encourage them to continue their support; and to invite those states that have not yet done so to consider supporting the MACCIH's funding, so as to ensure the fulfillment of its objectives.

3. To acknowledge the work, carried out with professionalism by the spokesperson of the MACCIH whose mandate is to conclude on June 30, 2019, which made a significant contribution to strengthening the OAS Mission in Honduras.

4. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue supporting the work of the MACCIH and to report to the Permanent Council on income and expenditures since the start of MACCIH's work.

vii. Open and transparent digital government

TAKING NOTE of the Commitment of Santo Domingo, emanating from the Eleventh Annual Meeting of the Network of e-Government Leaders of Latin America and the Caribbean (GEALC Network), held November 29 to 30, 2017, in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, and in particular as regards "reinforc[ing] the collaborative work through the Network, in order to anticipate the challenges of digital progress and meet the expectations and needs of the people, boosting confidence in public institutions with greater transparency and openness, improving the response capacity and the delivery of public services, and contributing to making citizens the engine of public policy, in order to build an inclusive and sustainable future for everyone;"

REAFFIRMING the commitments made in paragraphs 14, 17, and 20 of the Lima Commitment^{11/} approved by our Heads of State and Government at the Eighth Summit of the Americas held in Lima, Peru, April 13 to 14, 2018, in particular those that regard furthering open government and open data policies and the use of digital technologies to promote transparency and accountability, interaction with citizens, reduction of bureaucracy and simplification of administrative processes, information openness, and strengthening cooperation and exchange of best practices for the development and application of said technologies;

TAKING NOTE of section xi, "E-Government," in resolution AG/RES. 2927 (XLVIII-O/18), "Strengthening Democracy," which instructs the General Secretariat to promote, as regards the GEALC Network, the coordination of activities, projects, and programs, and the promotion of e-government best

11. See footnote 7.

practices for and among its member states, upon request, with a view to furthering the digital transformation of governments;

TAKING NOTE ALSO of the Declaration of Panama of the Fifth Ministerial Meeting on E-Government, held November 15 to 16, 2018, in Panama City, Panama, in particular with regard to undertaking the actions needed to expand the reach of the mechanism into an Inter-American Network on Digital Government, which would include participation from all the OAS member states;

BEARING IN MIND that open data are a fundamental tool for combating corruption from the standpoint of ensuring the right of access to information and of helping citizens to have more information about public affairs, which will enable them to participate in a more informed way in decisions that affect them; and

TAKING NOTE of operative paragraphs 4 and 5 of section xi, “E-Government,” of resolution AG/RES. 2927 (XLVIII-O/18), “Strengthening Democracy,” which request the OAS General Secretariat to coordinate in a collaborative manner, through the Department for Effective Public Management, the preparation of a proposal for an Inter-American Open Data Program and request the General Secretariat to submit said Program to the Permanent Council, through the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP), for consideration by the member states,

RESOLVES:

1. To recognize the Network of e-Government Leaders of Latin America and the Caribbean (GEALC Network) as the Inter-American Network on Digital Government, open to the participation of all OAS member states, instructing the General Secretariat to promote the coordination of activities, projects, and programs in relation to the Network and to encourage e-government best practices for and among member states that so request, with a view to horizontally furthering the digital transformation of governments.

2. To reaffirm the commitment to strengthen the GEALC Network as a mechanism for dialogue, cooperation, and promotion of digital government in the Americas in order to bolster transparency, accountability, access to information, interaction with citizens, reduction of bureaucracy, simplification of administrative processes, exchange of best practices, and institution building through the use of information and communication technologies.

3. To approve the Inter-American Open Data Program (PIDA) to combat corruption, annexed hereto, the aim of which is to strengthen information openness policies, increase governments’ and citizens’ capacity to prevent and combat corruption through open data, and request member states and the General Secretariat, through the Department of Effective Public Management, to undertake efforts for its implementation in the countries that so request.

4. To take note of the invitation to member states to the Seventh Regional Open Data Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (CONDATOS and ABRELATAM), to be held in Quito, Ecuador, August 28 to 30, 2019, and to reiterate the invitation to all member states to attend the Thirteenth Meeting of the GEALC Network, to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, September 30 to October 1, 2019.

viii. Strengthening the Activities of the Inter-American Judicial Facilitators Program

CONSIDERING that the positive outcomes and impacts of the National Judicial Facilitators Services and the training of judicial officials promoted by the Inter-American Program of Judicial Facilitators strengthen judicial institutions and broaden access for vulnerable populations by contributing

to crime and violence prevention, promoting a culture of peaceful resolution of conflicts, and reducing the judicialization of conflicts in Argentina, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, and Paraguay,

RESOLVES:

1. To recognize the work done by the Inter-American Program of Judicial Facilitators (IPJF) in strengthening and supplementing national policies that support the member states' actions and efforts on crime prevention and peaceful resolution of conflicts.

2. To take note of the report on the IPJF, presented to the CAJP by the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity with the collaboration of the Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy.

3. To urge the General Secretariat to continue its support to member states that so request in establishing National Judicial Facilitators Services and training their operators through the IPJF.

4. To strengthen the IPJF with a view to finding mechanisms that ensure its sustainability, including the establishment of strategic partnerships with, among others, academia in order to build capacity and strengthen skills of judicial facilitators.

5. To instruct the General Secretariat, through the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity and with the collaboration of the Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy, to give priority to and assist in mobilizing specific funds to this end.

6. To instruct the General Secretariat, through the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity and with the collaboration of the Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy, to continue its efforts to conduct a diagnostic assessment on provision of the services in each one of the countries where they operate and to present a report with the principal findings so that country-specific work plans can be prepared by the first quarter of 2020 at the latest.

7. To support efforts to secure voluntary contributions in order to consolidate and expand the existing services of the IPJF in the eight member states that have expressed their interest in continuing with the Program and to extend them to other member states that so request.

ix. Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Other Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA)

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that "cooperation among authorities with responsibilities in the area of justice" is one of the priority areas of the OAS, and that "the REMJA has consolidated itself as the hemispheric political and technical forum in the areas of justice and international legal cooperation," which is essential for the development of justice systems and consolidation of the rule of law in the region; and that at the Summits of the Americas, the Heads of State and Government have supported the work carried out through the process of Meetings of Ministers of Justice or Other Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA) and the implementation of its conclusions and recommendations,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its satisfaction at the progress made, with support from the Department of Legal Cooperation of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, in its capacity as the Technical Secretariat to the Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Other Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA), in the implementation of the mandates contained in the Conclusions and Recommendations of REMJA X (REMJA-X/doc.2/15 rev. 2), including the holding of the seventh meeting of the REMJA Working Group

on Legal Cooperation in Criminal Matters and the organization of regional training workshops on cybercrime for judges and public prosecutors.

2. To give instructions for REMJA XI to be convened, in keeping with the provisions of the Document of Washington and subject to the availability of financial resources in the Organization's program-budget and other resources.

3. To instruct the REMJA Technical Secretariat to continue to: provide support, legal advice, and technical assistance to the REMJA process and to its working groups and technical meetings; prepare documents and studies to support follow-up and implementation of their recommendations; carry out programs, projects, and technical cooperation activities in pursuit thereof; manage and maintain the networks created in the REMJA area for which it is responsible; take steps to secure funding for the activities of the REMJA process; strengthen coordination and collaboration with the secretariats of other international cooperation agencies, entities, and mechanisms in areas that concern the REMJA; and discharge the other functions assigned to it in the Document of Washington.

x. Public Management Strengthening and Innovation in the Americas

CONSIDERING that democracy is essential for the social, political, and economic development of the peoples of the Americas and that effective public management, fighting corruption, and the promotion of transparency are vital components of the full exercise of democracy;

EMPHASIZING the importance of public institutions being transparent and effective and having mechanisms for public participation and accountability, and also recognizing the importance of creating synergies between the different international instruments and forums that exist for the topic;

REAFFIRMING the commitments made in the Lima Commitment^{12/} adopted by our Heads of State and Government at the Eighth Summit of the Americas, held in Lima, Peru, on April 13 and 14, 2018, especially those relating to strengthening democratic institutions, promotion of policies on integrity and transparency, open government, e-government, open data, and public procurement (paragraphs 1, 14, 17, 20, 27, 33, and 50 of the Lima Commitment (CA-VIII.doc.1/18)); and

REAFFIRMING ALSO the importance of transparency in government and of a culture of lawfulness as essential requirements in the fight against corruption, as well as the commitment of member states to continue to promote strengthening them by means of measures and actions to prevent, detect, punish, and eradicate acts of corruption,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the member states to promote codes of conduct with high standards of ethics, probity, transparency, and integrity, taking as reference the recommendations contained in the "Guidelines for the Management of Policies for Probity in the Public Administrations of the Americas" and to urge the Hemisphere's private sector to develop similar codes of conduct.

2. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue to support the member states' efforts to strengthen government institutions at the national and local levels, by means of educational and training programs on these issues; and through the sharing of experiences via the Inter-American Cooperation Mechanism for Effective Public Management (MECIGEP).

12. See footnote 7.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management, to continue supporting the member states that so request in the implementation of policies for open government, e-government, open data, fiscal transparency, administrative streamlining, open budget, electronic public procurement and contracting systems, and public registry of state suppliers, taking into account the participation of civil society and other stakeholders.

4. To request that the Department for Effective Public Management, as Technical Secretariat of the MECIGEP, develop, in coordination with the Technical Secretariat of the MESICIC, in keeping with their respective areas of competence, measures to help identify opportunities and offerings of technical cooperation among the States Party to the MESICIC that so request, by making the most of the MECIGEP's capabilities.

5. To recognize the progress made by the Inter-American Network on Government Procurement (INGP) in crafting a proposal for a hemispheric initiative for open contracting, in coordination with the competent national authorities and civil society, and to invite the INGP to present the outcomes thereof to the CAJP.

6. To request the General Secretariat, through the INGP Technical Secretariat, to continue promoting integrity, transparency, efficiency, innovation, and simplification in government contracts as an effective anti-corruption strategy, through the competent national agencies in OAS member states.

7. To encourage states to increase transparency in their national government procurement systems by implementing information and communication technologies, among other means, taking as a reference the exchanges of experiences and plans of action developed through the INGP Regional Workshop on "Digital Transformation and Use of Information Technologies in Government Procurement," held in Quito, Ecuador, on April 3 and 4, 2019.

xi. Technical Cooperation and Electoral Observation Missions

HIGHLIGHTING the substantive contribution made by the OAS to the strengthening and development of electoral processes and systems in member states through electoral observation missions, electoral advice, and electoral technical cooperation, when so requested by a member state and consistent with the Inter-American Democratic Charter and the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation and Code of Conduct for International Election Observers;

CONSIDERING that the more than 260 electoral observations missions deployed in most of the Hemisphere and the technical cooperation projects implemented have served as a source for identifying good electoral practices;

RECOGNIZING that the Inter-American Meetings of Electoral Authorities, organized by the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation of the Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy, are the institutional forum that has been promoting, since 2003, the exchange of information, experiences, and successful practices, by bringing together agencies responsible for elections management in the region, and for which the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation, pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 2927 (XLVIII-O/18), has served as Technical Secretariat since 2018;

CONSIDERING that financial support from the host country is needed to ensure the sustainability of the Inter-American Meetings of Electoral Authorities, and that the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation must have the human and financial resources; and

TAKING NOTE OF resolution AG/RES. 2905 (XLVII-O/17), “Strengthening Democracy,” lifting the restrictions that prevent the Regular Fund of the Organization from being used to cover costs associated with electoral observation missions,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the General Secretariat to provide assistance to member states that so request in deploying OAS electoral observation missions and in the implementation of recommendations contained in the reports of those missions, and to invite donors to continue to support these missions in order to facilitate the planning of such missions.

2. To support the institutional strengthening of the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation, ensuring the conditions for the development of methodological tools, the dissemination of good electoral practices in the member states, training services, and applications for the efficient management of electoral observation missions and for the implementation of their recommendations, through technical cooperation projects.

3. To request the General Secretariat, through the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation, to pursue efforts, within the existing resources, to develop a draft electoral good practices guide for strengthening electoral processes in the region.

4. To likewise instruct the General Secretariat, through the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation, which serves as Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Meetings of Electoral Authorities, to continue to offer an institutional venue for sharing experiences, lessons learned, and dissemination of information on election issues in the region, as well as the recommendations made by the electoral observation missions.

5. To request the General Secretariat to present the CAAP with a proposal for increasing the budget allocation for the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation, subject to the availability of resources from the OAS Regular Fund. The modalities and the amount that will be allocated for the aforementioned purposes, without involving any quota increase, will be included in the resolution on the financing of the Organization and in the program-budget of the OAS for 2020.

6. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue with fundraising efforts to ensure the financial sustainability of electoral observation missions.

7. To request the General Secretariat to present an annual report to the Permanent Council on the sources of funding of electoral observation missions and on the amounts spent on each individual mission.

xii. Access to Public Information and Protection of Personal Data

RECALLING that access to public information and protection of personal data are essential to democracy and to full exercise of human rights and operate in a complementary fashion to benefit effective citizen participation and government accountability, which contributes to the strengthening of public institutions, equality, transparency, and full observance of the rule of law; and

TAKING NOTE of the conclusions of the CAJP on this topic at its meeting of March 14, 2019 (document CP/CAJP/SA.657/19),

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Department of International Law to continue disseminating the contents of the inter-American legal framework in the area of access to public information through the organization of training programs for staff of national authorities for access to information and personnel in justice administration systems.

2. To request member states, in the framework of the CAJP, to report annually and voluntarily on their progress and exchange best practices in implementing the Inter-American Program on Access to Public Information, and to request the CAJP to consider the possibility that those reports gradually be presented by specific areas contained in the Program.

3. To request the Department of International Law to submit a proposal to the CAJP containing progress indicators to facilitate reporting and, taking advantage of the presence of the Focal Points at the meeting of the CAJP on this subject, to simultaneously organize a meeting with them to move forward together in the implementation of the Program and explore opportunities for mutual cooperation.

4. To request the Department of International Law to continue moving forward with its broad consultations for updating the 2010 Model Inter-American Law on Access to Public Information that it is conducting with the Focal Points of the Inter-American Program on Access to Public Information, taking into account the contributions of civil society, and that it ensure the incorporation of the observations and suggestions put forward in the context of those consultations, so that the Inter-American Juridical Committee may submit its draft Model Law 2.0 to the policy-making bodies of the Organization prior to the fiftieth regular session of the General Assembly.

xiii. The region's contribution to the preparatory process of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session against Corruption (UNGASS 2021)

HIGHLIGHTING United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/73/191, which calls for a special session on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation to be held in the first half of 2021; and

UNDERSCORING the progress made by the region's states in preventing and combating corruption, within the framework of the obligations of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and its Follow-up Mechanism, and through the implementation of the Lima Commitment, "Democratic Governance against Corruption,"^{13/} adopted by the Eighth Summit of the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm the region's commitment to participate actively in the preparatory process of the United Nations General Assembly special session against corruption that is to take place in the first half of 2021 (UNGASS 2021), with a view to adopting a concise and action-oriented political declaration that will serve to renew, at the highest level, the states' commitment against this scourge and allow the exploration of new and more effective ways to combat it.

2. To present the progress made in complying with the commitments assumed for the prevention and combat of corruption under the aegis of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption

13. See footnote 7.

and the Lima Commitment, “Democratic Governance against Corruption,”^{14/} as contributions by the region for the UNGASS 2021 preparatory process.

3. To reaffirm the member states’ commitment toward preventing and tackling corruption with resolve and promoting hemispheric legal and technical cooperation in order to help improve efficiency in the public and private sectors and strengthen the state institutions responsible for preventing, detecting, investigating, and punishing acts of corruption.

II. FOLLOW-UP AND REPORTING

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Permanent Council to follow up on the topics addressed in this resolution through their inclusion in the work plan of the CAJP, and the General Secretariat to report to the fiftieth regular session of the General Assembly.

2. To instruct the General Secretariat to submit to the Permanent Council in due course in the third quarter of 2019 and through the areas responsible for follow-up and implementation of activities connected with the purpose of this resolution, the 2019-2020 plan of activities for proper oversight by member states.

3. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth regular session on the implementation of this resolution. Execution of the activities envisaged in this resolution will be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.