

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
GENERAL ASSEMBLY



FIFTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION
Guatemala City, Guatemala
November 10 to 12, 2021
Virtual

PROCEEDINGS VOLUME I

AG/DEC. 103 (LI-O/21) to AG/DEC. 105 (LI-O/21)
AG/RES. 2965 (LI-O/21) to AG/RES. 2981 (LI-O/21)

CERTIFIED TEXTS OF THE DECLARATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

GENERAL SECRETARIAT
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY



OEA/Ser.P/LI-O.2
13 July 2022
Volume 1

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I HEREBY CERTIFY that this volume contains the official texts of the declarations and resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States at its fifty-first regular session, held virtually, in Guatemala City, Guatemala, from November 10 to 12, 2021.

Luis Almagro
Secretary General
Organization of American States

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AG/DEC. 103 (LI-O/21)

DECLARATION ON “THE QUESTION OF THE MALVINAS ISLANDS”^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on November 12, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING its repeated statements that the question of the Malvinas Islands is a matter of enduring hemispheric concern;

RECALLING its resolution AG/RES. 928 (XVIII-O/88), adopted by consensus on November 19, 1988, in which it requested the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to resume negotiations in order to find, as soon as possible, a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute;

BEARING IN MIND that in its resolution AG/RES. 1049 (XX-O/90) it expressed satisfaction over the resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries;

RECOGNIZING that the accreditation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, under resolution CP/RES. 655 (1041/95), as a permanent observer of the OAS reflects principles and values shared by that country and OAS member states, which facilitate greater mutual understanding;

NOTING with satisfaction that the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland maintain important political, cultural, and trade ties, share common values, and are also engaged in close cooperation both bilaterally and in international forums;

BEARING IN MIND that, despite those ties and shared values, it has not yet been possible to resume the negotiations between the two countries with a view to solving the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas in the framework of resolutions 2065 (XX), 3160 (XXVIII), 31/49, 37/9, 38/12, 39/6, 40/21, 41/40, 42/19 and 43/25 of the United Nations General Assembly, the decisions adopted by the same body on the same question in the Special Committee on Decolonization, and the reiterated resolutions and declarations adopted at the OAS General Assembly; and

HAVING HEARD the presentation by the head of the delegation of the Argentine Republic,

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...

WELCOMES the reaffirmation of the will of the Argentine Government to continue exploring all possible avenues towards a peaceful settlement of the dispute and its constructive approach towards the inhabitants of the Malvinas Islands.

REAFFIRMS the need for the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to resume, as soon as possible, negotiations on the sovereignty dispute, in order to find a peaceful solution to this protracted controversy.

DECIDES to continue to examine the question of the Malvinas Islands at its subsequent sessions until a definitive settlement has been reached thereon.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

AG/DEC. 104 (LI-O/21)

RENEWED COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
IN THE AMERICAS POST COVID-19^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on November 12, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

REAFFIRMING its commitment to the principles expressed in Article 3 of the Charter of the Organization of American States; to strengthening the actions of the Organization and its member states for achieving the goals contained in Chapter VII of the Charter of the Organization, especially according to Article 30; and to the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man and the American Convention on Human Rights, and recalling its Additional Protocol in the Area of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Protocol of San Salvador);

RECALLING Article 15 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter which states that “the exercise of democracy promotes the preservation and good stewardship of the environment” and reiterates the necessity “to protect the environment ... to achieve sustainable development for the benefit of future generations”; the commitments of member states to climate action under the Paris Agreement, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), related accords, and the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development (PIDS) 2016–2021; and the right to development proclaimed in the Declaration on the Right to Development adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 4, 1986, and reaffirmed by the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on June 25, 1993;^{5/}

RECOGNIZING that to achieve sustainable development and to attain the goals of the 2030 Agenda, member states need to continue addressing the causes of systemic racism, discrimination, intolerance, and inequality that particularly affect people in situations of vulnerability, especially women, who have been negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, given the exacerbated increase in violence and in domestic violence, in particular, unpaid care work, and lack of access to the formal labor market, which represents a major setback to the full and equal exercise of the economic rights of all women, and to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

RECOGNIZING ALSO the central role to be played by a robust, inclusive, predictable means of implementation, such as through financing, capacity-building, and the voluntary transfer of

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 3. 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...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...
 5. Colombia reiterates its position regarding the reference to the “right to development,” which it understands as a progressive obligation that requires the adoption of proactive measures to guarantee the well-being ...

technology on mutually agreed terms, in the achievement of sustainable development, especially by developing countries;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER the fundamental role played by women in response efforts to COVID-19, and the need for member states to ensure the full, equal, and meaningful participation of all women—while respecting and valuing the full diversity of women’s situations and conditions—in decision-making and their equal access to leadership and representation in all spheres of society, as a basis for an effective response; and

WITH RENEWED COMMITMENT, in this first year of the Decade of Action for the SDGs, to the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Americas,

DECLARES:

1. The need to advance towards a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach involving all member states and all entities, bodies, specialized organizations, and the secretariats of the Organization of American States (OAS), in pursuit of the goals established in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. Its commitment to continue promoting national and regional measures, to respond to the multiple crises that have been unleashed, addressing the structural causes, particularly to counteract the effects of climate change and the loss of biodiversity, as well as discrimination, hunger and food and nutrition insecurity, displacement, poverty and violence.

3. The relevance of taking into account policies that offer the highest levels of protection for women’s human rights—while respecting and valuing the full diversity of women’s situations and conditions—in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and its specific consequences for women, particularly those in vulnerable situations.

4. The importance of strengthening the role of the OAS, based on its four pillars, to collaborate with member states and other strategic partners to identify trends, challenges, opportunities, and vulnerabilities, and provide technical assistance to member states in their efforts to enhance national capacity to achieve sustainable development.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

5. ... of citizens but does not recognize it as a human right that includes the possibility of individual or collective claims.

AG/DEC. 105 (LI-O/21)

THE SITUATION IN HAITI^{1/2/3/4/5/}

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on November 12, 2021)

THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HEADS OF DELEGATION OF THE OAS,

RECALL resolution CP/RES. 1168 (2315/21) of March 17, 2021, establishing the Good Offices Mission with a mandate to facilitate political dialogue with a view to achieving free and fair elections, which presented its report to the Permanent Council on June 30, 2021;

ALSO RECALL that the Charter of the Organization of American States recognizes that representative democracy is an indispensable condition for the stability, peace, and development of the region;

REITERATE the recommendations identified in the Good Offices Mission report, particularly the need to take urgent measures to re-establish a climate of security;

EXPRESS deep concern over the worsening political, economic, social, security, and humanitarian crisis in Haiti and its grave impact on the stability of the region;

ENCOURAGE the Government of Haiti to ensure the well-being of the Haitian people, and urge all stakeholders to engage in a serious and inclusive dialogue to find lasting solutions that meet the aspirations of the Haitian people;

REAFFIRM that any solution to the current multidimensional crisis in Haiti requires the efforts of all the stakeholders of the Haitian nation, including the government, the opposition, civil society, and the private and religious sectors;

URGE the Organization of American States and the international community to continue supporting the Haitian authorities in their efforts to restore security, combat impunity, and defend human rights in Haiti, as well as to assist in the preparation of free, fair, and transparent elections under international observation;

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 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...
 5. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines supports the declaration on 'the Situation in Haiti', noting that its development involved the subject Member State itself. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines underscores ...

REAFFIRM their commitment to the Haitian people in their determination to resolve the severe humanitarian crisis in the country, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters, and to work together to build a stable, prosperous, and secure future for Haiti;

ENCOURAGE member states to cooperate with the Republic of Haiti in connection with the investigation into the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse; and

CALL ON the member states of the Organization to urgently address the current situation in Haiti.

FOOTNOTES

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5. ... that it must be clearly understood that the role of the Organization of American States is to be limited by Article 1 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which states that ‘the Organization of American States has no powers other than those expressly conferred upon it by this Charter, none of whose provisions authorizes it to intervene in matters that are within the internal jurisdiction of the Member States.’ Saint Vincent and the Grenadines cautions, therefore, that any facilitation of dialogue and provision of assistance must be only as requested by the Haitian authorities and people and occur in accordance with the provisions of international law.

AG/RES. 2965 (LI-O/21)

THE KEY ROLE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES IN ADVANCING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS/INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES
THROUGH THE INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on November 11, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

Resolution AG/RES. 2953 (L-O/20), “The Key Role of the Organization of American States in Advancing Telecommunications/ Information and Communication Technologies through the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission,” adopted on October 20, 2020; and,

Resolution AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), “Program-Budget of the Organization for 2021,” adopted on October 20, 2020, with respect to the mandates relating to the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL);

NOTING resolution CITEL/RES. 80 (VII-18), “Strengthening CITEL within the OAS,” adopted by the seventh regular meeting of the CITEL Assembly, in which CITEL invites the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) to renew its commitment to the financial sustainability of CITEL; and

CONSIDERING:

That telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICTs) are key enabling tools for social, economic, cultural, and environmental development and, therefore, for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

That CITEL is the specialized agency of the OAS in the area of telecommunications and ICTs and, as such, effectively contributes to the implementation of the four OAS pillars and the mandates and initiatives of the Summits of the Americas, to which end it has encouraged, along with the region’s political leaders, actions such as the launch of the public-private 2030 ICT Alliance for the Americas, calls for greater investment in broadband infrastructure, the promotion of broadband access in the interests of social inclusion, and the Rural Women’s Alliance – Empowering Rural Women Through ICTs;

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 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...

That, reflecting its unique membership-based role and its ability to bring academia, the private sector, the technical community, and government together, CITELE promotes the interests of the entire Hemisphere at the world telecommunication and radiocommunication assemblies and conferences of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) through the adoption of more than 300 inter-American proposals;

That according to the ITU, a third of the region's people currently have no access to broadband connectivity, and that it is important to continue strengthening CITELE as the crucial arena for cooperation in communications and ICTs in the Americas, most particularly in its role in discussing and reaching agreements on digital inclusion, the development of telecommunication infrastructure, radio spectrum use, and the creation of an enabling environment for investment in ICTs;

That the exchange of experiences as a result of the series of roundtables and forums coordinated by the CITELE Secretariat made a positive contribution to the responses of member states to better address the inequalities arising from the COVID-19 pandemic from the standpoint of telecommunications/ICTs and helped in the drafting of recommendations on relevant aspects that must be kept in mind when drawing up regulatory policies for telecommunications during and after the COVID-19 pandemic;

That it is necessary to improve coverage and identify models to bridge the digital divide, CITELE made recommendations for expanding telecommunications/ICTs in rural areas and in unserved or underserved areas;

That CITELE undertook actions in coordination with the ITU, CTU, and COMTELECA to improve communications and response capabilities with a view to building resilience to disasters and emergency situations in the region, and

That, having assessed the positive results of the work it has been doing, CITELE needs to be made financially sustainable in order to ensure that it is equipped with the tools required to continue with its tasks and to implement its 2018-2022 Strategic Plan in line with the Organization's Comprehensive Strategic Plan,

RESOLVES:

1. To encourage member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) to intensify horizontal cooperation and the exchange of information, experiences and best practices among them in the area of telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICTs), with the support of the Secretariat of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITELE).

2. To encourage member states to implement activities in their countries and in the region to advance connectivity and broadband access as key drivers of sustainable development, and to invite them to participate in the various activities organized by CITELE.

3. To request that in the draft program-budget for 2022 submitted for consideration by the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs and for adoption by the General Assembly, the General Secretariat continue taking into account the financial needs of CITELE, in keeping with resolution CITELE/RES. 80 (VII-18), adopted at the seventh regular meeting of the CITELE Assembly,

and with resolution AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), “Program-Budget of the Organization for 2021,” adopted at the fiftieth regular session of the General Assembly, so that CITEC can continue fulfilling its goals and mission and functioning optimally.

4. To request that the CITEC Secretariat report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second regular session on the implementation of this resolution, execution of which will be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

AG/RES. 2966 (LI-O/21)

INITIATIVES TO EXPAND TELECOMMUNICATIONS/INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES IN RURAL,
UNSERVED, AND UNDERSERVED AREAS^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on November 11, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) are essential tools for people to carry out their daily activities and have a direct impact on the economic, social, and cultural environment of countries;

That the global telecommunication/ICT infrastructure is essential and indispensable for world and national economies and for the well-being of all societies;

That the participation of communities, NGOs, and local government is key to the success of a rural connectivity initiative;

ITU Plenipotentiary Conference resolution 200 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), “Connect 2030 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology, including broadband, for sustainable development,” especially goal 2 “Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband access for all”;

That World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) Recommendation ITU-D 19 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017), “Telecommunications for rural and remote areas,” establishes that telecommunication/ICT services and applications make a significant contribution to improving the quality of life of people, optimizing social well-being, boosting productivity, saving resources, and safeguarding human rights;

That CITEL resolution PCC.I/RES. 268 (XXVIII-16) mentions ensuring the equitable implementation of telecommunications/ICT, as they foster the sustainable socioeconomic development and minimize the poverty and social inequalities of remote rural and indigenous communities;

That CITEL recommendation PCC.I/REC. 28 (XXXIII-18) recommended that member states facilitate the development of regulatory models that promote the deployment of infrastructure in remote

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...

or underserved rural areas, identifying necessary changes in: (a) regulatory policies and (b) models to achieve universal access;

That new alternatives must be found to resolve, over the short term, the absence of connectivity and telecommunication/ICT services in areas that do not have them or for which they are not affordable; and

That it is necessary for member states to promote urgent actions to facilitate technological development and connectivity to broadband networks, which should be affordable to benefit all sectors of the population;

RECOGNIZING:

That the experiences shared in the CITELE document “Best practices for bridging the digital divide by connecting the unconnected in unserved or underserved rural areas,” are a key contribution to compiling and reviewing the status related to connectivity in rural areas in the region;

That deploying more infrastructure can provide access to services, education, and jobs;

That enhanced access to telecommunication and ICT services can provide economic and social inclusion and gender equality; and

That the innovations being seen in the regulatory and technological field can accelerate the bridging of the digital divide; and

RECOGNIZING FURTHER:

That as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is an urgent need to accelerate the implementation of connectivity solutions to serve all citizens;

The importance of technological neutrality;

That the availability of spectrum and orbit resources are an extremely important input to bridge the connectivity divide and should be developed as recommended by the ITU-R and other similar organizations;

That administrations may have different priorities, legal and regulatory requirements, social and economic-financial conditions, and availability of radioelectric spectrum; and

That it is necessary to consider new alternatives, technologies, means of access, and services that can solve in the short term the lack of connectivity and telecommunication/ICT services in areas that do not have them or that are not affordable,

RESOLVES:

To invite member states that wish to develop projects or initiatives for the expansion of telecommunications/ICTs in rural, unserved, or underserved areas, observing the regulatory provisions applicable in each country, to consider the following initiatives:

1. Promoting the use of universal service funds or assistance funds for connectivity projects aimed at remote or underserved rural areas and ensuring that they have the facilities that would make it possible for them to gain access to all kinds of operators.
2. Fostering and supporting the implementation of business models that motivate the entry of new economic agents and promote their financial sustainability.
3. Encouraging the discussion, in the region's countries, of the analysis of fiscal measures to favor connectivity.
4. Prioritizing, in rural connectivity policies, technologies and projects that show sustainability, efficiency, and speed of implementation in rural areas.
5. Boosting public and private investment, as well as public-private ventures, partnerships, and infrastructure sharing in rural areas.
6. Promoting local innovation ecosystems, as well as strategies for technology ownership in rural areas.
7. Offering incentives for the participation of small and community operators in providing services to unserved areas, through specific licensing measures, access to key infrastructure, and social coverage promotion programs.
8. Promoting cooperation and dismantling barriers to the deployment of infrastructure between central and local government to resolve the issues of permits and rights of way.
9. Promoting the drafting of best practice guides on infrastructure deployment, as well as the standardization of local requirements and regulations.
10. Periodically examining the regulations applicable to rural connectivity in order to respond quickly to specific connectivity demand and needs in rural areas.
11. Adapting minimum standards of service quality, speed, and continuity of service in rural communities.
12. Promoting specific incentives for rural areas (investment, rates, contributions, etc.).
13. Continually measuring the progress of projects in order to foster connectivity, as well as publishing their reports systematically and continually, measuring their impact, and adopting necessary corrective measures, as appropriate.
14. Fostering the development of a connectivity mapping system that identifies the places where there is installed infrastructure and connectivity.
15. Creating a regulatory environment that fosters innovation and investment for technological development and analyzing all connectivity technology offerings in accordance with the needs of each country.

16. Analyzing the relevance of enabling operators to allocate all or part of the contribution amount due to access and universal services funds for rural connectivity projects defined by connectivity policies in accordance with the needs of each country.

17. The possibility, if the policies and laws of the country allow it, for enterprises that have deployed connectivity in rural areas to be exempted from the mandatory contribution to the universal access and service fund.

18. Incentives for suitable use of the radio spectrum to expand the coverage of affordable, quality telecommunication/ICT services by implementing flexible regulatory frameworks that facilitate access to services and the use of radio spectrum in order to encourage investment in these areas and promote compliance with service coverage obligations.

19. Alternative and innovative models for assignment, licensing, and payment for the use of radioelectric spectrum to facilitate the expansion of coverage.

20. Policies to promote targeted investments aimed at satellite, aeronautical, and terrestrial solutions, including stratospheric platforms, among others that could provide telecommunication/ICT services in the short term.

21. Implementing new technologies and techniques for dynamic management of licensed and license-exempt radio spectrum to enable its flexible and shared use.

FOOTNOTES

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AG/RES. 2967 (LI-O/21)

ADVANCING HEMISPHERIC INITIATIVES ON INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT:
PROMOTING RESILIENCE^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on November 11, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

REITERATING the importance of fostering integral development, including building resilience, as one of the essential purposes of the Organization of American States (OAS) as contained in instruments of the inter-American system, such as the Charter of the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and the Social Charter of the Americas, as well as OAS mandates and the initiatives emanating from the Summits of the Americas;

AWARE that member states, particularly those that are more vulnerable to external shocks, such as small island and low-lying coastal developing states, have been significantly affected by the social, economic, and environmental impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and efforts to contain the spread of the virus; that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to threaten global progress toward eradicating poverty—including extreme poverty—in all its forms and dimensions, as well as reducing inequality, which are indispensable requirements for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and that comprehensive, integrated, and intersectoral approaches are required for recovery and building resilience in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic;

RECOGNIZING that multilateralism plays a key role in achieving common goals and facilitating shared solutions in the international arena particularly in the face of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic;

MINDFUL that the pandemic reinforces the need for member states to urgently design and implement comprehensive and inclusive policies, strategies, and programs with a gender perspective that reaffirm their commitment to implement the 2030 Agenda, reduce inequality and vulnerability, and build their resilience to health, environmental, and economic crises, including the adverse effects of climate change, and the alarming loss of biodiversity, in keeping with their national and international obligations;

RECOGNIZING that the formulation of the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development (PIDS) 2016-2021 [[AG/RES. 2882 \(XLVI-O/16\)](#)] was based on the 2030 Agenda and all relevant UN conventions and agreements; that the PIDS establishes the priorities and policy guidelines of the OAS in this matter and its six strategic areas continue to be relevant and aligned with

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the Sustainable Development Goals in the 2030 Agenda; and that the member states agreed to review and update the PIDS based on the results achieved;

WELCOMING the outcomes of the meetings of ministers and high-level authorities within the framework of Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) in the areas of education, culture, energy, social development, and ports, as well as the sectoral processes on labor, cooperation, science and technology, tourism, competitiveness, and micro-, small, and medium-sized enterprises;

RECOGNIZING that the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic adversely affect the implementation of national policies for sustainable development and that some member states may require technical and financial support offered, *inter alia*, by international financial and development institutions to address this and future crises, as well as to achieve stronger, more climate-resilient, sustainable socioeconomic development;

GIVING CONTINUITY to the provisions contained in resolution AG/RES. 2955 (L-O/20), “Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development: Promoting Resilience,” adopted by the General Assembly at its fiftieth regular session; and,

TAKING NOTE of the progress made by the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development within the framework of the Comprehensive Strategic Plan of the Organization for 2016-2020 [[AG/RES. 1 \(LI-E/16\) rev. 1](#)] pursuant to its seven strategic lines and its objectives for the integral development pillar and in accordance with the Annual Report of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI/doc.330/21 rev. 1),

RESOLVES:

1. To express gratitude for the hospitality, leadership, and commitment shown by the Governments of the following member states that hosted and chaired meetings of ministers and high-level authorities within the framework of Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) and sectoral processes held since the fiftieth regular session of the General Assembly:

- Ecuador, for holding the XI Americas Competitiveness Forum (ACF) virtually on February 25 and 26, 2021;
- Argentina, for chairing the twelfth regular meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP), held virtually on May 19, 2021;
- Mexico, for chairing the second regular meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Tourism (CITUR), held virtually on November 19 and 20, 2020; and the third and fourth special meetings of CITUR, held virtually on March 26 and June 28, 2021;
- Colombia, for chairing the sixth regular meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC), held virtually on April 27, 2021
- United States, for holding the XIII Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) in the State of Colorado from August 1 to 6, 2021;
- Chile, for hosting the VII Inter-American Dialogue of High-Level MSME Authorities, held virtually on September 9 and 10, 2021;
- Argentina, for chairing the XXI Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML), held virtually from September 22 to 24, 2021;
- Paraguay, for holding the twenty-fifth Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High-Level Authorities of Tourism virtually on October 6, 2021;

- Mexico, for hosting the strategic sessions of the International Seminar on Technology Foresight for the Americas “Blockchain and Artificial Intelligence” (Prospecta Americas in Action), held virtually in coordination with the Government of the State of Hidalgo on October 27 and 28, 2021.

2. To accept with satisfaction the kind offers of the following member states to host the upcoming sectoral meetings at the ministerial level and the respective processes that will be held within the framework of CIDI, conscious that they may need to be rescheduled, considering the current global pandemic, and to urge the authorities of all member states to take part in those meetings:

- Jamaica: Sixth Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities on Science and Technology to be held virtually on December 7, 2021;
- Panama: Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) in February 2022;
- Mexico: Second edition of the Prospecta Americas seminar, which will be held in the State of Hidalgo in February 2022;
- Uruguay: Twenty-second meeting of the Executive Board of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CECIP) in Colonia del Sacramento in March 2022;
- Dominican Republic: V Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Social Development on November 17 and 18, 2022;
- Guatemala: Ninth Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities in 2022;
- Colombia: International Seminar on Technology Foresight for the Americas (Prospecta Americas) in 2022;
- Ecuador: Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities of the Inter-American Competitiveness Network (RIAC) in 2022;
- United States: XIV Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) in the State of Louisiana in 2022;
- Honduras: Thirteenth regular meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) and twenty-third regular meeting of the Executive Board of CIP in Roatán, Honduras, in June 2023;
- Colombia: XXII Inter-American Conference of Minister of Labor (IACML), in 2024;
- Ecuador: Twenty-sixth Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High-Level Authorities of Tourism in 2024.

I. REGARDING THE STRATEGIC LINE “PROMOTING INCLUSIVE AND COMPETITIVE ECONOMIES”

3. To urge member states to exchange good practices, experience, training opportunities, and technical assistance to promote research; the use and dissemination of transformative science, innovation, and knowledge from local, indigenous, Afro-descendent, and other ethnic groups; and the voluntary transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms to support the post-COVID-19 recovery, the implementation of Industry 4.0 technologies, and the digital transformation of member states within the framework of the Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology (COMCyT), with a view to developing concrete and actionable proposals for consideration at the Sixth Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities on Science and Technology (REMCyT).

4. To urge the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), as the Technical Secretariat of COMCyT, to work with member states to ensure the implementation of the mandates and initiatives arising from the Sixth REMCyT, to be held on December 7, 2021, as well as the advancement of the ongoing programs of the COMCyT working groups, including the HUB on Technology Transfer and Commercialization for the Americas and the Prospecta Americas network of Centers of Excellence on Technology Foresight.

5. To urge member states to support the implementation of the RIAC Imperatives for a Post-COVID Recovery in the Americas identified at the XI ACF to reduce vulnerability and build resilience, with short-, medium- and long-term actions on (i) Digital Transformation, MSME Readiness, and Citizenship; (ii) Innovation-driven Business Development and Empowering Entrepreneurs; (iii) Improving the Regulatory Environment, Trade Facilitation, and Regional Value Chains; and (iv) Climate Adaptation and Post-COVID recovery.

6. To recommend the full participation by member states in the ACE program, in order to promote collaboration, build synergies, and accelerate the creation of innovative partnerships between key stakeholders and the private sector, academia, civil society, and governments to achieve inclusive and sustainable economic recovery and development in the region by leveraging the ACE as a platform for economic and business development, while enhancing opportunities for trade, investment, and competitiveness.

7. To urge SEDI to actively engage with member states to advance policy dialogue in order to break negative trends that hinder integral development and resilience, including extreme poverty and inequality, with a view to achieving regional cooperation, exchanging experiences and good practices, and pursuing strategic public-private partnerships in the framework of the Inter-American Competitiveness Network, the Working Group of Experts on Subnational Competitiveness, and the ACE program.

8. Acknowledging that the COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted MSMEs and accelerated digital transformation in the region and that the MSMEs digital divide has increased inequalities among people, countries, and businesses, to instruct SEDI to continue building local capacity in member states to support MSMEs in their efforts to participate fully in the digital economy and increase their opportunities for reaping the benefits afforded by the digitization process underway.

9. To urge SEDI to continue to promote and support the efforts of the Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) program in assisting member states to build back better, using the lessons learned from the COVID-19 crisis to reduce the risks to MSMEs in the Hemisphere through a focus on engendering more responsible and sustainable business practices, recognizing MSME diversity, and promoting greater inclusion in national business support ecosystems.

10. To urge member states to accelerate implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals through concrete, integrated, multisectoral and cooperative approaches to equitable and sustainable economic recovery, enhanced environmental protections, and the implementation of universal health care coverage that contributes to human well-being.

11. To urge member states, with the support of SEDI, to continue exchanging good practices and experiences on the priorities for post-COVID-19 MSME recovery identified at the VII Inter-American Dialogue of High-Level MSME Authorities on: (1) Financial solutions including a

gender perspective; (2) Digitization, e-commerce and other technological solutions; (3) Courier services and international shipping; and (4) Women's economic empowerment.

12. Recognizing that pursuing gender equity and equality is central to achieving fairer and more-inclusive and prosperous societies for all women, while respecting and valuing the full diversity of situations and conditions of women, who have been disproportionately affected by the profound economic and social consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, to urge the General Secretariat and corresponding commissions and committees to strengthen efforts to further the empowerment and economic autonomy of all women in order to address gender gaps in economic participation through concrete policy and programmatic initiatives that can help them reach their full socioeconomic potential, including initiatives that improve inclusive access to the care economy and thereby contribute to development opportunities for women, adolescents, girls, and their communities.

13. To instruct SEDI, in its capacity as Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Tourism (CITUR), in keeping with the provisions of the Lima Declaration ([CIDI/TUR-XXIII/DEC. 1/15 rev. 1](#)), the Georgetown Declaration ([CIDI/TUR-XXIV/DEC. 1/18](#)), the CITUR work plan and the decision of the second special meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Tourism held on August 14, 2020 ([CIDI/CITUR/RE/doc.6/20](#)) to establish four specialized working groups to continue to support the efforts of member states, within the framework of CITUR, to strengthen the sustainable recovery of the tourism sector as a consequence of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and to urge member states to support the efforts of the CITUR working groups in this process.

14. To request SEDI to support the initiatives for the reconstruction and reactivation of tourism agreed to in the Declaration of Paraguay ([CIDI/TUR-XXV/DEC. 1/21](#)), as adopted on October 6, 2021, within the framework of the Twenty-fifth Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High-Level Authorities of Tourism.

15. To instruct SEDI to continue working with all relevant partners in the public and private sectors, academia, and civil society, among others, to consolidate the Indigenous Tourism Collaborative of the Americas launched in October 2021 as a network of indigenous leaders and organizations in the public and private sectors, as well as civil society organizations connected with the tourism industry, to exchange experiences and foster dialogue to advance sustainable development and the growth of tourism within indigenous and rural communities throughout the Americas.

16. To instruct SEDI, in its capacity as Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC) and in keeping with the provisions of the Declaration of Bridgetown ([CIDI/REMIC-VIII/DEC. 1/19](#)) and the 2020-2022 CIC Work Plan ([CIDI/CIC/RPA/doc.89/20 rev. 2](#)), to continue supporting the Working Group on Cultural Satellite Accounts in its exchange of experiences for strengthening the capacity of member states to measure the contribution of culture and the creative economy.

17. To urge SEDI, in its capacity as Technical Secretariat of the CIC, to continue to assist Caribbean member states in the use of the Culture Satellite Account Compilation Guide as part of their efforts to establish national cultural satellite accounts.

18. To request the CIC, with the support of SEDI, to share experiences regarding efforts to promote, modernize, and reactivate in a sustainable way the cultural and creative sector of the economy during and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, and to promote the work of CIC

member states to retain a visible role for culture as a catalyst of social and economic development in regional agendas, thereby enabling innovative solutions for building capacity and acquiring knowledge and tools to enable social and economic transformation and to strengthen artistic and cultural entrepreneurship in the Hemisphere.

II. REGARDING THE STRATEGIC LINE “STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (PIDS) 2016-2021”

19. To extend the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development (PIDS) 2016-2021 [\[AG/RES. 2882 \(XLVI-O/16\)\]](#) until 2023 and initiate a process for its review consistent with the relevant mandates of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the agreed initiatives of the Summits of the Americas, for the consideration of the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development (CIDS) and the approval of CIDI in the last quarter of 2023.

20. To encourage member states to take full advantage of the opportunity that investments in energy transition, renewable energy, and energy efficiency can offer to stimulate sustainable development, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, create jobs, and provide a conducive environment for empowering women and enhancing gender equality in economic recovery efforts.

21. To urge member states to fully integrate risk assessment strategies into country development plans, so as to enable modernization and retrofitting of existing infrastructure and support build-back-better reconstruction and recovery processes, with a particular focus on environmental sustainability and human health.

22. To encourage member states, when implementing integrated and sustainable water resource management to address seasonal water shortage and excess, to take into account the implications of increased water demand for health and sanitation to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and other diseases, particularly in rural areas, water-dependent sectors, and where agriculture is at risk.

23. To instruct the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) to continue its work to implement programs that promote environmental sustainability in member states, including the reduction of emissions within the framework of the Port Incentive Program to Reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions from cargo ships.

24. To instruct SEDI to continue providing support to member states for the promotion and development of national comprehensive water management policies, including provisions for mitigation of, and adaptation to, the effects of climate change, such as extreme droughts and floods, in particular for water-stressed countries and regions at risk.

25. To acknowledge that disaster risk management is one of the strategic areas of the PIDS and to encourage the General Secretariat to support the development of security cooperation policy recommendations for the consideration of member states, including guidelines for those seeking technical assistance for strengthening disaster resilience in the small island and low-lying coastal developing States of the Caribbean and Central America that so request, for presentation at a regular meeting of CIDI by the end of the second quarter of 2022.

III. REGARDING THE STRATEGIC LINE “PROMOTING EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMERICAS”

26. To encourage member states to continue supporting the commitments adopted in the Plan of Action of Antigua and Barbuda 2019 “The Inter-American Education Agenda: Building Sustainable Partnerships through Cooperation, with Renewed Focus on Education and Skills Development for Better Citizenry.” ([CIDI/RME/doc.6/19](#)).

27. To encourage member states and other strategic partners to exchange good practices, experience, training opportunities, and technical expertise to advance education and human development in the Americas.

28. To instruct SEDI to continue to support the 2019-2022 Work Plan of the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE) ([CIDI/CIE/RPA/doc.9/20 rev. 3](#)) and its goal of sharing concrete initiatives for the implementation of the Inter-American Education Agenda (IEA); to deepen synergies among global, hemispheric, and subregional initiatives to strengthen teaching and education policies and to promote intersectoral cooperation and cooperation with other social actors in order to help achieve the goals set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and contribute to reducing the inequalities exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially to populations of students and teachers with disabilities with special emphasis on access to education.

29. To instruct SEDI to continue to support the Inter-American Teacher Education Network (ITEN) and its goals to strengthen the teaching profession, and to expand its offerings through multilateral, multisectoral projects to increase the quality and inclusiveness of education for students and their teachers through regional cooperation, particularly with respect to digital transformation of teaching and learning.

30. To instruct SEDI to continue supporting education ministries and institutions in charge of education in the region in the implementation of measures proposed by member states within the framework of the Hemispheric Action Plan for the Continuity of Education (PHACE) in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

31. To instruct SEDI, in its coordinating capacity as Technical Secretariat of the CIE, to continue to create spaces for dialogue based on the priorities identified by the member states interested in the implementation of programs that can contribute to the achievement of the mandates contained in the Plan of Action of Antigua and Barbuda 2019.

32. To instruct SEDI, in compliance with the mandates from the tenth Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education within the Framework of CIDI and the XXI Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML) and in consultation with member states, to promote spaces for intersectoral dialogue, among others, with the health, labor, environmental and economic sectors.

33. To encourage member states to continue strengthening the contributions and commitments to education highlighted by regional political dialogue, thus contributing to stronger public policies in the region.

34. To instruct SEDI, as Technical Secretariat of the CIE, to present, following preliminary consultations with member states, the proposal for the second phase of the Inter-American

Education Agenda 2022–2027 within the framework of the eleventh Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education scheduled to be held in April 2022.

35. To instruct SEDI to strengthen the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs through strategic partnerships with academic institutions, the private sector, and civil society organizations, in order to assist member states in achieving their integral development goals, including through contributions to the development of relevant skills and technical/technological training for workers to access and remain in employment in the post-COVID-19 context.

36. To instruct SEDI to renew its fundraising efforts to obtain funds for emergency scholarships to help international students from Latin American and Caribbean countries enrolled in universities in the United States. Said emergency scholarships supplement the interest-free loans offered by the Leo S. Rowe Fund to help students complete their studies in the United States.

37. To instruct SEDI to expand the strategic partnerships of the Educational Portal of the Americas with other areas of the OAS, academic institutions, and the private sector, and to endeavor to ensure its operation in all the official languages of the OAS, with the aim of supporting its sustainability as a mechanism for training and professional development in the region, with special attention to the teaching sector of national educational systems in the use of distance education tools.

38. To reiterate the instruction to SEDI to promote and expand the OAS Consortium of Universities with a focus on national/state universities, technical and vocational institutions, and educational institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean. This expansion should consider the need to prioritize diversity, impact, and the potential number of students benefited by each new partnership, in accordance with available resources.

39. To endorse the Resolution of Buenos Aires ([CIDI/CIP/RES. 1/21](#) corr. 1) and take note of the Plan of Action of Buenos Aires 2021-2023 ([CIDI/CIP/doc.5/21 rev. 3](#)) adopted at the twelfth regular meeting of the CIP held virtually on May 19, 2021.

40. To instruct the CIP Secretariat to continue working, in line with the Plan of Action of Buenos Aires 2021-2023 and in collaboration with its members, associate members, and strategic partners, on offering opportunities for professional development and capacity building in the four OAS languages, whenever possible, for personnel in the port sector of the Americas, thus contributing to the strengthening of institutional capabilities.

41. To instruct the CIP Secretariat to continue implementing the project Improved Disaster Risk Management for Ports in the Caribbean with funding from the United States and Italy, in order to contribute to the development and professionalization of human resources in the Caribbean Basin in the areas of disaster risk management, mitigation, response and resilience to natural and anthropogenic disasters and maritime emergencies, and to encourage member states to take full advantage of this initiative.

IV. REGARDING THE STRATEGIC LINE “PROMOTING DECENT, DIGNIFIED, AND PRODUCTIVE WORK FOR ALL”

42. To encourage member states to support the fulfillment of the commitments contained in the Declaration of Buenos Aires 2021 ([CIDI/TRABAJO/DEC. 1/21](#)) and the Plan of Action of

Buenos Aires 2021 ([CIDI/TRABAJO/doc.5/21 rev. 1](#)) “Building a More Resilient World of Work with Sustainable Development, Decent Work, Productive Employment, and Social Inclusion,” adopted at the XXI IACML held virtually from September 22 to 24, 2021.

43. To instruct SEDI to support the follow-up of the Declaration of Buenos Aires 2021 and the Plan of Action of Buenos Aires 2021 and to continue providing technical advice to the IACML and its working groups.

44. To instruct SEDI to support member states, through the Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL), in sharing experience and knowledge, and strengthening their human and institutional capacities, in order to address emerging changes in the world of work and the effects of the pandemic; facilitate telework; strengthen social dialogue to secure a future of work with social justice; achieve better coordination of the economy, the protection and conservation of the environment, education, health, and labor to face the effects of the crisis; and contribute to building more-resilient, sustainable, just, and equitable societies.

45. To encourage member states to develop policies and programs for economic recovery and promotion of decent work and productive employment, in line with the commitments expressed in the Declaration of Buenos Aires 2021 and Plan of Action of Buenos Aires 2021 adopted by the XXI IACML.

V. REGARDING THE STRATEGIC LINE “FOSTERING THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF MIGRANTS, INCLUDING MIGRANT WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM ON THIS SUBJECT TO ENHANCE THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT”

46. To acknowledge the importance of a safe, orderly, and regular migration and the creation of evidence-based public policies to address the causes and structural consequences of migration and reduce the risks associated with irregular migration.

47. To urge all member states, in keeping with the pertinent obligations under international human rights law, to strengthen their public policies for countering discrimination, racism, xenophobia, racial-superiority discourse, and any form of intolerance, in order to promote the socioeconomic integration and the empowerment of migrants in transit and destination communities in all areas of society.^{5/}

48. Likewise, to urge all member states to strengthen their public and cooperation policies for preventing and combating the crimes of human trafficking, smuggling, and migrant enslavement and servitude, including the prosecution of such crimes, providing protection, and offering assistance to victims, and to ensure its policies are victim-centered and have a gender perspective.

49. To recognize the need to provide migrants with access to health services, disease prevention, education and comprehensive inclusion in host countries, regardless of their migration status, in keeping with applicable national law and international obligations, and bearing in mind the

5. In accordance with the language set forth in Objective 17, paragraph 33, of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, which states: “we commit to eliminate all forms of”

negative effects that the COVID-19 pandemic has had throughout the Hemisphere, especially for groups in situations of vulnerability.

50. To encourage the countries of the region to establish or implement, as necessary, cooperation agreements and protocols on care, assistance, and protection for accompanied and unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents, as well as to promote the best interests of the child, respect and protect their rights, and take into account the obligations of countries under international human rights law. Likewise, to encourage member states to ensure that accompanied and unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents receive specialized assistance and protection in any situation affecting them.^{6/}

51. To urge member states, with a comprehensive focus on human rights, to take into account the rights of migrants and their families when formulating and implementing policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, taking into account the particular impacts on women, children, and adolescents, persons with disabilities, and the elderly, based on the principles of equality and nondiscrimination and in keeping with the domestic law and international obligations of each State.

52. To encourage international cooperation initiatives in support of migrants in countries of origin, transit, destination and return, as well as persons seeking refugee and asylum status, and to facilitate, as appropriate, the provision of humanitarian assistance, development, and their complete socioeconomic integration and inclusion, in keeping with applicable domestic and international law.

53. To promote and support, through policies of cooperation on migration, taking into account socioeconomic integration goals, the strengthening and development of the capacities of member states, especially small island developing states, applying a human-rights and sustainable-development focus.

54. To recognize the challenges of human mobility caused by the effects of natural disasters, environmental degradation, and biodiversity loss resulting from climate change, as documented in the findings of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its report “Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis.” Also, to recognize the impact that natural disasters and the effects of climate change, environmental degradation, and biodiversity loss have on migration, particularly for women and girls and members of historically vulnerable groups. To recognize, in addition, the need to address the structural causes that increase disaster risk, with the consequent displacement of people, focusing on mitigation and prevention actions. Therefore, to reaffirm the validity and importance of advancing in the implementation of declaration AG/DEC. 88 (XLVI-O/16) “Declaration on Climate Change, Food Security, and Migration in the Americas.”

55. To promote international cooperation initiatives in matters of migration to support countries affected by natural and/or man-made disasters.

56. To recognize the work of existing regional mechanisms such as the Regional Conference on Migration, the South American Conference on Migration, the Caribbean Migration Consultations (CMC), the Quito Process, the Andean Community, Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS), and other regional bodies that work on the issue and to incorporate recommendations as appropriate.

6. The United States is strongly committed to the protection of human rights of all persons, including migrants in the United States. While States have the sovereign right to control admission ...

57. To reaffirm the importance of continuing to strengthen and foster dialogue, information exchange, and regional and bilateral cooperation on migration matters, as appropriate, in confronting migration challenges in the Hemisphere, especially in the Permanent Council and CIDI and their subsidiary bodies, including the Committee on Migration Issues, in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 2910 (XLVII-O/17), “Migration in the Americas,” and declaration CP/DEC. 68 (2099/16), “Inter-American Cooperation to Address the Challenges and Opportunities of Migration.”

58. To recall and reaffirm the importance of the Continuous Reporting System on International Migration for the Americas (SICREMI) as the region’s instrument for generating and analyzing information on migration flows, regulatory frameworks, and public policies on migration in the Hemisphere; to instruct the General Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources and in coordination with other agencies of the inter-American system and other strategic players, to order the production of the next edition of the SICREMI Report, and to urge member states to join the SICREMI and to encourage them and permanent observers to consider making voluntary contributions to ensure its financial sustainability.

59. To encourage member states to foster quicker, safer, and less costly remittances, so as to reduce the average cost of transactions to less than three percent of the sum transferred by 2030, by developing legal and regulatory environments to enable competition, regulation, and innovation in the remittances market and offering programs and instruments with a gender perspective to enhance the financial inclusion of migrants and their families.

60. To highlight multilateral-level initiatives for dialogue and the exchange of information and cooperation on migration and international protection; to take note of those initiatives in which different member states are participants, such as the Global Forum on Migration and Development, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, and the Global Compact on Refugees; and to encourage the General Secretariat to coordinate and collaborate with other regional and international institutions.

VI. REGARDING THE STRATEGIC LINE “FOSTER COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PARTNERSHIPS”

61. To instruct SEDI to strengthen its cooperation for development mechanisms for enhancing member states’ technical and institutional capacity at the community, national, and regional levels, as well as building sustainable multisectoral alliances and partnerships, with a particular focus on assisting member states with their post-COVID-19 recovery.

62. To acknowledge the progress made by the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development in the implementation of the eight prioritized actions of the 2020-2021 IACD Work Plan ([AICD/JD/doc.177/20 rev. 2](#)) and the support provided by SEDI in that progress, despite the limitations faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, to take note of its updated schedule and to encourage the member states to continue contributing and expanding the opportunities for cooperation provided by the implementation of this plan.

63. To reiterate to member states the importance of voluntary contributions to the Development Cooperation Fund to strengthen its ability to respond effectively to emerging needs of

member states as it relates to and in special consideration of the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

64. To note with satisfaction the convocation of the third Specialized CIDI Meeting of High-Level Cooperation Authorities, to be held virtually on December 2 and 3, 2021, and look forward to its outcomes.

65. To instruct the CIP Secretariat to continue promoting the establishment of strategic partnerships, especially with the private sector, to contribute to the economic, social, and environmentally sustainable development of the maritime-port sector of the Americas, with special emphasis on the port-city relationship through specific activities such as seminars, courses, evaluation surveys, technical assistance, and projects for member states.

66. To urge member states to continue to discuss, in the framework of CIDI, access to international financing and strengthening of international cooperation mechanisms to advance the sustainable development agenda,⁷ with special attention to the specific challenges faced by small island and low-lying coastal developing states and low and middle-income countries in the region, and to consider, aside from income-status indicators, additional criteria, to assess poverty and development in countries, such as vulnerability, in order to achieve more-sustainable, climate-resilient socioeconomic reconstruction and development.

VII. REGARDING THE STRATEGIC LINE: “FOSTERING SOCIAL INCLUSION WITH EQUITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMERICAS”

67. To reaffirm the significance of the adoption of the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019, “Overcoming Multidimensional Poverty and Bridging Social Equity Gaps: Towards an Inter-American Agenda on Social Development” ([CIDI/REMDES/doc.6/19 rev. 3](#)), as the first inter-American plan of action on social development and as a roadmap that defines concrete lines of action for advancing social development in the region; and to urge member states to participate actively in the working groups and in implementing the activities organized by the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (SARE) for the implementation of the Plan of Action.

68. To instruct the SARE to continue supporting the implementation of specific actions in the 2021-2022 work plan of the Inter-American Committee on Social Development (CIDES) ([CIDI/CIDES/RPA/doc.3/21 rev. 1](#)) aimed at promoting coordinated work among government institutions responsible for social development in the Americas, which should be oriented towards universal social and health protection systems with a comprehensive approach, prioritizing care for the most vulnerable groups and sectors of the population.

69. To instruct the SARE, following the provisions of the Inter-American Declaration on Social Development Priorities ([CIDI/REMDES/DEC. 1/19](#)) and the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019, to continue supporting the implementation of actions aimed at improving the capacities of the institutions in charge of social policy through the voluntary exchange of knowledge, strengthening of dialogue, and technical cooperation among peers on mutually agreed terms.

7. The United States believes that the most highly concessional finance should be focused on the countries most in need and least able to mobilize financing from other sources.

70. To encourage member states, permanent observers, and other donors to contribute to the Fund for the Implementation of the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019 to the extent of their possibilities, in order to ensure funding for the activities of the Plan that are necessary for meeting the commitments agreed to in the Inter-American Declaration on Social Development Priorities.

71. To encourage member states to continue strengthening their social protection systems toward universal access in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to take into account the needs of low-income and vulnerable populations that have been the worst affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Similarly, to streamline and update their social protection databases and statistics for measuring multidimensional poverty, as appropriate, in order to achieve social inclusion consistent with the new reality.

72. To invite member states to support and strengthen the work of the Inter-American Social Protection Network (RIPSO) and the SARE, as Technical Secretariat of this important hemispheric mechanism for cooperation on social development to strengthen the institutions and agencies responsible for social policies in member states through the voluntary exchange of knowledge, lessons learned and experience, technical assistance, mutual learning, and technical cooperation among countries on mutually agreed terms.

73. To continue providing technical assistance to member states upon request, for their formulation and implementation of policies to ensure the full integral development of all children and adolescents, within the overarching framework of the current Comprehensive Strategic Plan of the Organization [[AG/RES. 1 \(LI-E/16\) rev. 1](#)]; and to encourage member states, as appropriate, to continue investing in this area, in accordance with their legislation, national priorities, and available resources.

74. To instruct the SARE, in coordination with CIDES and in collaboration with SEDI, and other relevant secretariats, to continue to follow up on the implementation of resolution [AG/RES. 2956 \(L-O/20\)](#) “The Challenges to Food Security and Nutrition in the Americas in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic within the Framework of the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019.”

VIII. REGARDING THE CONTINUATION OF SECTORAL PROCESSES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF CIDI

75. To adopt the following schedule of meetings of ministers and high-level authorities within the framework of CIDI, taking into account the difficulties resulting from the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the maximum number of meetings that may be held based on resources allocated from the Regular Fund of the Organization, and to instruct the General Secretariat to continue implementing the guidelines agreed to in the triennial ministerial cycle in coordination with the competent authorities in each sector:

Sectoral Process	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
1. Tourism	XXV Ministerial on Tourism (virtual, October 6)		III Meeting of CITUR	XXVI Ministerial on Tourism (Ecuador)		IV Meeting of CITUR
2. Ports	XII Regular Meeting of CIP (virtual, May 19-21)	XXII Meeting of CECIP (Colonia, Uruguay, March)	XIII Regular Meeting of CIP and XXIII Meeting of CECIP (Roatan, Honduras, June)	XXIV Meeting of CECIP (host to be determined)	XIV Regular Meeting of CIP and XXV Meeting of CECIP (host to be determined)	XXVI Meeting of CECIP (host to be determined)
3. Education	IX Meeting of the CIE (virtual, November 18-19)	XI Ministerial on Education (host to be determined)		X Meeting of the CIE	XII Ministerial on Education (host to be determined)	
4. Cooperation	III Ministerial on Cooperation (virtual December 2-3)			IV Ministerial on Cooperation (host to be determined)		
5. Social Development		V Ministerial on Social Development (Dominican Republic, November 17-18)		VI Meeting of CIDES	VI Ministerial on Social Development (host to be determined)	
6. Culture	VI Meeting of CIC (April 27)	IX Ministerial on Culture (Guatemala)		VII Meeting of CIC	X Ministerial on Culture (host to be determined)	
7. Sustainable Development		VI Meeting of CIDS and IV Ministerial on Sustainable Development (host and dates to be defined)		VII Meeting of CIDS	V Ministerial on Sustainable Development (host to be determined)	
8. Science & Technology	VI REMCyT (virtual, December 7)		X MEETING of COMCyT	VII REMCyT (host to be determined)		

9. Labor	XXI IACML (Virtual, September 22-24)		Meeting of the IACML Working Groups	XXII IACML (Colombia)		Meeting of the IACML Working Groups
<i>Other meetings* (for reference only)</i>	XI Americas Competitiveness Forum (Ecuador, February)	Prospecta Americas II regional seminar (Mexico, February)	XII Americas Competitiveness Forum (host to be determined)		IX Inter-American Dialogue of High-Level MSME Authorities (host to be determined)	
	VII Inter-American Dialogue of High-Level MSME Authorities (Chile, September 9-10)	Prospecta Americas III regional seminar (Colombia)	VIII Inter-American Dialogue of High-Level MSME Authorities (host to be determined)	XIX and XX Americas Competitiveness Exchanges (hosts to be determined)	XXI and XXII Americas Competitiveness Exchanges (hosts to be determined)	
	Prospecta Americas (Mexico, October 27-28)	XV and XVI Americas Competitiveness Exchanges (United States and other host to be determined)	XVII and XVIII Americas Competitiveness Exchanges (hosts to be determined)			
	XIII Americas Competitiveness Exchange (United States, August)					

* Other sectoral process meetings that support CIDI’s priorities but which, as at the adoption of this resolution, were not considered official ministerial processes subject to the triennial ministerial cycle and did not ‘receive funding from the OAS Regular Fund.

Acronyms:

ACE: Americas Competitiveness Exchange

CECIP: Executive Board of the Inter-American Committee on Ports

CIC: Inter-American Committee on Culture

CIDES: Inter-American Committee on Social Development

CIDS: Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development

CIE: Inter-American Committee on Education

CIP: Inter-American Committee on Ports

CITUR: Inter-American Committee on Tourism

COMCyT: Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology

ECPA: Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas

MSME: Micro-, small, and medium-sized enterprises

REMCyT: Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities on Science and Technology

RIAC: Inter-American Competitiveness Network

IX. REGARDING THE MONITORING OF ADVANCES, CONTRIBUTIONS, AND RESOURCES

76. To request CIDI to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second regular session on progress in the implementation of this resolution.

77. To thank those member states and permanent observers that have contributed financial, logistical, and human resources to support the programs and activities of SEDI, and to request the General Secretariat to continue strengthening existing partnerships and developing new ones with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society organizations.

78. Also, to thank the authorities of member states for their active participation and leadership of the different inter-American committees and their respective working groups.

79. To reiterate that the execution of activities envisaged in this resolution will be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

5. ... discrimination, condemn and counter expressions, acts and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, violence, xenophobia and related intolerance against all migrants in conformity with international human rights law,” the State of Guatemala does not recognize the term “racial superiority” in relation to migration; in keeping with the New York Declaration, it takes steps to counter racially discriminatory attitudes and behaviors, as well as hate crimes, hate speech and racial violence.

6. ...or entry to their territory and to regulate the admission and expulsion or removal of noncitizens, we recognize that States must respect the human rights of migrants, both children and adults, consistent with their obligations under domestic and international law, including international human rights law. We recognize that Article 3 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) provides that the “best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration” in all actions concerning children. While the United States is not a party to the CRC and therefore, is not bound by the obligations therein, we do take into account the best interests of the child in a variety of contexts, including in the area of migration. However, the best interest of a child is one factor – not the only factor – in determinations by immigration judges and adjudicators.

AG/RES. 2968 (LI-O/21)

COORDINATION OF VOLUNTEERS IN THE HEMISPHERE IN RESPONSE
TO DISASTERS AND THE FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY
– WHITE HELMETS INITIATIVE^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on November 11, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the reports of the General Secretariat on the White Helmets Initiative; resolutions AG/RES. 1351 (XXV-O/95), AG/RES. 1403 (XXVI-O/96), AG/RES. 1463 (XXVII-O/97), AG/RES. 2018 (XXXIV-O/04), AG/RES. 2165 (XXXVI-O/06), AG/RES. 2372 (XXXVIII-O/08), AG/RES. 2558 (XL-O/10), AG/RES. 2704 (XLII-O/12), AG/RES. 2827 (XLIV-O/14), AG/RES. 2881 (XLVI-O/16), AG/RES. 2904 (XLVII-O/17), CIDI/RES. 322 (LXXIII-O/17), and AG/RES. 2915 (XLVIII-O/18); and declarations AG/DEC. 45 (XXXV-O/05) and AG/DEC. 55 (XXXVII-O/07);

REAFFIRMING the commitment to the guiding principles of international humanitarian assistance, namely, humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and operational independence; and the primary and foremost responsibility of the State to prevent and reduce disaster risk and to assist and protect disaster victims;

BEARING IN MIND that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 recognizes the need for a broader and more people-centered preventive approach to disaster risk and that disaster risk reduction contributes to sustainable development;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Paris Agreement, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the third International Conference on Financing for Development, as well as the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015;

BEARING IN MIND the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development (PIDS) 2016-2021, adopted by resolution AG/RES. 2882 (XLVI-O/16), and the Inter-American Plan for Disaster Prevention and Response and the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance endorsed by resolution AG/RES. 2750 (XLII-O/12);

RECALLING the session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction held in Geneva, Switzerland in May 2019;

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...

HIGHLIGHTING the progress made by member states and international, regional, and subregional agencies, organs, and organizations in the area of disaster prevention and response and in the coordination of humanitarian assistance;

EMPHASIZING the growing multicausal hazards, especially those related to climate change and the need for humanitarian and development action to include climate change adaptation as part of an integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and resilience;

EXPRESSING concern about the current situation in the region, where phenomena aggravated by climate change —especially the recurring drought and the annual hurricane season experienced in the region— must be added to the aggravated consequences of environmental degradation, making humanitarian assistance for groups in vulnerable situations more necessary than ever, with a gender perspective and a rights-based approach;

HIGHLIGHTING that the global health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic is having an enormous impact on the most vulnerable populations, making it critical to reinforce the values of solidarity, multilateralism, equality, equity, inclusion and non-discrimination, with the aim of leaving no one behind;

CALLING UPON member states, agencies of the inter-American system, international, regional and subregional organizations, and other hemispheric actors to continue fostering the promotion and protection of all human rights and to prevent all forms of violence—in particular, sexual and gender-based violence— in humanitarian activities, guaranteeing equitable and inclusive assistance, especially for those who are displaced or in particular situations of vulnerability among others, and strengthening the active role of affected communities, as well as accountability to ensure the quality of the response;

RECOGNIZING that it is an essential requirement, for humanitarian responses to be effective, to consider the specific characteristics of all the affected population segments, including women and girls, as agents of strengthening resilience to disaster risks and climate change;

UNDERSCORING the role of volunteers and humanitarian personnel in the different stages of disaster risk reduction, considering the importance of such actors for preventing, mitigating, and responding to emergencies and humanitarian crises at the regional level;

BEARING IN MIND the need to consider in public policies on disaster risk reduction local and indigenous knowledge, practices, and organizational forms, as well as those of people of African descent and other ethnic groups;

HIGHLIGHTING that it is essential to promote and strengthen local capacities, the effective participation of community organizations, and the integration of civil society, so that potential victims become actors in disaster prevention, preparedness, and response and, consequently, transform their own reality;

RECOGNIZING the need for the public and private sectors, as well as academia and scientific and research institutions, to work together more closely and create opportunities for cooperation in the regional humanitarian sphere;

CONFIRMING the importance of continuing to promote regional, subregional, national, and local measures for disaster prevention and response, according priority to groups in vulnerable situations, such as women, children, older people, and persons with disabilities, among others;

REITERATING the need to continue carrying out disaster risk reduction operations, avoiding duplication of efforts, encouraging resource optimization through the use of existing coordination tools, and promoting synergy among humanitarian efforts in the region;

RECALLING ONCE AGAIN that the White Helmets Initiative carries out its activities through a working model based on cooperation, solidarity, community-based participation, and promotion of sustainable communities; that it is entirely civilian and relies on a volunteer corps; that this Initiative acts at the request of the affected country or in response to an appeal for international humanitarian assistance and provides its support as a response to disasters and crises, as well as in rehabilitation, reconstruction, and development efforts, in addition to promoting prevention, disaster risk management, and resilience;

HIGHLIGHTING the agreements and memorandums of understanding that White Helmets signed in the area of international humanitarian assistance in 2018 and 2021 with the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Panama in support of the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH), the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management of the Republic of Colombia, the Emergency Operations Center of the Dominican Republic, and the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, among others;

EXPRESSING SATISFACTION at the humanitarian assistance provided by the White Helmets Initiative through missions to send volunteers and/or humanitarian supplies to Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago as a result of humanitarian crises, hurricanes Eta and Iota, and the COVID-19 pandemic;

CALLING FOR increased collaboration between the White Helmets and the Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEPRENAC), the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the Andean Committee for Disaster Prevention and Assistance (CAPRADE), and the Southern Common Market's Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities on Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management (RMAGIR/MERCOSUR), as well as with other regional bodies involved in disaster risk reduction and coordination of humanitarian assistance; and

RECOGNIZING that the actions undertaken by the White Helmets Initiative are in alignment with the principles of the Charter of the Organization of American States, are carried out at the request of the affected state and in close collaboration with its relevant national authorities, and are governed by the principles of international human rights law and international humanitarian law,

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate its support for the White Helmets Initiative as one of the invaluable mechanisms in the Hemisphere for prevention, reduction, and response to disasters and in the fight against hunger and poverty.

2. To encourage the White Helmets Initiative to continue fostering the growing regional humanitarian collaboration and, in that framework, to continue sharing its experience, lessons learned, and best practices in the areas of disaster prevention, preparedness, and response; resilience; and promotion of sustainable communities.

3. To encourage the General Secretariat to continue strengthening and coordinating activities between the White Helmets Initiative and the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development, as well as with other bodies and mechanisms of the Organization of American States by facilitating the establishment of partnerships and working agreements between other organizations and institutions in the region and the White Helmets Initiative.

4. To entrust the General Secretariat and the White Helmets Initiative with the task of continuing to explore joint humanitarian assistance activities in member states that so request.

5. To reiterate the invitation to those member states that consider it appropriate to make contributions to the OAS-White Helmets Humanitarian Fund, to enable the continued organization of seminars and training workshops on disaster risk reduction and the execution of capacity-building projects in areas related to resilience, disaster risk prevention and mitigation, promotion of sustainable communities, and international humanitarian assistance.

6. To request the General Secretariat to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third 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.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

AG/RES. 2969 (LI-O/21)

INTER-AMERICAN BUSINESS CHARTER^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on November 11, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN resolution AG/RES. 2954 (L-O/20), “Towards an Inter-American Business Charter” and the report of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) (AG/doc.5748/21); and

CONSIDERING:

That CIDI has within its purview meetings of ministers and high-level authorities covering the various sectors of development contained in the Inter-American Business Charter, and that said ministerial meetings issue mandates to the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development;

That the General Assembly adopted resolution AG/RES. 2954 (L-O/20), “Towards an Inter-American Business Charter” in order to buttress instruments of the Organization of American States promoting the role of the private sector in integral development in the Hemisphere and to begin discussions as soon as possible with a view to considering its adoption by the General Assembly at its fifty-first regular session;

That on January 26, 2021, CIDI adopted the format for deliberations on the draft Inter-American Business Charter and established the Working Group to Prepare the Draft Inter-American Business Charter (CIDI/doc.306/21 rev. 2); and

That on October 22, 2021, the Working Group completed its deliberations on the draft Inter-American Business Charter (CIDI/GT/CEI-19/21 rev. 7) and presented its report to CIDI at its meeting of October 26, 2021, which welcomed the conclusion of the negotiations, approved the draft as a legally non-binding document, and decided to transmit it to the General Assembly with the recommendation that it be adopted,

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the Inter-American Business Charter appended hereto.

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...

2. To instruct the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), through the meetings of ministers and high-level authorities within the framework of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) and in collaboration with other relevant Secretariats, to support member states, when so requested, in identifying the purposes and opportunities arising from those processes in relation to the subjects addressed in the Inter-American Business Charter.

3. To encourage member states, whenever the issues contained in the Inter-American Business Charter are discussed at relevant ministerial meetings and other high-level forums of the Organization of American States, to continue promoting dialogue with representatives of the business sector with the aim of strengthening its role in integral development.

4. To urge CIDI to include every two years in its annual work plan a joint meeting with the Permanent Council, at which member states will have the opportunity to reflect on the topics contained in the Inter-American Business Charter, based on which SEDI, in coordination with relevant secretariats, will produce a report to be transmitted to the General Assembly with a set of general proposals on how member states could make progress on the various issues covered in the Inter-American Business Charter.

5. That the implementation of the activities envisaged in this resolution will be subject to the availability of financial resources.

INTER-AMERICAN BUSINESS CHARTER

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING that people should be at the center of public policies and that the Charter of the Organization of American States provides that integral development encompasses the economic, social, educational, cultural, scientific, and technological fields, through which member states seek to achieve their integral development goals;

RECALLING that the Inter-American Democratic Charter recognizes the importance of the rule of law and that economic growth and social development based on justice, equity, and democracy are interdependent and mutually reinforcing;

RECALLING ALSO the resolutions on promotion of corporate social responsibility in the Hemisphere and on promotion and protection of human rights in business, as well as the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, which established a frame of reference to help prevent and address the adverse impacts of business activities on human rights;

RECALLING FURTHER the Declaration of Mar del Plata (2005), the Declaration of Commitment of Port of Spain (2009), the Protocol of San Salvador (1988), and the International Labour Organization (ILO) Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998), as well as other ratified ILO conventions, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the Declaration of Philadelphia (1944);

RECALLING TOO that the Social Charter of the Americas recognizes that the business sector plays a key role in creating jobs, expanding opportunities, and contributing to poverty reduction, which helps support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals;

BEARING IN MIND the empowerment of all women as a means to achieve gender equality and the need to put an end to discriminatory practices and to eliminate barriers to women's participation in the labor market through equal division of unpaid work, unimpeded access to productive resources, access to quality and affordable child care, development of women's entrepreneurial skills, and creation of leadership opportunities that promote their active and equal participation, favoring growth and economic development in the region;

REAFFIRMING that the elimination of poverty is imperative to achieving sustainable development and to the full democratic development of the peoples of the Hemisphere, and that its elimination is essential and constitutes a common and shared responsibility of the member states;

RECOGNIZING the importance of strengthening regional cooperation mechanisms and multi-stakeholder alliances geared towards the promotion of business environments that support collaboration, foster innovation, accelerate the development of business initiatives and access to essential goods and services, and contribute to sustainable development;

RECALLING that the OAS Charter specifies that transnational enterprises and foreign private investment shall be subject to the legislation of the host countries and to the jurisdiction of their

competent courts and to the international treaties and agreements to which said countries are parties, and should conform to the development policies of the recipient countries;

CONSIDERING that in the context of the challenges posed by the digitalization of the global economy, efforts to achieve international consensus on a fairer allocation of taxing rights could have a positive effect in the countries where transnational enterprises operate;

RECALLING that in the Social Charter of the Americas, member states recognize the contributions of indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants, and migrant communities to the historical process of the Hemisphere and will promote recognition of their value, and that member states also recognize the need to adopt policies to promote inclusion and to prevent, combat, and eliminate all forms of intolerance and discrimination, especially gender, ethnic, and race discrimination, in order to safeguard equal rights and opportunities and strengthen democratic values;

RECOGNIZING the essential role of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), and social economy enterprises as drivers of development and economic growth;

RECALLING the “Mandates Arising from the Sixth Summit of the Americas,” regarding the promotion of economic growth with equity and social inclusion through the strengthening of cooperatives and MSMEs, and the contribution of information and communications technologies in their emergence;

EMPHASIZING the importance of promoting policies based on respect for fundamental principles and rights at work, which contribute to employment formalization as a means to achieve decent work, combat inequality, and promote economic growth;

EMPHASIZING ALSO the necessity of policies for providing equitable access to continuous, quality, and inclusive education and training that promotes lifelong learning opportunities, contributes to a highly skilled labor force, and, at the same time, strengthens democratic values, respect for human rights, and advancement towards peace;

CONSIDERING the intention of member states to promote public policies that include innovation as the engine of structural transformation to achieve inclusive and sustainable development, foster a business environment where respect for human rights is a priority, and implement actions to support and promote the creative economy in our Hemisphere as a source of sustainable economic growth;

BEARING IN MIND the diverse budgetary capacities of member states, as well as their specific resilience strategies and their particular conditions for adaptation, reconstruction, and economic reactivation in response to shocks;

RECOGNIZING that corruption is one of the main common obstacles to sustainable development that the Hemisphere faces, and recalling that in the Lima Commitment adopted at the Eighth Summit of the Americas, member states pledged to continue working to prevent and combat corruption; and

CONSCIOUS that respect for private property, within the framework of the rule of law, is fundamental for the promotion of entrepreneurship, increasing formalization of the economy, foreign investment, technological innovation, and increased productivity,

RESOLVES to adopt the following:

INTER-AMERICAN BUSINESS CHARTER

CHAPTER I

RECOGNITION OF THE ROLE OF BUSINESS AS A CATALYST OF SUSTAINABLE AND INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT

1. The peoples of the Americas have a legitimate aspiration to sustainable, inclusive, and integral development, and their governments are expected to promote it and create the conditions favorable to its realization.

A competitive business sector, including transnational businesses that operate in the region's countries, is essential to achieve a stable, democratic, and peaceful environment and to contribute to the economic growth and development of nations, without neglecting their social functions, in terms of decent work creation, social justice, and poverty reduction.

2. Member states recognize the importance of promoting and enhancing the capacity of business to contribute to sustainable and inclusive integral development and economic stability in the region, to multidimensional security, the strengthening of democracy, and promotion and protection of human rights.

3. Member states, consistent with inter-American instruments, intend to foster the development of a favorable and inclusive environment to strengthen the growth of a competitive business sector through policies that promote the creation, formalization, consolidation, and integration into global and regional value and supply chains of more private businesses in the hemisphere, with a special emphasis on micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), cooperatives, and social economy enterprises, including those owned by individuals in traditionally underrepresented groups or vulnerable situations.

4. Member states intend to promote the design and implementation of policies and regulatory frameworks aimed at strengthening gender equality and equity and the empowerment and economic autonomy of all women, while respecting and valuing the full diversity of women's situations and conditions; promoting the generation of business opportunities and capabilities through financing, networking, and promoting their talent and expertise; member states intend to create a favorable climate for increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the development and size of their businesses, with a view to promoting greater participation by women in decision-making processes and leadership roles in business. This work is expected to be done jointly with the business sector.

5. Member states seek to promote women's entrepreneurship, access to productive resources, access to markets, and participation in global and regional value chains by women-led businesses, especially MSMEs, as well as access to affordable financial services and quality education.

6. With the aim of avoiding any form of gender-based discrimination, among other forms of discrimination, member states intend to promote policies and legal frameworks to remove barriers in labor relations and develop an enabling environment for the employability, insertion and labor market retention of all women through equitable distribution of unpaid care work, access to quality care services, the conciliation of family and work life, and equal pay for equal work or work of equal value.

7. Member states seek to support efforts to combat discrimination in employment on the basis of disability and should consider measures to support the adoption of business policies that guarantee access for persons with disabilities, enabling inclusion, accessibility, and promoting the battle against social exclusion.

CHAPTER II STRENGTHENING LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS

8. Member states intend to adopt good regulatory practices related to planning, design, enactment, implementation, and review of regulations that improve regulatory quality and allow the creation of a stable business environment that facilitates trade, investment, and economic growth in countries, while recognizing the sovereignty of member states, in accordance with their legal systems and institutions, to reach legitimate objectives.

9. Member states, in their determination and commitment to business development, intend to promote public policies and regulatory frameworks that promote free competition, avoid the formation of monopolies, seek the elimination of unnecessary administrative and bureaucratic requirements that hinder the creation of new businesses or that lead to the extinction of existing ones, consistent with applicable international regulations in that regard.

10. Member states intend to promote the development of policies and regulatory frameworks that facilitate and diversify the options available to the business sector—particularly women entrepreneurs—to access financial services, adopt new knowledge and technologies that allow them to innovate, produce goods or services with greater added value, and facilitate their institutionalization, in order to consolidate formalization, market access, and management efficiency.

CHAPTER III INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

11. Member states intend to promote, consistent with the World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement, mechanisms of international cooperation for development and multi-stakeholder partnerships with a view to strengthening productive, technological, logistics, and transport infrastructure, voluntary knowledge transfer on mutually determined terms, and continuous strengthening of border agencies to achieve a favorable ecosystem for the generation and growth of new and diverse business initiatives and to promote productive employment and decent work.

12. Member states intend to drive hemispheric cooperation to promote collaboration, sustainable production, and access to essential products and services, as well as to foster innovation ecosystems where improvements in activities, processes, and technologies aim to contribute economic, social, and environmental value for all actors in society.

CHAPTER IV ROLE OF MICRO-, SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (MSMEs)

13. Member states recognize the role of MSMEs, cooperatives, and social economy enterprises as drivers of development and economic growth, as they are key agents in poverty reduction, employment creation and formalization, action to address climate change, and promoting social inclusion, particularly women's economic participation and empowerment.

14. Member states intend to promote policies aimed at increasing the productivity and competitiveness of MSMEs, as well as their access to financing, including for those owned and/or operated by individuals in traditionally underrepresented groups or vulnerable situations, thereby facilitating digital transformation, innovation, production renewal, market access, process improvements, and the emergence of new business models.

15. Member states should promote financial education for MSME entrepreneurs and exchange of experience and knowledge between large corporations and MSMEs.

16. Member states also intend to encourage MSMEs to apply standards as a basis for competitiveness to enable them to participate in global markets and achieve a better business performance.

CHAPTER V FORMALIZATION, EMPLOYMENT, AND EDUCATION

17. Member states are expected to promote the design and implementation of policies based on respect for international labor standards and fundamental principles and rights at work, which contribute to the formalization of work and businesses, increase the availability of decent work, combat inequality, improve productivity, and generate public revenue and economic development.

18. Member states intend to support the role of the private sector in contributing to enhanced quality of employment, including for all women, while respecting and valuing the full diversity of women's situations and conditions, aware that formalization can generate higher wages, greater job security, and better working conditions for all.

19. Member states intend to encourage the adoption of measures to provide quality, inclusive, and equitable education that reflect the needs of society and changes in the world of work; facilitate access to decent work; promote entrepreneurship, cooperatives, and social economy enterprises; and strengthen democratic values, respect for human rights, and peace. In particular, member states intend to support social dialogue and other actions that promote strategic partnerships with business, labor, and other relevant sectors, such as academia.

20. Member states intend to implement training, mentorship, and retraining programs that support the just transition of the workforce to environmentally sustainable sectors.

CHAPTER VI BUSINESS INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION, AND CREATIVE ECONOMIES

21. Member states intend to promote innovation initiatives that promote collaboration and interconnection between academia and businesses, including large businesses and newly established businesses, especially MSMEs, cooperatives, and social economy enterprises.

22. Member states should encourage entrepreneurship and business education. In particular, they should seek to promote educational spaces for young people, encouraging their first job and vocational training.

23. Member states intend to develop, through quality technical and vocational education and training institutions, and in partnership with the private sector, scholarship programs for technical and vocational training, to promote the training of a skilled and specialized workforce for industrial and other productive sectors in member states.

24. Member states intend to promote public policies that incorporate innovation as a driver of structural change to enhance productivity, responsible business practices, production processes, modernization, efficiency, transparency, participation, and accountability, and thus contribute to strengthening democratic systems and achieve integral, inclusive and sustainable development.

25. Member states intend to promote cooperation and voluntary transfer of technology and knowledge on mutually agreed terms, and to advance productive diversification, so that MSMEs and social economy enterprises have access to transformative technologies to innovate, conduct business, or provide services, in order to accelerate their adaptation to technological change and their integration into global and regional value chains.

26. Member states intend to promote the interest of entrepreneurs in developing business partnerships and cooperation in cluster initiatives that are identified in regions, through their productive vocation, in order to find common projects, thereby fostering their insertion in regional value chains.

27. Member states, in accordance with their international trade obligations, intend to implement strategic actions to establish, develop, and strengthen the creative economy, known as the “orange economy” in a number of countries, particularly the original content market of their cultural and creative industries, with an emphasis on MSMEs as a source of economic growth and of sustainable and inclusive integral development.

28. Member states intend to foster an enabling business environment for the development of entrepreneurial activities, including the creation and development of sustainable enterprises.

CHAPTER VII PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING RESILIENCE

29. Member states reiterate their commitment to promoting a business environment consistent with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and other relevant instruments, and they reiterate their responsibility to develop policies and regulations to prevent, investigate, punish, redress, and mitigate possible human rights abuses by third parties within their territory or jurisdiction, including by enterprises, both domestic and transnational; this includes, but is

not limited to, encouraging enterprises themselves to incorporate into their internal policies and practices, codes of responsible business conduct towards human rights and the environment, using as a point of reference guidelines endorsed, supported, or observed by member states.

30. As part of economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable and responsible business practices, member states should make efforts to promote policies that facilitate and create conditions to align investment portfolios with low-greenhouse gas emitting sectors as part of climate-resilient sustainable development, and should promote the adoption of strategies and policies for the incorporation and disclosure of climate and environmental risks in investment decisions consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement and contribute to the implementation of ambitious nationally determined contributions.

31. Member states intend to promote, as appropriate, the development of joint, interconnected plans with the business sector, in collaboration with other relevant partners and stakeholders, aimed at strengthening policies and programs for building resilience, fostering adaptation, and social, environmental, and economic recovery in the face of natural disasters, pandemics, and other emergencies.

32. Member states intend to promote policies to increase productivity, entrepreneurship, competitiveness, and development in the rural sector, as a fundamental economic activity of the business sector, especially for the benefit of women farmers and entrepreneurs and, in particular, regarding the adoption of new agricultural technologies and the promotion of sustainable agriculture and food systems, thus helping to generate decent work, overcome the vulnerabilities of the rural population, and achieve food security and nutrition in the Hemisphere.

33. Member states intend to promote the development of sustainable consumption and production patterns, in such a way as to promote responsible business conduct oriented towards environmental management, innovating through business models that extend the useful life of products throughout the entire value chain.

CHAPTER VIII RELATIONSHIP WITH COMPLEMENTARY INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

34. Member states intend to promote the adoption of sustainable, inclusive, and responsible business practices, consistent with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the Sustainable Development Goals, the United Nations Global Compact, and other internationally respected responsible business conduct guidelines.

35. Member states should adopt measures to respect, protect, and ensure human rights and advance environmental protection in business activities, in keeping with applicable international human rights and environmental instruments and in compliance with national legislation.

36. Member states intend to promote policies in order that businesses active under their jurisdiction cooperate with authorities to prevent and combat corruption in all its forms, and to implement applicable international best practices, in harmony with national legislation and international commitments of each state.

37. Regarding acts of corruption committed by businesses, member states, consistent with the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, should seek the widest measure of mutual technical cooperation on the most effective ways and means of preventing, detecting, investigating, and punishing them.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

AG/RES. 2970 (LI-O/21)

ADVANCING HEMISPHERIC SECURITY: A MULTIDIMENSIONAL APPROACH^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on November 11, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the “Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly November 2020 – November 2021” ([AG/doc.5726/21 add. 1](#)), in particular the section on the activities of the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CSH);

HAVING SEEN ALSO the annual reports presented to the General Assembly at its fifty-first regular session by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) ([CP/doc.5718/21](#)), the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) ([CP/doc.5686/21](#)), and the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB) ([CP/doc.5687/21](#));

THANKING CICAD, CICTE, and the IADB for the valuable support extended to the member states in their respective areas of expertise, and recognizing the importance of continuing to strengthen those organs and entities in order to make further progress in promoting security in the region under a multidimensional approach; and

BEARING IN MIND the results, reports, and recommendations of the meetings and conferences on security-related matters held in implementation of the mandates of this General Assembly,^{5/}

RESOLVES:

I. ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON HEMISPHERIC SECURITY
AND MEMBER STATES

1. To reaffirm the ongoing validity of the applicable General Assembly mandates on hemispheric security (document [CP/CSH/INF.548/21](#)); to urge the Permanent Council, through the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CSH), and member states to continue contributing to the attainment of the objectives established in those mandates through the development, execution, evaluation, and reporting on programs, exchanges of information, and adoption of cooperation measures and policies, as well as through mutual assistance, and technical and financial contributions

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...
 5. Sixty-eighth regular session of CICAD, Bogotá, D.C., Colombia, December 9 to 11, 2020; Twentieth regular meeting of the Consultative Committee of CIFTA, virtual, December 17, 2020; ...

and support; and to instruct the General Secretariat to provide the necessary support to those ends and continue its implementation of those mandates.

I. Hemispheric multidimensional security outlook and review

A. Declaration on Security in the Americas

2. To instruct the CSH to continue the review process on the Declaration on Security in the Americas, taking into account new threats, concerns, and other challenges, in order to assess the advisability of convening a special conference on security to continue fostering hemispheric security. To that end, to request that, following the holding of the Ninth Summit of the Americas, the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security make available to member states in the second half of 2022 a summary of the views put forward on the subject in the framework of the CSH.

B. Effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on hemispheric security

3. To request the CSH to invite the IADB to make such contributions as it deems necessary to enrich the document on best practices and challenges in confronting a pandemic from a security perspective, and to request member states that have not yet done so to send that information to the Secretariat of the Permanent Council.

II. Commitments to peace, disarmament, and non-proliferation

A. The Americas as a zone of peace

4. To recognize the efforts made by the CSH to hold a meeting with the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission during the 2020–2021 term and encourage it to continue to pursue its outreach to the Commission to facilitate the exchange of good practices in peacebuilding and sustaining peace in the region.

5. To continue to advance citizen security and building resilience in member states by promoting democracy, human rights, security, and development, the four pillars of the Organization of American States (OAS).

B. Disarmament and non-proliferation in the Hemisphere

6. To reaffirm its commitment to continue promoting the regimes for disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction from within the region based on the principles of universality and non-discrimination, in order to contribute to bolstering security and confidence among the States of the Hemisphere and to the objective of a more peaceful and safer world. In particular, to step up efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and their means of delivery.

7. To continue promoting the full implementation of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) on the occasion of its fifty-fourth anniversary, as a demonstration that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones and the absence of nuclear weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean contribute to efforts towards general and complete disarmament; and to continue full implementation of the Treaty on the Non-

Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons by all States in the region. To that end, to encourage the States Parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco to review their interpretative declarations in this regard, reaffirming and recognizing the legitimate interests of the States that form the nuclear-weapon-free zone in Latin America and the Caribbean to receive full and unequivocal security assurances from the nuclear-weapon States.

8. To recognize the inalienable right of States to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, in conformity with Articles I, II, III, and IV of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and in accordance with each State's legal system and international obligations, and the importance of the nuclear safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency; as well as of regional organizations such as the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials, in assuring the exclusively peaceful nature of nuclear activities.

9. To strengthen the implementation of measures related to biosafety and biosecurity, in line with United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and the Biological Weapons Convention, in order to strengthen national capacities to respond on the subject.

10. To request that the CICTE Secretariat continue to support member states in their non-proliferation efforts through actions that make it possible, *inter alia*, to disseminate lessons learned; exchange experiences; identify priorities and needs, including the development of voluntary national implementation action plans; and encourage greater information exchange with other international, regional, and subregional organizations, including the relevant United Nations bodies; and to report to the Committee on Hemispheric Security on the results of its work.

C. The Americas as an antipersonnel-landmine-free zone^{6/}

11. To reaffirm the objectives of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Ottawa Convention), and to urge States Parties, under the Oslo Action Plan, to intensify their efforts to rid their territories of mined areas, to the extent possible, by 2025.

12. To recognize the efforts of the Governments of Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru to make progress with humanitarian demining actions within their territories, and to urge member states and permanent observers to provide technical and financial assistance so that those countries can continue to implement their respective programs.

13. To request that the General Secretariat, through the Program for Comprehensive Action against Antipersonnel Mines (AICMA) of the Department of Public Security (DPS) of the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS), continue reaching out to member states, permanent observers, other States, and donor organizations, with a view to identifying and securing voluntary financial resources for comprehensive mine action programs to be executed by member states requesting technical assistance and cooperation to continue their efforts in humanitarian demining, explosive-ordnance risk education for affected populations, physical and psychological rehabilitation of victims and their families, and socioeconomic recovery of areas cleared of mines.

6. The United States is not a Party to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction. The United States is the largest ...

14. To request the IADB to continue providing the AICMA Program of the DPS with technical advice.

III. Strengthening hemispheric security and defense cooperation

A. Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas

15. To take note of the outcomes of the XIV Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas (XIV CDMA), chaired by Chile and held virtually on December 3, 2020, and to support member states in implementing the Declaration of Santiago ([CP/CSH/INF.539/21](#)) through the CSH and the IADB.

16. To offer the Government of Brazil the necessary support and advice requested from the OAS, through the IADB, to contribute to the success of the XV CDMA, which is to be held in 2022.

17. To continue cooperation between the CDMA and the OAS, through the IADB, on ongoing work in relation to natural disasters and confidence- and security-building measures.

B. Confidence- and security-building measures in the Americas

18. To adopt the recommendations of the chair of the ninth meeting of the Forum on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures held virtually on July 22, 2021, document [CP/CSH-2092/21](#).

19. To request that the General Secretariat (in particular DOITs and the SMS), the IADB, and CICTE update the electronic management platform of the inter-American CSBMs database (<http://www.oas.org/MFCS/>), and to urge member states and the donor partner community to consider providing financial support to that end.

20. To strengthen common objectives and inter-American principles among member states in order to bolster hemispheric security in accordance with the Declaration on Security in the Americas.

21. To consider the holding of consultations and exchange visits between the OAS and Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe to advance regional and global implementation of confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs).

IV. Public security, justice, and violence and crime prevention

A. Process of Meetings of Ministers Responsible for Public Security in the Americas (MISPA)

22. To request the Permanent Council to set the date for the eighth meeting of Ministers Responsible for Public Security in the Americas (MISPA VIII), which will be chaired by El Salvador and held in 2022.

23. To thank the Government of Ecuador for chairing and leading the work of the third meeting of the Subsidiary Technical Working Group on Police Management and the first meeting of the Subsidiary Technical Working Group on Emergency and Security Systems, and to take note of the recommendations transmitted to the MISPA VIII process that were included in documents [GTS/GPO/doc.14/21 rev. 2](#) and [GTS/SES/doc.3/21 rev. 1](#).

24. To thank the Subsidiary Technical Working Group on Emergency and Security Systems for its work on the preparation of the “[Guide for the Establishment and Strengthening of National Emergency and Security Systems](#),” developed under the coordination of the DPS with the participation of operational, administrative, and strategic experts from various member states with experience in addressing, coordination and interaction in different types of emergencies.

B. Preventing violence and crime

25. To request that the SMS, through the DPS and subject to the availability of financial resources, continue to support member states that so request with:

- a. implementation of violence and crime prevention projects under the Inter-American Program for the Prevention of Violence and Crime, pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 2950 (L-O/20);
- b. violence prevention, comprehensive assistance to victims and survivors, and referral to existing services, encouraging multi-sector stakeholder involvement and promoting coordinated action on local violence prevention policies through the DPS program “[OASIS](#): Music Violence Prevention”;
- c. designing and implementing online, self-guided, and/or dynamic training courses, on issues related to violence and crime prevention, in a systematic and sustainable manner; and
- d. developing focused, evidence-based policies to implement the recommendations made in the Hemispheric Plan of Action to Guide the Design of Public Policies to Prevent and Reduce Intentional Homicide (document [AG/doc.5667/19](#) rev. 1).
- e. the production and promotion of statistics and studies for crime prevention, bearing in mind the questionnaire of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) or according to such procedures and criteria as the national authorities of the member states may establish for that purpose.

26. To support the efforts of the DPS to conduct the study requested in resolution AG/RES. 2945 (XLIX-O/19), on the role of private military and security companies (PMSCs) and the challenges that States face in the context of the participation and involvement of PMSCs in public security in the Hemisphere.

C. Information and knowledge with regard to multidimensional security

27. To urge member states, as appropriate, to complete the Form for the Collection of Information on Initiatives to Prevent and Reduce Homicide in the region, as part of the implementation of the recommendations in the Hemispheric Plan of Action to Guide the Design of Public Policies to Prevent and Reduce Intentional Homicide ([AG/doc.5667/19](#) rev. 1).

28. To request that the SMS, through the relevant departments, coordinate with the UNODC to encourage member states to respond, as appropriate, to the Questionnaire on Illicit Arms Flows and the Questionnaire for the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, using the current cooperative arrangement established for data collection between the OAS and UNODC on the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems.

29. To encourage member states, with support from the General Secretariat and the relevant organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS, as appropriate, to incorporate a gender perspective, a gender identity perspective, and a sexual orientation perspective in the collection of crime statistics by national authorities and national and international observatories.^{7/8/9/10/11/12/13/14/}

D. Advancing police cooperation

30. To request the General Secretariat to continue, through the DPS and within the Inter-American Network for Police Development and Professionalization (REDPPOL), to support the strengthening of police force capacity through implementation and certification of quality management in police procedures.

31. To thank the Government of Ecuador for appointing a police officer to support the General Secretariat, through the DPS, in the implementation of REDPPOL and, in particular, its virtual platform. Furthermore, to request the DPS to report in 2022 on progress in the activities of said platform.

32. To thank the Government of El Salvador for its offer to host the third in-person police training course of REDPPOL, which will be held in 2022. To request that the SMS, through the DPS, present the outcome of this police training course to MISPA VIII.

33. To report on progress achieved between the American Police Community (AMERIPOL) and the SMS on the provision of technical assistance, studies, and experts on police matters on secondment at the OAS.

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7. Paraguay will take this section into consideration, provided that it does not conflict with its current laws; and does not accept those definitions or terms that are not provided for under its domestic laws.
 8. Antigua and Barbuda does not collect such data. There is no statute in the legislation that allows the collection of such data.
 9. Trinidad and Tobago is unable to join the consensus on this paragraph due to a conflict with existing domestic legislation. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago remains firmly ...
 10. Guatemala reserves the right to interpret the terms contained in this section and disassociates itself from those parts that are incompatible with and/or contrary to its applicable domestic law.
 11. The Republic of Honduras declares its commitment to human rights and international conventions and, with respect to the provisions of this resolution, states its reservation to ...
 12. The Government of Jamaica interprets this paragraph in accordance with national legislation and to only apply where regulations and domestic circumstances allow.
 13. Saint Lucia also does not accept those definitions or terms that are not provided for under its domestic laws. Saint Lucia notes this section and will take it into consideration, provided that ...
 14. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines supports, practices and promotes the collection of crime statistics. The language of this paragraph, however, ...

E. Justice, penitentiary and prison systems

34. To thank the Government of Honduras for its offer to chair the Fifth Meeting of Officials Responsible for the Penitentiary and Prison Policies of the OAS Member States scheduled to be held during the first half of 2022, and to request the General Secretariat to allocate the necessary funds in the budget for the aforementioned meeting and for preparatory meetings to be held, and to render the necessary support for the preparations.

35. To urge member states to consider implementing the Recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of Officials Responsible for the Penitentiary and Prison Policies of the OAS Member States, adopted at Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in February 2020.

F. Improved Coordination for Strengthening Public Security in the Americas

36. To welcome the Conclusions and Recommendations of the Eleventh Meeting of Ministers of Justice or other Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA XI), specifically the provisions of section V.A, “Synergies between REMJA and MISPA,” and, in that regard, to request the REMJA and MISPA processes to seek to coordinate efforts within their interrelated areas of competence, in order to take mutual advantage of their developments and avoid duplication of efforts.

37. To request that the Permanent Council consider convening a joint meeting of MISPA and REMJA, taking into account the importance of jointly addressing various issues within the scope of both processes, and to request that the CSH and the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs identify possible topics as agenda items for that joint meeting.

38. To request that the SMS and the Secretariat for Legal Affairs (SLA) report to the CSH in the second half of 2022 on activities undertaken to strengthen coordination between the two secretariats in relation to implementing the recommendations of the MISPA and REMJA processes.

39. To encourage member states to share best practices on the use of force in the maintenance of law and order by law enforcement authorities that ensure compliance with applicable national and international rules and standards in that regard.

G. Promoting cybersecurity

40. To recognize the growing threat posed by malicious cyberincidents to the security of member states, including those targeted at civilian infrastructure, and to highlight the importance of hemispheric cooperation and action to increase national capacities and resilience against such threats.

41. To take steps to address shared threats in cyberspace, including malicious cyberactivities that have disrupted critical infrastructure and services for citizens and economies in the Hemisphere, and to work to hold accountable actors involved in ransomware and other related illicit activities.

42. To request that the SMS, through the Executive Secretary of CICTE, support member states in preparing strategies to strengthen cybersecurity and to continue to expand member states’ knowledge-sharing, good practices, training, and educational activities.

43. To urge member states that have not yet done so to consider accession to the Council of Europe's Convention on Cybercrime.

V. Transnational organized crime

A. Combating transnational organized crime

44. To welcome the holding and outcomes of the Third Meeting of National Authorities on Transnational Organized Crime (RANDOT III), chaired by the United States and held virtually on June 23 and 24, 2021, and to urge member states to implement the recommendations of the national authorities (document [RANDOT-III/doc.2/21 rev. 1](#)). To adopt the Hemispheric Strategy against Transnational Organized Crime, drawing on the document prepared by the SMS and considered by RANDOT III ([RANDOT-III/doc.5/21 rev. 1](#)); and

- a. To convene a meeting of National Points of Contact on transnational organized crime, to be held in the second half of 2022; and
- b. To request that the General Secretariat implement the recommendations within its competence identified in the recommendations adopted by RANDOT III.

45. To request that the SMS, through the Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTOC), provide member states that so request with technical assistance to:

- a. Enhance or strengthen criminal and financial intelligence structures, as appropriate, by using suitable tools, to improve the channels of communication and coordination among all authorities responsible for combating transnational organized crime, in a non-arbitrary manner, applying information and communication technologies within appropriate national legal frameworks that respect human rights;
- b. improve or enhance measures against illicit economies associated with serious forms of crime, in order to implement mechanisms to reduce the risk associated with all serious criminal activities linked to international illicit economic activities; and
- c. build capacities to assess and address risks associated with the use of virtual assets by organized crime and their corresponding warning signs; as well as with new criminal modalities used by organized crime groups through virtual environments.

46. To invite member states, within the framework of international law and national legislation, to strengthen interinstitutional cooperation mechanisms for the protection of airspace, in order to counteract and deter the trafficking of controlled substances by air.

B. Hemispheric efforts to combat trafficking in persons

47. To welcome the holding and outcomes of the Sixth Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons (RTP VI), chaired by Argentina and held virtually on May 13-14, 2021, and to urge member states to implement the recommendations “Challenges in the Fight against Trafficking in Times of Pandemic,” approved by the national authorities and issued as a document [RTP-VI/doc.4/21 rev. 1](#). Furthermore:

- a. To extend the Second Work Plan against Trafficking in Persons in the Western Hemisphere for one year;
- b. To request that the CSH Working Group on Trafficking in Persons continue the process of developing and approving the Third Work Plan with the participation of national authorities on trafficking in persons, as a guide for action by member states and the General Secretariat for the period 2022–2027;
- c. To note the design of the Knowledge Base on Human Trafficking, operated by the SMS, and to request that its implementation move forward;
- d. To thank Argentina for chairing RTP VI;
- e. To welcome the commitment made by the United States to chair the CSH Working Group on Trafficking in Persons, and to chair and host the Seventh Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons (RTP VII), to be held in 2023; and
- f. To request that the General Secretariat implement the recommendations within its competence, as identified in the recommendations approved by RTP VI.

48. To welcome the entry of the OAS General Secretariat into the United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons.

49. To instruct the SMS to continue, through the DPS, to support member states that so request in:

- a. developing specific laws on trafficking in persons and complementary regulations aligned with international standards and, as applicable, with the model law and legislative guidelines issued by the UNODC;
- b. the development of interventions to implement public policies on human trafficking at the local level, by encouraging training for stakeholders in the public and private sectors and civil society, as well as by executing activities to promote stronger inter-sectoral and inter-agency coordination, in addition to other activities to be identified at the country level; and

- c. inviting persons who have experienced and survived various forms of trafficking to share their points of view with member states and the General Secretariat.

50. To request the SMS, through the DTOC, to provide member states that so request with technical assistance and training in the area of financial intelligence to combat trafficking in persons, as well as in asset investigation with a view to the seizure of traffickers' assets to enable their use in prosecuting crime and in providing assistance and protection to victims and survivors.

C. Illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

51. To encourage more member states to participate in the technical validation of the Regional Communication Mechanism on Licit Transfers of Firearms and Ammunition (MCTA), which was developed by the DPS and is to be reviewed by the States Parties to the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA) for its approval.

52. To request the SMS to continue, through the DPS and in coordination with the DTOC, to support member states that so request, under:

- a. The Program of Assistance for Control of Arms and Destruction of Munitions in Central America ([PACAM](#)), to provide technical and material assistance in arms and ammunition control, in accordance with the provisions contained in the CIFTA, the priorities set out in the 2018-2022 Course of Action for the Operation and Implementation of the CIFTA, and paragraph 108 of resolution AG/RES. 2950 (L-O/20), including providing technical support to combat illicit firearms trafficking, especially at ports, airports, and border crossings; and
- b. The project "In Support of Countering Illicit Proliferation and Trafficking of Small Arms, Light Weapons (SALW) and Ammunition and Their Impact in Latin America and the Caribbean," and to report on progress in the implementation of said project in the period 2021–2022;

VI. Regional and Specialized Security Concerns and Challenges

53. To encourage member states to confront the problem of illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, to actively participate in regional and subregional technical agencies, and to cooperate in exchanges of information, in order to promote hemispheric strategies to protect the security, marine environment, and sustainable use of the fisheries resources of the Hemisphere's nations and to ensure that member states work in a coordinated manner, where appropriate, to promote measures adopted by states parties to regional fishery management organizations and regional fishing bodies, as well as those contained in the FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing, by strengthening national and regional plans of action, and to consider ratifying or acceding to the Agreement on Port State Measures (AMERP).

A. Security concerns of member states of the Central American Integration System (SICA)^{15/}

54. Within the framework of the 2018 Cooperation Agreement between the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States, to instruct the General Secretariat, with the support of the IADB and other agencies of the inter-American system, to assist the Central American Security Commission in the process of reviewing and updating the Central American Security Strategy (ESCA), which aims to respond to the current context of common threats in that region.

55. To instruct the SMS to continue strengthening cooperation with the Central American Security Commission of SICA, as well as at the bilateral level with member states that so request, on matters relating to preventing and combating transnational organized crime and to drug trafficking investigation and control mechanisms in the subregion, through coordinated work with the UNODC and the International Narcotics Control Board.

56. To request the SMS, within the resources allocated, in coordination with the pertinent United Nations agencies, and harnessing the experience acquired by PACAM, to furnish cooperation and technical assistance, through the DPS and with the support of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), with the aim of strengthening national capacities for identification, control, handling, storage, transport, and disposal of chemical precursors in the subregion, and to invite member states and permanent observers to consider providing financial contributions and cooperation at the bilateral level or through the OAS.

B. Special security concerns of the small island and low-lying coastal developing States of the Caribbean

57. To take note of the observations and outcomes of the CSH meeting on the special security concerns of the small island and low-lying coastal developing States of the Caribbean, held on July 1, 2021, with the theme “*A Multidimensional Approach to Advancing Disaster Resilience in the Hemisphere/Caribbean.*”

58. To note that the Declaration on Security in the Americas recognizes natural and man-made disasters among new threats, concerns, and other challenges of a diverse nature to hemispheric security.

59. To acknowledge that disasters have an adverse impact on the security of the small island and low-lying coastal developing States of the Caribbean by creating instability and opportunities for transnational and other criminal organizations to exploit vulnerabilities, especially those of populations already in vulnerable situations, such as the poor, women, persons with disabilities, older persons, people living in rural communities, and children.

60. To instruct the SMS to submit a report on unfulfilled security mandates adopted by the General Assembly on the security concerns of the small island and low-lying coastal developing States of the Caribbean, and to develop a plan for appropriate follow-up and implementation of those outstanding mandates to be presented to the CSH by the end of the first quarter of 2022.

15. Footnote presented by the delegation of Nicaragua during the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly: Within the framework of the Central American Integration System (SICA) ...

61. To instruct the General Secretariat to prepare, by the end of the second quarter of 2022, policy recommendations on security cooperation for the consideration of member states, including guidelines for those seeking technical assistance from foreign civil defense, military, and security institutions, as appropriate, in order to strengthen their disaster response and recovery capacities, and that it collaborate to that end with the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), the SMS, and the IADB, with support from the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction, regional disaster management organizations, member states and permanent observers, with a view to presenting said recommendations at the meeting on the special security concerns of the small island and low-lying coastal developing States of the Caribbean in 2022.

C. Security implications of climate change^{16/}

62. To instruct the CSH to continue discussions on the security implications of climate change and to convene a meeting in the second half of 2022 to facilitate discussion among member states to expand knowledge sharing and the exchange of best practices on activities undertaken to address this issue.

63. To request the SMS, in collaboration with SEDI and the IADB:

- a. to support member states in the development of their national strategies and policies to strengthen adaptation measures aimed at mitigating the security implications of climate change, including the consideration of the relocation of vulnerable facilities to protect security and military infrastructure; upgrading of assets and equipment to reduce their carbon footprint; and enhancing their climate resilience;
- b. to develop programs to facilitate strengthening the security and military capacity of member states, *inter alia*, to enhance their ability to assist with environmental protection, including coastal and forest protection, and biodiversity conservation; and
- c. to facilitate and prepare, in consultation with member states, a study on possible factors and situations of insecurity that might be exacerbated by climate change, by the second half of 2022, and to prepare programs to support member states in the development of policies and preventive actions to mitigate them.

64. To request the General Secretariat, through the SMS, to compile and present to the CSH in advance of the 2022 meeting mandated in paragraph 62 of this resolution a report on activities carried out by the SMS in collaboration with member states to address the security implications of climate change.

65. To urge member states, permanent observers, and the donor community to consider providing financial support to assist the SMS and the IADB in the preparation and execution of programs to support member states in addressing the security implications of climate change.

16. The delegation of Brazil does not subscribe to the current language of this section. Starting with the title, the expression “security implications of climate change” is not supported ...

VII. Disaster response and critical infrastructure protection

66. In order to further the development of a Model National Strategy on Protection of Critical Infrastructure for all hazards, including natural disasters, entrusted to the General Secretariat by resolutions AG/RES. 2925 (XLVIII-O/18) and AG/RES. 2950 (L-O/20), and in accordance with the CSH meeting on critical infrastructure protection held on April 29, 2021, to urge member states to:

- a. Return their responses to the questionnaire on critical infrastructure protection in the event of natural disasters (available in [Spanish](#) and [English](#)); and
- b. Designate their experts to cooperate in the development of the strategy entrusted to the General Secretariat.

67. To request the General Secretariat to present a report on implementation of the decisions of the last regular session of the General Assembly on natural disasters.

68. To invite member states to consider providing the greatest possible support and technical cooperation to countries that request cooperation for the implementation of their respective national protection strategies and policies against natural disasters.

VIII. Inter-American instruments and institutions

69. To welcome the offer of the SLA to provide, through the Department of International Law, legal support and assistance to the technical secretariats of the inter-American conventions on security matters.

70. To urge member states to attend the meeting of the Parties to the Agreement Concerning Co-operation in Suppressing Illicit Maritime and Air Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in the Caribbean (San Jose Treaty) in 2022 as signatories or full parties.

A. Inter-American legal instruments

Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA)

71. To recognize that illicit trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials constitutes a serious challenge that has contributed to the generation of violence, an increase in the power of criminal organizations, and loss of life, and that it adversely affects social cohesion and people's development opportunities, which is why urgent coordinated action is necessary within the framework of hemispheric cooperation in order to strengthen hemispheric cooperation among member states, which have a shared responsibility to prevent, combat, and eradicate illicit trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials.

72. To encourage member states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying the CIFTA and to strengthen regional, subregional, and bilateral coordination and cooperation mechanisms, in order to consolidate the effective implementation of the Convention.

73. To reiterate the call to the CIFTA States Parties to advance implementation of the “2018–2022 Course of Action” for the operation and implementation of the CIFTA and to request, if applicable, technical assistance and cooperation from the General Secretariat, through the DTOC and the DPS.

74. To invite member states that have not yet done so to send their responses to the Questionnaire on the Implementation and Effectiveness of the CIFTA to the General Secretariat, and to designate or update their single point of contact for cooperation and information exchange, the central authority for mutual legal assistance, and the operational point of contact for tracing.

75. To advance the preparation of the Hemispheric Study on Illicit Trafficking in Firearms and Ammunition, the methodology for which is being developed by the DTOC and the DPS; to consider including the topic of explosives in the next edition of said study; and to invite member states to provide information and financial contributions to support the preparation of the first edition of the study.

76. To encourage member states, permanent observers, international, regional, and subregional organizations, the international community, and the private sector to consider making voluntary contributions to the voluntary trust fund for improving the operations and functioning of the mechanisms established in the CIFTA.

77. To welcome and support the recommendations of the Fifth Conference of the States Parties to the CIFTA held on October 5, 2021.^{17/}

78. To convene the twenty-second regular meeting of the Consultative Committee of the CIFTA in 2022, pursuant to Article XXI of the Convention, and request the Technical Secretariat of the CIFTA to assist with the preparations for and follow-up on that meeting.

Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions (CITAAC)

79. To convene the Second Conference of the States Parties to the CITAAC in 2022, pursuant to Article VIII thereof and resolution AG/RES. 2809 (XLIII-O/13), and to request that the General Secretariat allocate the necessary funds in the budget for the aforementioned meeting and for the preparatory meetings, and that it render the necessary assistance for the preparations.

80. To take note of the analysis by the CSH of the recommendations of the SMS and IADB concerning the establishment of a follow-up mechanism for the CITAAC (document CP/CSH-1978/20) and to request that the Second Conference of the States Parties consider adopting said recommendations in order to facilitate implementation of the obligations contained in the CITAAC. Similarly, to request that the General Secretariat take the steps necessary to identify the department responsible for serving as technical secretariat of the CITAAC.

17. The United States continues to support States Parties in our collective efforts to fully implement the CIFTA. To that end, we support the portions of the Recommendations of the ...

Inter-American Convention against Terrorism

81. To invite those member states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as appropriate, the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism adopted at Bridgetown, Barbados, on June 3, 2002, and to support its full implementation.

82. To convene the first meeting of the States Parties to the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism during 2022 to mark the twentieth anniversary of its signing.

B. Inter-American institutions: Observations and recommendations on the annual reports of the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization (Article 91.f of the OAS Charter)

Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE)

83. To reiterate its strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, regardless of by whom, where, and for what purpose it is committed.

84. To reaffirm its commitment to the work of CICTE as the leading regional entity to prevent and counter terrorism in the Americas, to acknowledge its major achievements over more than 20 years, and to support the implementation of its 2021–2022 work plan.

85. To urge member states to continue implementing, with the support of the CICTE Secretariat, the confidence-building measures in cyberspace identified in the OAS List of Confidence- and Security-Building Measures (CP/CSH-1953/20 rev. 1), in particular by strengthening national capacities and by promoting the National Point of Contacts Portal, in order to strengthen regional cooperation, transparency, predictability, and stability in cyberspace, as well as to foster regional action in response to malicious cyber incidents that threaten the national security of member states and our common vision of an open, accessible, interoperable, reliable, peaceful, and secure digital environment.

86. To promote cooperation, the exchange of good practices, and the development and strengthening of capacities for cyberdiplomacy, cybersecurity, combating cybercrime, and promoting an open, accessible, interoperable, reliable, peaceful, and secure cyberspace.

87. To call on the experts of the Working Group on Cooperation and Confidence-Building Measures in Cyberspace to study ways to enhance the implementation of norms for responsible state behavior in cyberspace, as contained in the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts on Advancing Responsible State Behavior in Cyberspace in the Context of International Security (GGE) and the Open-ended Working Group on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security (OEWG), and to request that the CICTE Secretariat support this effort.

88. To endorse the 2021 consensus reports of the OEWG and the GGE, and to commit to support and implement the framework for responsible state behavior, as set out in those reports.

89. To convene the Fourth Meeting of the Working Group on Cooperation and Confidence-Building Measures in Cyberspace in the first half of 2022.

90. To request that the SMS, through the CICTE Secretariat, provide legislative and technical assistance and training to member states, when so requested, where applicable and in accordance with national laws, and that it implement mechanisms for strengthening identification and investigation of criminal terrorist groups operating in the region, including through intelligence cooperation and information exchange.

91. To instruct the General Secretariat, through the SMS, in view of the emerging and disastrous linkages between transnational organized crime and terrorism in all its forms, to convene a joint meeting of CICTE and CICAD in the second quarter of 2022 to discuss existing gaps and strengthen hemispheric cooperation to prevent and mitigate the impact of this scourge on the Hemisphere.

92. To convene the twenty-second regular session of CICTE in the first half of 2022 or suitably in advance of the regular session of the General Assembly that year.

Inter-American Defense Board (IADB)

93. To thank the IADB for the support provided to member states through technical and advisory assistance on matters related to military and defense issues in the Hemisphere. Accordingly, to request that the CSH hold a special meeting to commemorate the eightieth anniversary of the IADB.

94. To request the IADB to develop and promote an activities program throughout the year to mark the eightieth anniversary of the IADB, encouraging the organization of conferences, seminars, training events, and, where possible, agreements with civilian and military institutions in the Hemisphere for the provision of technical, advisory, educational, and assistance services on matters related to hemispheric defense and security.

95. To request the Inter-American Defense College (IADC) to design and prepare a doctorate program, allowing qualified representatives of member states to apply and enroll in order to pursue the highest academic studies in the areas of defense and security.

96. To request the IADB to continue to provide technical advice on issues relating to confidence- and security-building measures, humanitarian demining, and management of weapons, munitions, and explosives, as well as holding workshops and/or conferences to disseminate expertise in the Hemisphere by:

- a. participating actively in meetings, forums, and seminars on these topics and those related to the CIFTA and the CITAAC;
- b. providing technical advisors and/or monitors to ensure the quality of missions that the OAS AICMA Program establishes; and
- c. providing technical support to the SMS in the administration, management, and acquisition of information for the inter-American CSBMs database.

97. To request that the IADB continue contributing to disaster risk management in the Hemisphere by cooperating with the efforts of member states, and regional and subregional organizations and strengthening their response capacities, and by organizing exercises and conferences

in coordination with SEDI and the CDMA; in addition, that it continue to cooperate with SEDI and assist with managing an OAS database of capacities; a compendium of search and rescue information; information on member state points of contact; and lessons learned and successful experiences of the armed forces in disaster risk management in the framework of the Inter-American Network for Disaster Mitigation.

98. To request the IADB, in coordination with other organs, agencies, and entities, to continue strengthening hemispheric cooperation mechanisms on cyberdefense, human rights, international humanitarian law, gender mainstreaming, the changing role of the armed forces and their potential to mitigate and counter new threats; providing advisory services and technical analysis in an ongoing manner on new and persistent threats and challenges; and disseminating successful experiences, best practices, and lessons learned in relation to such topics. Additionally, to request that the IADB continue participating in regional and subregional conferences, disseminating its conclusions, results, agreements, and commitments on defense and security from said meetings, and carrying on its work of maintaining the historical memory of the CDMA and updating its webpage.

99. To congratulate the Inter-American Defense College (IADC) on its accreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, which accredits the most prestigious universities in the United States and has validated the capacity of the IADC to fulfill its mandate of preparing military officers, national police, and civil servants of OAS member states, so they are well-versed in issues related to multidimensional security and able to understand and find hemispheric, multilateral, and whole-of-government solutions to the diverse challenges the Hemisphere faces. To recognize the IADC as one of the premier institutions in the Americas in the area of joint, multinational, intergovernmental, and interagency defense and security education.

100. To invite member states and permanent observers to consider the possibility of making voluntary contributions to the IADC education fund, the aim of which is to expand opportunities for research, publication, outreach, and strategic education for member states.

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)

101. To welcome and advance the implementation of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy 2020 and its associated Plan of Action 2021–2025, and to welcome the updated methodology documents for the eighth round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) for the period 2021–2024, as well as the evaluation documents for the thematic area “Measures of Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support” for 2021, as adopted at the sixty-eighth regular session of CICAD held in Colombia in December 2020. Moreover, to encourage member states to continue strengthening bilateral and subregional cooperation mechanisms for supply and demand reduction, under the principle of common and shared responsibility, framed within the commitments and lines of action of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy 2020 and the Plan of Action 2021–2025, and incorporating respect for human rights and a gender perspective.

102. To encourage member states to recognize the importance of protecting and restoring, as appropriate, ecosystems and natural resources negatively affected by the impact associated with the world drug problem. The implementation of alternative, comprehensive, and sustainable development programs contribute to said protection and restoration, and also promote the wellbeing of vulnerable populations affected by illicit crops.

103. To encourage member states to consider the development, adoption, and implementation—with due regard for national, constitutional, legal and administrative systems—of alternative or additional measures with regard to conviction or punishment in cases of an appropriate nature, particularly for children, as appropriate, that may include proportional sentencing, as well as to continue to incorporate innovative alternatives to incarceration with a focus on drug treatment, education, aftercare, rehabilitation, or social integration for qualifying cases, in the framework of full respect for human rights.

104. To consider the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people who use drugs, including persons involved in the criminal justice system, with a view to implementing measures that allow their access to health systems and to socio-labor integration programs.

105. To encourage member states to promote access and availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including the exchange of research into potential uses of cannabis for medical and scientific purposes, as well as exchanges of experience in the areas of public health, security, justice, and social integration relating to uses of cannabis and its cultivation for such purposes and for industrial purposes.

106. To encourage member states to implement the recommendations contained in the “GENLEA Handbook: Strategies and Good Practices for Strengthening Gender Equality in Counterdrug Law Enforcement Agencies” in their efforts to ensure that said entities are more inclusive and equitable in terms of gender.

107. To encourage member states to strengthen measures to counter drug trafficking by air, land, sea, and river, recognizing the recent establishment of the CICAD Working Group on Aerial Drug Trafficking Control. In this context, to seek the support of ES/CICAD in continuing to provide, when so requested, technical assistance and training for competent authorities to counter drug trafficking in its various forms, including the sale of synthetic drugs over the Internet, their distribution through postal and express consignment services, and emerging modalities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

108. To encourage member states to participate in the technical working groups in order to improve the quality of data collection on drug production, trafficking, interdiction, and on drug use trends, bearing in mind the importance of quality, timely, relevant, open, disaggregated data for improving the comparability of reported information and for providing that information to the Early Warning System of the Americas.

109. To recognize the efforts of member states to update the MEM evaluation documents and thank the Intergovernmental Working Group and the Governmental Expert Group of the MEM for their work.

110. To accept with appreciation the offer of the Government of Costa Rica to organize the seventieth regular session of CICAD, to be held virtually in November 2021.

II. FOLLOW-UP AND REPORTING

111. To welcome the “Consolidated List of National Points of Contact and National Authorities on Various Security Issues” ([CP/CSH-2026/21 rev. 1](#)) adopted by the CSH in accordance with operative paragraph 206 of resolution AG/RES. 2950 (L-O/20) and, in that regard, to request that the SMS send annual reminders to member states to update and validate the data received and to provide member states with access to those records.

112. To instruct the SMS to submit its annual plan of activities at the start of each term for consultations or proper oversight by member states.

113. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second 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.

114. To recognize the important participation and financial contributions of member states, permanent observers, and collaborating partners, and to invite them to continue supporting the design, implementation, and evaluation of programs and projects on hemispheric security topics.

III. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS^{18/}

Sequence	Topic	Estimated Date	Name	Place
1	CICAD	November 2021	Seventieth regular session of CICAD	Virtual
2	CITAAC	2022	Second Conference of the States Parties to the CITAAC	TBD
3	CIFTA	2022	Twenty-second regular meeting of the Consultative Committee of the CIFTA	TBD
4	CICTE	2022	First meeting of the States Parties to the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism	TBD
5	CICTE	First half 2022	Fourth Meeting of the Working Group on Cooperation and Confidence-Building Measures in Cyberspace	TBD
6	CICTE	First half 2022	Twenty-second regular session of CICTE	TBD
7	TOC	Second half 2022	Meeting of National Points of Contact on Transnational Organized Crime	Washington, D.C.

18. Provisional list of meetings.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

5. ... Sixth Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons, virtual, May 13 and 14, 2020; Third Meeting of National Authorities on Transnational Organized Crime (RANDOT III), virtual, June 23 and 24; Meeting on the Special Security Concerns of the Small Island and Low-Lying Coastal Developing States of the Caribbean, July 1, 2021; Ninth Meeting of the Forum on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures, virtual, July 22, 2021. Sixty-Ninth Regular Session of CICAD, virtual, July 30, 2021; Meeting on Security Concerns in Central America, virtual, September 2, 2021; Twentieth Regular Meeting of the Consultative Committee of CIFTA, virtual, October 4, 2021; and Twenty-First Regular Session of CICTE, virtual, October 7-8, 2021.

6. contributor of humanitarian demining assistance in the world and the Hemisphere. We have contributed over \$4 billion for conventional weapons destruction (which includes humanitarian demining) since 1993. The United States will continue to support OAS efforts to eliminate the humanitarian threat of remaining landmines and declare countries “mine-impact-free.”

9. ... committed to the promotion and preservation of the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms of all people, as enshrined in the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago.

11. ... those articles that are contrary to the Constitution of the Republic of Honduras.

13. ... it does not conflict with its current domestic laws.

14. ... goes beyond the bounds of our domestic laws in respect of some of the terms used and regrets that such an important technical matter had to be unnecessarily politicized. Accordingly, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines disassociates itself from those terms that are incompatible with and contrary to its national laws, reserving its right to interpret the terms of this paragraph as it sees fit, and will not be bound by any illegal or inappropriate mandates arising therefrom.

15. ...and the Central American Security Commission (CSC), under the rules that govern the latter, decisions are made by consensus, including those relating to the Central American Security Strategy (ESCA) review and update process. To date, the CSC has not considered or agreed to the participation of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Defense Board in the Strategy review and update process.

16. ... by any multilaterally adopted language in the framework of the United Nations on the subject, which refers merely to the “adverse effects of climate change,” according to operative paragraph 26 of Security Council resolution 2349 (2017).

In Brazil’s opinion, the OAS Committee on Hemispheric Security is not the appropriate forum to address the issue of climate change. The appropriate instance for dealing with that agenda is the negotiating context associated with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Brazil defends the premise that potential adverse effects of climate change do not necessarily constitute a threat to hemispheric peace and security. Therefore, such a relationship should be seen as entirely nuanced and dependent on the level of socioeconomic development reached by the region’s countries, which substantially affects the capacity of those societies to respond and adapt adequately to climate change’s possible adverse effects. It is not clear, therefore, how the security language of the section could contribute to adequately tackling the possible adverse impacts of climate change on the security of the region’s countries, taking into account the demands of the sustainable development paradigm and the multilateral provisions on climate change agreed on at the international level.

17. ... Fifth Conference of the States Parties that are within the scope of and consistent with the CIFTA such that they facilitate implementation.

AG/RES. 2971 (LI-O/21)

PROGRAM-BUDGET OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR 2022^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on November 11, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

That, in accordance with Articles 54.e and 55 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, the General Assembly approves the program-budget of the Organization and establishes the basis for setting the quota that each government is to contribute to the maintenance of the Organization, taking into account the respective countries' ability to pay and their determination to contribute in an equitable manner;

That, based on Article 86 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (General Standards), the General Secretariat shall submit to the Permanent Council a proposed budget for use of the indirect cost recovery (ICR) resources, which shall be based on projected revenue equivalent to 90 percent of the average ICR obtained in the three years immediately preceding the year in which the program-budget is adopted, and that the General Assembly shall also adopt the ICR budget;

That the revenue to finance the program-budget includes quota income, income from interest and refunds, and other funds, in accordance with Chapter IV of the General Standards;

The proposed 2022 program-budget of the Organization ([CP/doc.5720/21](#)) presented by the General Secretariat on August 23, 2021 and the annual report of the Board of External Auditors to the Permanent Council ([CP/doc.5700/21](#)), presented on May 12, 2021;

The "Report of the Chair of the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs on the activities of the CAAP and the Proposed Program-Budget of the Organization for 2022" ([CP/CAAP-3788/21](#)), presented in accordance with Article 60.b of the Charter of the Organization of American States;

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...

The following resolutions:

[AG/RES. 1319 \(XXV-O/95\)](#) “Modification and Clarification of Resolutions AG/RES. 1275 (XXIV-O/94) and CP/RES. 631 (989/94) for the Modification of the General Secretariat’s Staff Compensation System”;

AG/RES. 1757 (XXX-O/00), “Measures to Encourage the Timely Payment of Quotas,” modified by resolutions AG/RES. 2157 (XXXV-O/05) and AG/RES. 1 (XLII-E/11) rev. 1;

[AG/RES. 1 \(XXXIV-E/07\) rev. 1](#) “Methodology for Calculating the Scale of Quota Assessments to Finance the Regular Fund of the Organization”;

[CP/RES. 1103 \(2168/18\) rev. 1](#) “Amendments to the Methodology for Calculating the Scale of Quota Assessments to Finance the Regular Fund of the OAS 2019-2023”;

AG/RES. 2942 (XLIX-O/19) “Strengthening Ethics, Oversight, and Transparency of the Organization of American States”;

[AG/RES. 1 \(LI-E/16\) rev. 1](#) “Comprehensive Strategic Plan of the Organization”; and

[CP/RES. 1121 \(2209/19\)](#) “Strategic Planning of the Organization”; and

BEARING IN MIND:

That, the Regular Fund notwithstanding, the specific funds are an important source of supplementary financing for the activities of the Organization and, therefore, should be consistent with the nature, purposes, and principles of the Organization, as envisaged in the Charter of the Organization of American States;

That, in accordance with Article 78 (b) of the General Standards, in order to ensure the regular and continuous financial operations of the General Secretariat, the amount of the Reserve Subfund of the Regular Fund shall be 30 percent of the total of the annual quotas of the member states;

That said fund lacks sufficient resources to fulfill its purpose and that it is advisable, accordingly, that efforts be made to increase such reserves, such as by setting, a priori, Regular Fund spending limits at a level below the gross total of quotas;

That the Permanent Council can continue to examine, through the CAAP, measures to encourage prompt payment of quotas and increase liquidity;

That it is important to maintain a culture and practice of austerity, efficacy, accountability, efficiency, transparency, and prudence in the use, execution, and management of the Organization’s resources and ensure the allocation of adequate and sustainable financing to perform its work; and

The importance of the four pillars of the Organization – democracy, human rights, security, and integral development – considers it necessary that they all be allocated adequate funding to operate properly by providing them an equitable allocation of resources aimed at ensuring strict fulfillment of the mandates agreed upon by the political organs of the Organization,

RESOLVES:

I. FINANCING OF BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

1. To set the quotas through which the member states will finance the Regular Fund of the Organization for 2022, and the assessments for income tax reimbursements, in keeping with the methods adopted by General Assembly resolutions AG/RES. 41 (I-O/71), AG/RES. 1 (XXXIV-E/07) rev. 1, and AG/RES. 1 (LIII-E/18), and Permanent Council resolution CP/RES. 1103 (2168/18), using the scale and amounts that appear in Annex I, “Regular Fund Quota Assessments for 2022.”

2. To set the overall budget level of the 2022 Regular Fund program-budget, including the cost-of-living and inflation adjustment, at US\$84,968,407, and to finance it as follows:

a. Net contributions of member states in the form of quota payments to the Regular Fund totaling US\$84,489,287, computed as follows:

i. Total gross assessments of US\$84,929,900, apportioned according to the current methodology for calculating the scale of quota assessments;

ii. A reduction of US\$440,613 in prompt payment discounts pursuant to the measures to encourage the prompt payment of quotas adopted by means of resolution AG/RES. 1757 (XXX-O/00), as amended by AG/RES. 2157 (XXXV-O/05) and AG/RES. 1 (XLII-E/11) rev. 1.

b. Income in the amount of US\$479,120 from interest and refunds and other income, in accordance with Article 78 of the General Standards.

3. To establish the level of expenditure of the Regular Fund for 2022 at US\$81,000,000.

4. To instruct the Secretary General to make such adjustments, reductions, and restructurings as may be needed to comply with the foregoing paragraphs, and under the legal framework of the General Secretariat.

5. To authorize the General Secretariat to use in fiscal year 2022 an internal loan of up to 30 percent of the annual quotas (US\$25.4 million) from the Treasury Fund, which will allow it to cash manage the current budgeted expenses of the Regular Fund corresponding to fiscal year 2022. No interest will be generated for the temporary use of these resources. The General Secretariat shall reimburse without delay the balance of the internal loan of the resources used from the Treasury Fund in fiscal year 2022 as soon as the quotas of the member states are received in the Regular Fund. The General Secretariat will notify the Permanent Council in writing whenever resources from the Treasury Fund are used and will submit monthly reports to the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP) on the status of that Fund.

6. To set the overall expenditure ceiling for the Indirect Cost Recovery Fund account at US\$7,192,000, in accordance with the General Standards.

7. To set the tentative overall budget level for 2023 at US\$84,968,407.

II. BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

1. To approve and authorize the program-budget of the Organization for the fiscal year from January 1 to December 31, 2022, financed by funds not to exceed:

a.	Regular Fund (RF)	US\$ 81,000,000
b.	Indirect Cost Recovery (ICR)	US\$ 7,192,000

2. To approve the appropriation levels for the Regular Fund and ICR, by chapter, and subprograms, with the recommendations, instructions, or mandates detailed below:

		RF	ICR
Chapter 1 - Office of the Secretary General			
14A	Office of the Secretary General	2,095.5	24.9
14B	Office of Protocol	617.1	0.0
<hr/> Chapter 1 - Office of the Secretary General Total		<hr/> 2,712.6	<hr/> 24.9
Chapter 2 - Office of the Assistant Secretary General			
24A	Office of the Assistant Secretary General	2,058.6	0.0
24B	Office of the Secretariat to the General Assembly, the Meeting of Consultation, the Permanent Council, and Subsidiary Organs	1,209.2	0.0
24C	Coordinating Office for the Offices and Units of the General Secretariat in the Member States	4,563.5	0.0
24D	Conferences and meetings	2,872.2	0.0
24E	Regular sessions of the General Assembly	110.0	0.0
24F	Permanent Council meetings	291.0	0.0
24G	Preparatory Committee meetings	33.3	0.0
24H	General Committee meetings	20.0	0.0
24I	Meetings of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP)	100.0	0.0
24J	Meetings of the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CSH)	100.0	0.0
24K	Meetings of the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP)	99.8	0.0
24M	Meetings of the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (CISC)	25.0	0.0
24N	Meetings of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI)	90.0	0.0
<hr/> Chapter 2 - Office of the Assistant Secretary General Total		<hr/> 11,572.6	<hr/> 0.0
Chapter 3 - Principal and Specialized Organs			
34A	Secretariat of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights	5,024.0	0.0

		RF	ICR
34B	Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)	10,256.8	90.9
34C	Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM)	1,621.6	73.0
34D	Office of the Director General of the Inter-American Children's Institute	971.4	14.4
34E	Inter-American Juridical Committee (CJI)	405.0	0.0
34F	Secretariat of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL)	597.3	25.7
34G	Meetings of the CITEL Assembly	81.6	14.3
34H	Inter-American Defense Board (IADB)	745.4	0.0
34I	Pan American Development Foundation (PADF)	66.1	0.0
34J	Trust for the Americas	228.6	0.0
34K	IADB - Maintenance of the Casa del Soldado	171.0	0.0
Chapter 3 - Principal and Specialized Organs Total		20,168.8	218.3
Chapter 4 – Office of the Strategic Counsel for Organizational Development and Management for Results			
44A	Office of the Strategic Counsel for Organizational Development and Management for Results	474.1	173.4
44C	Department of Press and Communication	906.7	120.1
44E	Department of External and Institutional Relations	393.5	111.2
Chapter 4 - Office of the Strategic Counsel for Organizational Development and Management for Results Total		1,774.3	404.7
Chapter 5 - Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity			
54A	Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity	482.8	0.0
54B	Department of Social Inclusion	1,250.4	0.0
Chapter 5 - Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity Total		1,733.2	0.0
Chapter 6 - Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy			
64A	Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy	1,153.5	893.5
64C	Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation	1,463.3	0.0
64D	Department of Sustainable Democracy and Special Missions	657.4	0.0
64F	Department for Promotion of Peace and Coordination with Subnational Governments	219.1	0.0
Chapter 6 - Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy Total		3,493.3	893.5
Chapter 7 - Executive Secretariat for Integral Development			
74A	Executive Secretariat for Integral Development	1,776.8	282.9
74C	Department of Economic Development	1,529.2	0.0
74D	Department of Human Development, Education, and Employment	3,066.9	0.0

		RF	ICR
74F	CIDI ministerial and inter-American committee meetings	149.8	0.0
74G	Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports	214.4	0.0
74I	Department of Sustainable Development	838.1	0.0
Chapter 7 - Executive Secretariat for Integral Development Total		7,575.2	282.9
Chapter 8 - Secretariat for Multidimensional Security			
84A	Secretariat for Multidimensional Security	910.5	318.0
84D	Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE)	546.5	152.5
84E	Department of Public Security	801.7	86.1
84F	Multidimensional security meetings	42.0	0.0
84G	Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)	1,137.6	207.2
84H	Department against Transnational Organized Crime	396.8	0.0
Chapter 8 - Secretariat for Multidimensional Security Total		3,835.1	763.8
Chapter 9 - Secretariat for Hemispheric Affairs			
94A	Secretariat for Hemispheric Affairs	555.3	30.0
94B	Department of Effective Public Management	720.2	0.0
94D	Art Museum of the Americas	376.0	0.0
94E	Summits Secretariat	217.1	69.2
94F	Columbus Memorial Library	373.4	0.0
Chapter 9 - Secretariat for Hemispheric Affairs Total		2,242.0	99.2
Chapter 10 - Secretariat for Legal Affairs			
104A	Secretariat for Legal Affairs	813.4	111.7
104B	Department of Legal Services	1,130.9	0.0
104C	Department of International Law	1,150.6	0.0
104F	Department of Legal Cooperation	742.7	0.0
Chapter 10 - Secretariat for Legal Affairs Total		3,837.6	111.7
Chapter 11 - Secretariat for Administration and Finance			
114A	Secretariat for Administration and Finance	581.2	0.0
114B	Department of Human Resources	2,512.5	103.7
114C	Department of Financial Services	2,399.1	734.3
114D	Department of Information and Technology Services	1,760.8	0.0
114E	Department of Procurement Services and Management Oversight	1,501.4	727.8
114F	Department of General Services	1,399.1	99.9
Chapter 11 - Secretariat for Administration and Finance Total		10,154.1	1,665.7
Chapter 12 - Basic Infrastructure and Common Costs			
124A	OAS Technology Services and Network Infrastructure	1,203.5	0.0

	RF	ICR
124B Office Equipment and Supplies	24.9	0.0
124C OAS Maintenance of Internal Management Control Systems	306.1	250.0
124D Building Management and Maintenance	953.7	500.2
124E General Insurance	367.4	50.0
124F Post Audits	35.9	0.0
124G Recruitment and Transfers	177.9	0.0
124H Terminations and Repatriations	555.5	50.0
124I Home Leave	228.5	10.0
124J Education and Language Allowance, Medical Examinations	42.5	0.0
124K Pensions for Retired Executives, and Health and Life Insurance for Retired Employees	3,788.8	0.0
124L Human Resources Development	46.8	0.0
124M Contribution to the Staff Association	4.6	0.0
124N Contribution to AROAS	4.6	0.0
124S OASCORE Licensing	149.4	400.0
124U Cleaning Services	919.7	491.0
124V Security Services	760.3	334.8
124Y OAS Telecommunications Infrastructure Services	255.9	0.0
124Z Public Utilities	763.2	391.1
Chapter 12 - Basic Infrastructure and Common Costs Total	10,589.2	2,477.1
Chapter 13 – Monitoring and Oversight Bodies		
133A Secretariat of the OAS Administrative Tribunal (TRIBAD)	235.8	39.0
134B Office of the Inspector General	801.7	68.3
134C Board of External Auditors	74.8	83.1
134D Office of the Ombudsperson	199.7	59.8
Chapter 13 – Monitoring and Oversight Bodies Total	1,312.0	250.2
TOTAL	81,000.0	7,192.0

3. To instruct the General Secretariat to identify savings in the amount of US\$20,000 during the first semester of 2022 in order to redirect that amount to finance the work of the Working Group to Examine the Periodic Reports of the States Parties to the Protocol of San Salvador (WGPSS), in Chapter 5, Subprogram 54B; this instruction will be applicable only for fiscal year 2022.

4. To request that consideration be given so that the possible savings accumulated in Chapter 3 of the 2022 budget be assigned, as a priority, to the Executive Secretariat of CIM, and to the Inter-American Juridical Committee.

5. To instruct the General Secretariat to ensure that the Organization's resources are used to fulfill the mandates from the political organs, pursuant to Article 107 of the Charter of the Organization of American States.

6. To authorize the General Secretariat to utilize, in addition to the budget allocation for this purpose in the 2022 program-budget, up to US\$174,475 from savings accrued during the 2022 budget execution, in the event that the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly is held at headquarters, as envisaged at Article 57 of the OAS Charter.

7. Should it be necessary to use those resources, a detailed estimate of the expected expenditures of up to US\$174,475 shall be submitted in advance to the Permanent Council through the CAAP. The General Secretariat shall also provide an accounting of the use made of the resources within 90 days after the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly, if held at headquarters.

8. Meetings of the Permanent Council

- a. To recall Article 36 of the Rules of Procedure of the Permanent Council, which establishes that regular meetings should be held on the first and third Wednesday of each month, and to urge the Chair of the Permanent Council to rationalize the scheduling of meetings and the preparation of their agenda, establishing that the member states have a shared responsibility in that regard, and always taking into account the need to strictly observe assigned budgetary allocations. To instruct the Office of the Assistant Secretary General to hold a joint briefing at the start of each year with all incoming Permanent Council chairs to provide information on the overall budget allocation for meetings, including an approximate breakdown per chairpersonship. To request a quarterly briefing report to the Permanent Council on the status of budget expenditure for Permanent Council meetings.
- b. To instruct the General Secretariat to present to the Permanent Council, through the CAAP, any requests for reinforcements for meetings of the Permanent Council which exceed 2.5% of transfers across chapters and to mandate the Permanent Council to make a decision within 15 days of the date of any such request in order to ensure timely consideration of potential funding options available for the Chair to be able to convene meetings in response to the political exigencies in the Hemisphere.

III. PROVISIONS OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY NATURE

1. Renewal of mandates

- a. That the operative paragraphs listed in Annex II shall remain in force throughout the 2022 budgetary cycle with the respective amended timelines, as established in the fourth column "Change in Timeline and/or Periodicity" of the table contained in said Annex.
- b. To urge member states to continue to contribute to the achievement of the mandates of past resolutions that remain in force during the 2022 budgetary cycle, and to instruct the General Secretariat to continue to arrange the required measures and/or support for their implementation, as provided in those same mandates.

2. Accountability to member states

To request the General Secretariat, specialized entities, and oversight bodies to submit the reports, strategies, and plans mentioned in this resolution to the Permanent Council and the CAAP, as appropriate, in keeping with Annex II and Annex III, such that the member states will be able to corroborate the information provided in a timely fashion and effectively follow-up on the fulfillment of mandates, Regular Fund budget execution, and execution of voluntary, specific, trust, and service funds, including ICR.

3. Direct and indirect cost recovery

- a. To ratify resolution CP/RES. 1176 (2325/21) “Reduction in the Indirect Cost Recovery (ICR) Rate for Contributions Greater Than US\$5 Million and Special Appropriation to Conclude Study on ICR” adopted by the Permanent Council at its virtual regular meeting of June 23, 2021; likewise, to extend until March 31, 2022, the deadline for the presentation of the results of the study referred to in operative paragraph 2 of said resolution, with the understanding that the budgetary appropriation authorized for this project is not modified.
- b. To extend the authorization to the Permanent Council under AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20) to adopt the necessary measures to enhance the indirect cost recovery policy, taking into account the recommendations of the CAAP.
- c. To establish the partition of ICR resources in the program-budget, from the 2022 budgetary cycle until further reviewed, as follows:
 - i. 33 percent to cover indirect costs incurred by the central administration (chapters 4, 11 and 13, as well as subprogram 104B);
 - ii. 34 percent to cover basic infrastructure costs (chapter 12);
 - iii. 33 percent to finance secretariats and entities in proportion to the amount of work associated with administering projects, adjusted by whether they receive Regular Fund money to pay for their administrative management support staff.
- d. To allow a variance of up to 3 percent in the shares of ICR rates established in paragraph c. above, from the 2022 budgetary cycle onward, until further reviewed and decided by member states.

4. OAS Scholarships and Training Program funds

- a. To authorize the General Secretariat to use, in 2022, up to US\$1,740,000 from the Regular Fund for the OAS Scholarships and Training Programs to finance the activities of the following programs: Partnerships Program for Education and Training (PAEC), Professional Development Scholarships Program (PDSP), and the OAS Academic Programs, in a way to be defined by the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD).

- b. To take note of the decision adopted by the Management Board of the IACD (in document AICD/JD/DE-129/21 corr. 1) instructing the Department of Financial Services (DFS) to invest the funds of the Capital Fund for the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs in accordance with the mandate established in section IV, operative paragraph 5.e of resolution AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20); and to instruct the DFS to report to CIDI and the Management Board of IACD biannually on the status of the investment strategy under implementation.

5. Per diem

To request that the General Secretariat present a proposal for a policy to govern payments of travel related expenses within 90 days of the implementation of the OASCORE business process modernization program. OASCORE will automate OAS travel management in accordance with the best practices of other international organizations, with an aim of simplifying and improving the current allowance system. Once the OASCORE travel management process is implemented, the General Secretariat shall conduct a rate comparison, analyze what benefits, if any, would arise from the presentation of invoices and receipts for certain components of any applicable daily subsistence allowances, and present a travel-related expenses proposal to CAAP for its consideration.

6. Human resources

To instruct the General Secretariat to review and update the Comprehensive Human Resources Strategy for the Organization and to submit to CAAP by March 30, 2022, an updated implementation plan including a timetable for reaching milestones. The updated plan should also reflect the implementation of the new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, and that the terms of reference for independent consultants and contractors/performance contracts (CPRs) financed by the Regular Fund or ICR Fund must be relevant to and within the Secretariat that finances their contract. Also, to instruct the Office of the Inspector General to perform an annual review of those terms of reference which would be presented to CAAP, to ensure compliance.

7. Limit on job positions Financed by the Regular Fund

- a. That the total expenditure on personnel (Object 1, Article 91 of the General Standards) shall not exceed 64.38 percent of the overall budget level of the 2022 Regular Fund, including any statutory increases that may be required.
- b. That the Permanent Council shall be authorized, at its discretion and on exceptional basis, to adjust the percentage referred to in the previous paragraph.

8. Trust personnel

To waive the enforcement of Article 21.b.v of the General Standards to authorize the financing by the Regular Fund of the 21 trust positions contained in Annex IV, as well as the financing of the position of "Secretary Treasurer of the Pension Fund" by specific funds, during the execution of the 2022 program-budget.

9. Creation of new mandates

- a. To ratify the “Agreement Reached by Member States regarding the Criteria for the Classification of Mandates, Template for New Mandates, and Criteria for the Use of the Template,” approved by the Permanent Council at its virtual regular meeting of October 6, 2021, and to instruct the Permanent Council and CIDI to apply those guidelines during the negotiations on resolutions for consideration at the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly.
- b. To instruct the General Secretariat to prioritize its resources upon receipt of a template for new mandates submitted by a member state, in order to complete the sections of the template under its responsibility and return it within five business days or within another timeframe agreed by the proponent member state(s).
- c. To urge the councils of the Organization to modify their working procedures to consider the instruments approved by the Permanent Council and ratified by this resolution.
- d. To request the CAAP Chair to ensure that, prior to the commencement of General Assembly negotiations, the Permanent Council, CIDI, and committee chairs are briefed on the new-mandate template and criteria process approved by the Permanent Council.
- e. The CAAP, in conjunction with the General Secretariat, shall carry out an assessment of the instruments mentioned in subparagraph (a) above with the mandates of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly, so as to ensure their correct application and, where appropriate, propose to the Permanent Council any necessary modifications.

10. Mandate prioritization

To take note of the proposed mandate prioritization methodology submitted by the General Secretariat in document CAAP/GT/RVPP-455/21 corr. 1, presented on September 21, 2021, and to urge member states to review said methodology, as appropriate, and to endeavor to conclude the prioritization of current mandates before the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly.

11. External resource mobilization

- a. To instruct the Secretary General to continue efforts toward external resource mobilization for the implementation of the mandates of the General Assembly, especially for those that are unfunded or underfunded, as well as to keep the CAAP apprised of its endeavors to identify such external resources, and to maintain transparency and accountability in the utilization of those funds in the semiannual report on resource management and performance.

- b. To instruct the General Secretariat to present to the Permanent Council for consideration, no later than March 15, 2022, an analysis of different additional funding options for the Regular Fund and the ICR Fund from member states and permanent observers, that ensure the long-term sustainability of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, in keeping with paragraph IV.3.e of resolution AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20).

12. Oversight bodies

- a. Audit Committee

To adopt the amendments to Chapters VIII and IX of the General Standards) for the establishment of an Audit Committee and related reforms, as contained in Annex V of this resolution, which shall enter into effect upon the adoption of this resolution.

- b. Ombudsperson

- i. To update Chapter III, Subchapter H, “The Ombudsperson,” of the General Standards, with the objective of strengthening that office and giving legal certainty to the exercise of its responsibilities, based on the standards of the profession and those implemented by similar offices in other international organizations, particularly the United Nations, the Pan American Health Organization, the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund, as well as the Code of Ethics and the Standards of Practice of the International Ombudsman Association, and the “Review of the organizational ombudsman services across the United Nations System” (JIU/REP/2015/6) conducted by the UN Joint Inspection Unit in 2015, while taking into account the specific OAS context; and to use the accompanying preliminary draft proposed by the delegation of Canada (Annex VI) to begin discussions as soon as possible, with a view to considering its approval by the Permanent Council before the end of Canada’s tenure as CAAP Chair on January 31, 2022.
- ii. To encourage member states to conduct broad and inclusive consultations with relevant stakeholders in the context of the discussion process, to note that the meetings of the CAAP to discuss this topic will include input from key stakeholders, and to request additional comments and counter proposals on the preliminary draft by December 15, 2021.

13. Program-budget for the 2023 budget cycle

- a. To instruct the General Secretariat to include all statutory increases and comply with all the requirements mandated by the General Standards when presenting the draft budget of the Regular Fund and the ICR Fund. The draft

program-budget for the cycle must also take into account the following guidelines:

- i. It does not propose to cut the reserve subfunds or use them in order to fund vacancies.
 - ii. If the budget ceiling is set to decrease relative to the preceding year, whether in actual or expected inflation-adjusted terms, those cuts would be distributed in a way that seeks to ensure an adequate and sustainable financial allocation that minimizes possible negative impacts on the work of all areas.
 - iii. It allocates the necessary amount to cover all costs of the Organization included in Chapter 12.
 - iv. It is presented at the chapter and subprogram levels.
- b. The negotiations of member states will initially focus on establishing agreements at the chapter level and, in the case of Chapters 3 and 13, at the subprogram level; their allocations will be included at the subprogram level in the section on budget appropriations of the program-budget resolution. Subsequently, all appropriations at the subprogram level may also be included in the section on budget appropriations if member states so decide.
14. Methodology for calculating the scale of quota assessments to finance the Regular Fund of the Organization

To take note of the presentation made by the General Secretariat to the CAAP Working Group on June 22, 2021, regarding progress on the mandate established by resolution CP/RES. 1104 (2168/18) rev. 1, as ratified by the General Assembly through resolution AG/RES. 1 (LIII-E/18), and on the SAF opinion document of October 19, 2021, on the Independent Group of Technical Experts for the quota assessment methodology. Also, to instruct the Permanent Council to continue monitoring, through the CAAP, the review of the quota assessment methodology conducted by the United Nations Committee on Contributions and, on the basis of the findings of those proceedings reappraise, with the urgency that the present socioeconomic situation in the region requires, going ahead with the creation of an independent expert group and how to consider the methodology for calculating the scale of quota assessments to finance the Regular Fund of the Organization of American States.

15. Offices of the General Secretariat in member states

To request the Secretary General to instruct the Coordinating Office for the Offices and Units of the General Secretariat in the Member States to continue optimizing and implementing its current strategy. To take into account the report of the comprehensive review of the offices and units of the General Secretariat in the member states presented to CAAP on July 13, 2021, in preparing a strategic plan for adoption by the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly in 2022.

16. Comprehensive Strategic Plan of the Organization

That, bearing in mind that, in accordance with resolution CP/RES. 1121 (2209/19), the General Secretariat is working on updating the Comprehensive Strategic Plan for 2021-2024, the member states have recognized that the Comprehensive Strategic Plan for 2016-2020, as adopted by the General

Assembly at its forty-ninth regular session by resolution AG/RES. 2940 (XLIX-O/19), in particular with respect to the structural elements of the plan, such as the strategic lines and objectives, will remain in force until the Strategic Plan of the Organization for 2021-2024, which will replace it in its entirety, is adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-second regular session.

ANNEX I



ANNEX I
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
REGULAR FUND
REGULAR FUND QUOTA ASSESSMENTS FOR 2022

Member States	Assessed Percentage	Quota Assessment	Tax Reimbursement	(a) Credits	Total
Antigua and Barbuda	0.037%	31,600			31,600
Argentina	3.458%	2,952,000			2,952,000
Bahamas	0.054%	46,000		1,305	44,695
Barbados	0.038%	32,500			32,500
Belize	0.037%	31,600			31,600
Bolivia	0.081%	69,000			69,000
Brazil	14.359%	12,258,100			12,258,100
Canada	11.297%	9,644,000		270,078	9,373,922
Chile	1.631%	1,392,400		25,994	1,366,406
Colombia	1.888%	1,611,600		15,046	1,596,554
Costa Rica	0.295%	251,600			251,600
Dominica	0.037%	31,600			31,600
Dominican Republic	0.309%	263,500		7,374	256,126
Ecuador	0.463%	395,000			395,000
El Salvador	0.088%	75,000			75,000
Grenada	0.037%	31,600			31,600
Guatemala	0.197%	168,000			168,000
Guyana	0.037%	31,600			31,600
Haiti	0.037%	31,600			31,600
Honduras	0.050%	42,500			42,500
Jamaica	0.061%	52,000		1,458	50,542
Mexico	7.458%	6,366,800		118,864	6,247,936
Nicaragua	0.037%	31,600		494	31,106
Panama	0.220%	187,500			187,500
Paraguay	0.100%	85,000			85,000
Peru	1.158%	988,500			988,500
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.037%	31,600			31,600
Saint Lucia	0.037%	31,600			31,600
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.037%	31,600			31,600
Suriname	0.037%	31,600			31,600
Trinidad and Tobago	0.149%	127,000			127,000
United States	53.150%	45,373,300	5,200,000 (b)		50,573,300
Uruguay	0.343%	292,500			292,500
Venezuela	2.236%	1,908,500			1,908,500
Subtotal	99.486%	84,929,900	5,200,000	440,613	89,689,287
Cuba (c)	0.514%	438,900			438,900
TOTAL	100.000%	85,368,800	5,200,000	440,613	90,128,187

a. Represents 1% of 2021 quota assessment if full payment of 2021 quota was received by March 31, 2021, plus 2% of any payment received before February 28, 2021 and 3% if received by January 31, 2021.

b. The amount shown is estimated and may differ from the actual amount billed.

c. Shown only to establish the percentage corresponding to each member state.

ANNEX II – Renewal of operative paragraphs for budget cycle 2022

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
1.	Semiannual reports on budget execution by the Inter-American System of Human Rights	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph I.4 Mandate: To request the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to present a semi-annual report on budget execution to the Permanent Council and, in due time, a detailed plan of expenditures corresponding to its budget.	Annual
2.	Program-budget for the 2022 budgetary cycle	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.1 Mandate: a. To instruct the General Secretariat to submit to the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly a proposed overall budget level for 2022, as well as the tentative overall budget level for 2023, including the adjustment for cost of living and inflation, as appropriate, in accordance with the current rules.	2023
3.	External Resource Mobilization	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.3 Mandate: b. To instruct the General Secretariat, in its pursuit of the mandate on external resource mobilization, to emphasize the equal importance of the four pillars of the Organization – democracy, human rights, integral development, and multidimensional security– and to ensure that advocacy undertaken to fulfill this mandate includes the pursuit of resources governed by the principles of balance, proportionality, and equity of the pillars, and that it reflects the mandates agreed upon by the representative bodies of the Organization. c. To instruct the Secretary General to include in the semiannual reports on resource management and performance, under the chapter on projects submitted by the Project Evaluation Committee, additional information on approved and ongoing projects, including on their scope, supporting mandates, periodicity, implementation status, and sources of financing, so as to have a consolidated document on the use of specific fund resources. d. To instruct the Secretary General to continue, in consultation with the Permanent Council, with the implementation of a strategic plan for mobilizing the external support and funding needed to implement the mandates of the member states and the priorities of the Organization; and to	Annual Report

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
		<p>instruct the General Secretariat to report on the progress of that implementation in the semiannual reports on resource management and performance.</p> <p>f. To instruct the General Secretariat, in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 617 (XII-O/82):</p> <p>i. In the case of projects not included in the program-budget of the Organization that receive contributions from non-member states that are permanent observers to the Organization, to submit semiannual reports to the appropriate competent organs of the Organization;</p> <p>ii. In the case of projects whose external contributions come from non-member states that are not permanent observers to the Organization, to consult first with whichever council is appropriate to the subject matter;</p> <p>iii. In the case of global cooperation agreements with permanent observer countries or with other non-member states, to request prior approval of the Permanent Council.</p> <p>g. To inform member states of any agreements, contracts, and/or memoranda of understanding being discussed or agreed for the cases described in item f.(i) of this paragraph, and to submit semiannual reports to the CAAP and the appropriate competent organs of the Organization.</p>	
4.	OAS Scholarships and Training Program funds	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.5 Mandate:</p> <p>a. To reiterate paragraph 22 of resolution AG/RES. 2916 (XLVIII-O/18), which endorses the provisional and comprehensive recommendations that were issued by the Working Group to analyze and assess the functioning of all OAS scholarship and training programs and adopted by the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) (CIDI/doc.239/17 y CIDI/doc.256/18), and which tasks CIDI with overseeing the implementation of those mandates.</p> <p>b. To recognize resolution CIDI/RES. 337 (LXXXVIII-O/19), “Allocation of Resources in 2019 for the OAS Scholarships and Training Programs,” adopted by CIDI on April 9, 2019, endorsing the decision taken by the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) to facilitate the</p>	

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
		<p>transition to a more sustainable and cost-effective scholarship program.</p> <p>d. To instruct the General Secretariat to pursue options for strengthening partnerships, including the incorporation of language training wherever possible.</p> <p>f. To authorize the General Secretariat to deposit in the Capital Fund for the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs, in accordance with Article 18 of the Statutes of the IACD, any unused or deobligated scholarship funds under Object 3, to the extent permitted under Article 106 of the General Standards. In implementing this mandate, the General Secretariat shall consult with CIDI through the IACD Management Board and obtain approval from the Permanent Council through the CAAP.</p>	
5.	Foundations supported by the OAS	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.6 Mandate: To request foundations supported by the OAS, the Pan American Development Foundation and the Trust for the Americas, to maintain a culture and practice of austerity, effectiveness, efficiency, transparency, prudence, and accountability in the use, execution, and management of resources allocated by the Organization.</p>	
6.	Establishment of a structured budget preparation and presentation process	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.7 Mandate: a. To instruct the General Secretariat to entrust the Secretariat for Administration and Finance with the analysis and preparation of the program-budget of the Organization, with adequate human resources having relevant budgetary expertise, and in coordination with all areas and organs of the Organization.</p> <p>b. To instruct the General Secretariat, in direct collaboration with the different secretariats of the Organization, to adopt a rigorous approach to developing, clearly presenting, executing, and evaluating the program-budget in accordance with Chapters IV to VIII of the General Standards. The draft program-budget shall include the rationale for proposals as well as explanations of variances from the previous year and of human and financial resources requirements in line with expected results. The General Secretariat shall also include expenditure forecasts for two additional years in the preparation of each annual proposed program-budget.</p>	

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
		<p>c. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue using the standard template approved by the member states (CP/CAAP-3664/20 rev. 1) when the secretariats present information to the CAAP about the impact of proposed budgets prepared by the Secretariat for Administration and Finance in their areas. The template completed with information from the secretariats shall be reviewed by the Secretariat for Administration and Finance prior to presentation to the CAAP together with the presentation of the draft program-budget of the Organization. In turn, the Secretariats should be cognizant of the final versions of the templates circulated to the CAAP. The template should include but is not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A table indicating the previous year’s approved budget, the amount allocated, execution level, and the new budget proposal level. ii. Bullet points on the key impacts of the proposed funding level. <p>d. To instruct the Permanent Council to continue analyzing, through the CAAP and with support from the General Secretariat, options for establishing a separate and independent budget process for OAS oversight mechanisms, including the Office of the Ombudsperson, the Inspector General, and the Administrative Tribunal (TRIBAD). The Permanent Council is authorized to adopt such measures in this area, taking into account the recommendations of the CAAP.</p> <p>e. To instruct the General Secretariat to take into consideration, when the circumstances so allow, the need for equity among the four programmatic pillars in the budget preparation process, with a view to ensuring that the proposed allocations allow the mandates agreed upon by the political organs of the Organization to be fulfilled; and also to instruct the General Secretariat to present to the CAAP, by February 28, 2021, considerations about the feasibility of achieving equity in the allocation of resources between the pillars from the program-budget for 2022.</p>	<p>July 31, 2022</p>
7.	Review of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat of the	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.9 Mandate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To renew the mandate contained in resolution AG/RES. 1 (XLVIII-E/14) rev. 1, which instructed the Permanent Council, through the CAAP, to conduct a comprehensive review of the General Standards, particularly Chapters VII and VIII thereof, and to instruct the CAAP to review those 	

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
	Organization of American States	<p>chapters and present the findings of that review and analysis and/or such recommendations as may emanate therefrom to the General Assembly at its fifty-first regular session. Said proposal will contain rules on financial and budgetary stability and discipline for ensuring the Organization's medium- and long-term sustainability.</p> <p>b. To instruct the Secretary General to accompany all fund transfer requests that require Permanent Council approval with options, based on program-budget chapter savings and efficiencies, for where the funds can be sourced and a rationale for each option.</p>	Fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly
8.	Official travel	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.10 Mandate:</p> <p>a. To instruct the Secretary General, the Assistant Secretary General, and the secretaries for all the chapters, including those for the specialized agencies and entities, to submit quarterly to the Permanent Council a detailed report on the activities of their offices away from headquarters, including, <i>inter alia</i>, dates of travel, destination, delegation, and purpose of travel, with a mention as to the mandate approved by the member states that justifies the travel.</p> <p>b. To instruct the General Secretariat to publish on its website the reports requested in the preceding paragraph.</p>	Semiannual
9.	Human resources	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.12 Mandate:</p> <p>b. To request the Office of the Inspector General to continue preparing its semiannual reports on actual personnel transfers, internal and external competitions concluded, and reclassifications included in this program-budget, and to ascertain that they are done in strict accordance with the applicable standards.</p> <p>c. The General Secretariat will provide a detailed report to the CAAP on the status of all open Regular Fund positions. If an open position has not been publicly announced, the General Secretariat will provide a detailed explanation regarding the reason for the delay, with cash flow not being an appropriate justification. The status report on the Regular Fund recruitment process shall be provided on a monthly basis.</p>	Quarterly

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
		<p>d. The member states recognize that in order to deal with the significant budget cuts contemplated in this resolution, the secretaries and executive secretaries should provide an accounting and be authorized to make necessary changes: to reorganize, consolidate, and cut. Consequently, in recognition of this principle, the General Secretariat will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Allow hiring of needed personnel under reorganization plans and not implement any hiring freezes until that reorganization is complete; (ii) Allow reclassification of positions only where budget-driven position abolishment requires reallocation of responsibilities; and (iii) Present the report of the Secretary General to the Permanent Council by January 2021 on the reorganization of the General Secretariat, in particular, hiring and reclassification plans. 	<p>January 2022</p>
10.	Gender equity and equality policies	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.13 Mandate: To urge the General Secretariat to continue the work of implementing and executing gender equity and equality policies in the workplace and, within a framework of parity, to promote access for women in categories where they are currently underrepresented in the Organization, in addition to ensuring accountability in the implementation of those policies and fulfillment of the provisions set forth in resolution CP/RES. 1149 (2278/20), “Women’s Representation and Participation in the OAS.”</p>	<p>April 30, 2022</p>
11.	Geographical representation	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.14 Mandate: To take note of the Geographic Representation Strategy presented to the Permanent Council on March 13, 2019, and instruct the General Secretariat to set objectives and indicators for that strategy in order to implement the plan of action and achieve equitable geographic representation of staff in accordance with Article 120 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which should include, in addition, consultants and interns.</p>	<p>April 30, 2022</p>
12.	Honoraria	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.15 Mandate: That the honoraria paid to members of the IACHR, Inter-American Court of Human Rights, TRIBAD, Board of External Auditors, and Inter-American Juridical Committee shall be US\$300 per day, and that the cost of those honoraria</p>	

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
		shall be covered with the resources allocated in this program-budget.	
13.	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.16 Mandate: To maintain the budgetary authorization to the IACHR to cover payments to members of the Commission for special services, up to a maximum of US\$4,000 per month per member. This budgetary measure shall be taken without prejudice to the right to the payment of honoraria, as provided by the General Assembly in paragraph IV.15 of this resolution.	
14.	Inter-American Court of Human Rights	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.17 Mandate: To maintain the budgetary authorization to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to cover the payment of emoluments to judges of the Court, up to a maximum of US\$4,000 per month per judge. This budgetary measure shall be taken without prejudice to Article 26 of the Statute of the Court and without prejudice to the right to the payment of honoraria, as provided by the General Assembly in paragraph IV.15 of this resolution.	
15.	Cost efficiencies	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.19 Mandate: To instruct the General Secretariat to include in its semiannual resource management and performance report to the CAAP any savings generated as a result of efficiencies in the operations of the General Secretariat, including those related to common costs.	
16.	Department of Press and Communication	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.20 Mandate: To request the Secretary General to instruct the Department of Press and Communication to submit progress reports on implementation of the Communication Strategy and that they be included in the semiannual resource management and performance report.	
17.	Trust personnel	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.21 Mandate: c. That personnel hired under a trust appointment shall not be eligible for the payment of accumulated unused annual leave	

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
		upon their separation from the Organization. This provision shall not apply to Career Service, continuing contract, or Series A and Series B personnel who accepted a trust appointment.	
18.	Ethics and integrity	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.23 Mandate: To instruct the Secretary General to update the Statements of Loyalty and of Ethics of Conduct and Conflicts of Interest of the General Secretariat in accordance with Article 120 of the OAS Charter, which requires personnel to be selected for their efficiency, competence, and integrity. The concept of integrity includes, but is not limited to, probity, impartiality, fairness, honesty and truthfulness in all matters affecting their work, status, and engagement with others. The Statements of Loyalty and of Ethics of Conduct and Conflicts of Interest shall be renamed “Statement of Conflict of Interest and Acknowledgement of Acceptable Conduct,” to be signed (physically or electronically) by all personnel by December 1, 2020, and all new personnel prior to employment. Thereafter, the Statement shall be signed by all personnel yearly.	December 1, 2021
19.	International Public Sector Accounting Standards	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.25 Mandate: To instruct the Permanent Council, through the CAAP, to identify the necessary funding for the project on Implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) within the General Secretariat once the new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system has been implemented, and within a reasonable timeframe.	
20.	Accountability and transparency	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.28 Mandate: a. The General Secretariat shall continue to publish the following updated information on the Organization’s website, in accordance with the Organization’s legal structure: (1) Organizational structure of each organizational unit. (2) The operational plans of the organizational units of the General Secretariat established based on the strategic lines and objectives of the Comprehensive Strategic Plan of the Organization adopted in resolution AG/RES. 1 (LI-E/16) rev. 1 and resolution CP/RES. 1121 (2209/19).	

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
		<p>(3) The results of evaluations, monitoring, and audits of programs and operations.</p> <p>(4) Staffing per organizational unit, also including the salary scale and other benefits, as well as vacant positions.</p> <p>(5) Results-based contracts awarded for both consultants and goods and services, pursuant to applicable regulations.</p>	
21.	Recommendations of the Inspector General	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.30 Mandate:</p> <p>a. To instruct the Inspector General to continue presenting to the CAAP on a quarterly basis an analysis on the status of implementation of recommendations made.</p> <p>b. To instruct the General Secretariat to present for consideration by the CAAP in preparation for the discussions on the 2022 program-budget, an overview of the proposed organizational changes to strengthen the Office of the Inspector General and resource requirements associated with those proposed changes.</p>	<p>Semiannual</p> <p>b. change to 2023</p>
22.	Ethics/harassment	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.31 Mandate:</p> <p>To instruct the Office of the Inspector General and the Office of the Ombudsperson to present to member states a report detailing the number of cases –including fraud, harassment, and whistleblower cases– handled annually, the time spent in the course of each proceeding in those investigations, the measures generally adopted, as well as identifying potential weaknesses and violations observed in the implementation of the Organization’s policies on fraud, harassment, and whistleblowers and whistleblower protection.</p>	
23.	Real estate strategy	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.32 Mandate:</p> <p>b. To instruct the General Secretariat, in close collaboration with the CAAP and within the framework of the real estate strategy, to explore alternatives to achieve the optimal use of the Organization's real estate and, to that end, to analyze the possibilities of obtaining the necessary resources for their maintenance.</p>	

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
24.	Implementation of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.33 Mandate: To instruct the General Secretariat to continue with the implementation of the ERP system, pursuant to resolution CP/RES. 1155 (2290/20) and to report on progress to the CAAP on a monthly basis.	

ANNEX III. Reporting schedule

<i>Frequency and deadlines</i>	<i>Most recent reference</i>	<i>Report/Theme</i>	<i>Responsible Area</i>
Annual (No later than the end of January 2022)	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) IV.12.d.iii	Report on re-organization of the Secretariat for new financial year, if applicable, in particular hiring and reclassification plans.	SAF (DHR and DFS)
Annually (no later than 45 days after end of year)	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) I.4	Annual Report and plan of expenditures of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)	IACtHR and IACHR
Annual (no later than 60 days after end of year)	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) IV.31	Report of the Inspector General and of the Ombudsperson on the annual number of cases that were handled during the previous year and recommendations with respect to the implementation of the Organization's policies on fraud, harassment, and whistleblowers and whistleblower protections.	OIG and Ombudsperson
Annual (no later than 60 days after end of year)	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) IV.24	Report on activities of Columbus Memorial Library	SHA/CML
Semiannual (no later than 45 days after end of semester)	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) IV.2 IV.3 ("a", "c", "d") IV.13 IV.14 IV.18.a IV.19 IV.20	Semiannual Report on Resource Management and Performance [in accordance with Annex I of resolution AG/RES. 1 (XLVIII-E/14) rev. 1]	SAF/SCODMR/OGSMS
Semiannual (no later than 45 days after end of semester)	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) IV.10.a IV.10.b	Report of the Secretary General, the Assistant Secretary General, and the secretaries for all the chapters, including those for the specialized agencies and entities, on the activities of their offices away from headquarters.	OSG, ASG and all secretariats

<i>Frequency and deadlines</i>	<i>Most recent reference</i>	<i>Report/Theme</i>	<i>Responsible Area</i>
Semiannual no later than 45 days after the closing of the semester	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) IV.3.f.i IV.3.g	Report on projects not included in the program-budget that receive contributions from non-member states that are permanent observers to the Organization, as well as on any related agreements, contracts, and/or memoranda of understanding being discussed or agreed.	SCODMR
Semiannual no later than 45 days after the closing of the semester	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) IV.12.b	Report of the Inspector General on actual personnel transfers, internal and external competitions concluded, and reclassifications included in current program-budget.	OIG
Semiannual no later than 45 days after the closing of the semester	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) IV.30.a.	Report of the Inspector General on status of implementation of recommendations made by Audit Committee.	OIG
Quarterly no later than 30 days after the closing of the quarter	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) IV.12.c	Detailed report on the status of all open Regular Fund positions and, if applicable, explanation of reasons for delay in public announcement of open positions.	SAF(DHR)
Monthly	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) IV.33	Report on progress of OASCORE business process modernization program.	SAF(EO/SAF)
Monthly whenever there is an outstanding loan balance	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) I.6	Report to CAAP on status of the Treasury Fund	SAF(DFS)
Ongoing	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) IV.28.a	Publication of updated information on the Organization's website	SCODMR/SAF

<i>Frequency and deadlines</i>	<i>Most recent reference</i>	<i>Report/Theme</i>	<i>Responsible Area</i>
Immediately, whenever an applicable fund transfer request occurs	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) IV.9.b	Report presenting options of sources to fund transfer requests that exceed limits set on Article 110 of the General Standards. Options should preferably be based program-budget chapter savings and efficiencies, if available.	SAF
March 30, 2022	AG/RES. 2957 (L-/20) IV.12.a IV.13 IV.14	Updated implementation plan for the Comprehensive Human Resource Strategy for the Organization.	SAF (DHR)

ANNEX IV

POSITIONS	DESCRIPTION	LEVEL	SOURCE OF FUNDING
1	Chief of Staff of the Secretary General	D01	Regular Fund
1	Chief of Staff of the Assistant Secretary General	D01	Regular Fund
1	Strategic Counsel for Organizational Development and Management for Results	D02	Regular Fund
7	Secretaries • Executive Secretary for Integral Development • Secretary for Access to Rights and Equity • Secretary for Strengthening Democracy • Secretary for Multidimensional Security • Secretary for Hemispheric Affairs • Secretary for Legal Affairs • Secretary for Administration and Finance	D02	Regular Fund
			Regular Fund
			Regular Fund
			Regular Fund
			Regular Fund
			Regular Fund
			Regular Fund
2	Advisers to the Secretary General	D01	Regular Fund
		P05	Regular Fund
1	Adviser to the Assistant Secretary General	P04	Regular Fund
1	Executive Assistant to the Secretary General	G07	Regular Fund
1	Junior Adviser to the Assistant Secretary General	P02	Regular Fund
1	Office of Protocol	P05	Regular Fund
1	Director of CICAD ^{5/}	P05	Regular Fund
1	Director of CICTE ^{6/}	P05	Regular Fund

ADDITIONAL TRUST POSITIONS

1	Adviser to the Secretary General	P05	Regular Fund
2	Adviser to the Assistant Secretary General	P05	Regular Fund

SPECIFIC FUNDS (not included in regulated positions count)

1	Secretary Treasurer of the Pension Fund	D01	Specific Funds
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5. These positions will continue to be trust positions until such time as the General Assembly adopts the amendments to the relevant statutes required for the Executive Secretary to be selected through a competition process.

6. *Ibid.*

ANNEX V

MODIFICATIONS TO THE GENERAL STANDARDS TO GOVERN THE OPERATIONS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES – CHAPTER VIII CONTROL AND EVALUATION OF FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY MANAGEMENT AND CHAPTER IX - ADVISORY SERVICES, AUDITING, AND FISCAL CONTROL

ANNEX VI

PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE GENERAL STANDARDS TO GOVERN THE OPERATIONS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES - CHAPTER III -SUBCHAPTER H: THE OMBUDSPERSON

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

AG/RES. 2972 (LI-O/21)

INCREASING AND STRENGTHENING THE PARTICIPATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY AND SOCIAL ACTORS IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES AND IN THE SUMMITS OF THE AMERICAS PROCESS^{1/2/3/4}

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on November 11, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECOGNIZING the importance of participation by civil society organizations and other social actors in strengthening democracy, integral development, promotion and protection of human rights, and multidimensional security in all member states and that their participation in the activities of the Organization of American States (OAS) and in the Summits of the Americas process should take place in a context of close collaboration among the political and institutional bodies of the Organization and in compliance with the provisions of the Charter of the Organization of American States and resolution CP/RES. 759 (1217/99), “Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT resolutions AG/RES. 1915 (XXXIII-O/03), AG/RES. 2901 (XLVII-O/17), AG/RES. 2902 (XLVII-O/17), AG/RES. 2920 (XLVIII-O/18), AG/RES. 2924 (XLVIII-O/18), AG/RES. 2933 (XLIX-O/19), AG/RES. 2949 (L-O/20), CP/RES. 759 (1217/99), CP/RES. 864 (1413/04), and all prior resolutions adopted on this subject;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALSO Secretary General Directive SG/02/16 of November 22, 2016, which establishes that the participation and cooperation of civil society in the activities of the Organization must be carried out in strict coordination with the Civil Society Relations Section of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity;

TAKING NOTE that since the conclusion of the fiftieth regular session of the OAS General Assembly on October 21, 2020, the Permanent Council has approved 30 civil society organizations for entry to the OAS register, bringing the total number of civil society organizations registered with the OAS to 636; and,

TAKING NOTE ALSO of the holding on September 28, 2021, of the special meeting on the participation of civil society organizations as part of the preparations for the fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly,

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm the commitment and will of the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) to continue: (a) supporting and promoting the registration of civil society organizations and other social actors in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Organization; (b) strengthening and implementing effective forums and mechanisms to generate concrete national and multilateral measures and efforts to enable civil society organizations and other social actors, including women's organizations, to participate in OAS activities and the Summits of the Americas process; and (c) participating in the Dialogue of representatives of civil society organizations and other actors with the heads of delegation, the Secretary General, and the Assistant Secretary General in the framework of the regular sessions of the General Assembly and the Summits of the Americas process, including that of the Ninth Summit, which the United States will host in 2022.

2. To instruct the Permanent Council, the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, and the General Secretariat to continue facilitating the implementation of strategies, forums, and mechanisms for promoting, increasing, and strengthening participation by civil society organizations and other social actors, such as women's organizations, in the Summits of the Americas and OAS activities.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue to invite indigenous peoples and communities of African descent in member states, or their representatives, to participate in the Dialogue of representatives of civil society organizations and other actors with the heads of delegation, the Secretary General, and the Assistant Secretary General in the framework of regular sessions of the OAS General Assembly, in order to enable those representatives to present recommendations and proposed initiatives related to the theme of the General Assembly session.

4. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue, when so requested, to support member states in their efforts to increase and strengthen the institutional capacity of their governments to receive, integrate, and incorporate input and suggestions from civil society and other social actors.

5. To encourage all member states, permanent observers, and other donors, as defined in Article 74 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat of the OAS and in other rules and regulations of the Organization, to consider contributing to the Specific Fund to Support the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities and in the Summits of the Americas Process, created by resolution CP/RES. 864 (1413/04), in order to sustain and promote the effective participation of civil society organizations and other social actors in OAS activities, in accordance with the goals set by the General Assembly and by the Heads of State and Government in the Summits of the Americas process, including the Dialogue of Heads of Delegation, the Secretary General, and representatives of civil society organizations.

6. To instruct the General Secretariat to identify the human resources needed to implement the mandates entrusted by the member states with respect to the Relations with Civil Society Section of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity, and in particular, so that it can effectively coordinate efforts to promote, increase and strengthen civil society participation in OAS activities conducted by all areas of the Organization.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

AG/RES. 2973 (LI-O/21)

SUPPORT FOR AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE SUMMITS OF THE AMERICAS PROCESS^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on November 11, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the mandates and the initiatives emanating from the First Summit of the Americas (Miami, 1994), the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development (Santa Cruz de la Sierra, 1996), the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, 1998), the Third Summit of the Americas (Quebec City, 2001), the Special Summit of the Americas (Monterrey, 2004), the Fourth Summit of the Americas (Mar del Plata, 2005), the Fifth Summit of the Americas (Port of Spain, 2009), the Sixth Summit of the Americas (Cartagena de Indias, 2012), the Seventh Summit of the Americas (Panama City, 2015), and the Eighth Summit of the Americas (Lima, 2018);^{5/}

BEARING IN MIND that the Inter-American Democratic Charter is a key accomplishment resulting from the Summits of the Americas process, based on leaders' commitments at the 2001 Summit of the Americas in Quebec City, and adopted by a special session of the General Assembly in Lima, Peru, on September 11, 2001, which celebrates its twentieth anniversary this year;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the acknowledgment by the Third Summit of the Americas of the function that the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities fulfills in coordinating the efforts of the Organization of American States (OAS) in support of the Summits of the Americas process and in serving as a forum for civil society to contribute to that process, as well as the establishment of the Summits Secretariat; and

HIGHLIGHTING the importance of following-up in a coordinated, timely, and effective manner on the mandates and initiatives of the Summits of the Americas and the important technical support that the OAS and the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG) provide,

RESOLVES:

1. To continue implementing the commitments set out in resolution AG/RES. 2948 (L-O/20) to support the Summits of the Americas process; and to request that the General Secretariat, through the Summits Secretariat, continue to serve as the institutional memory and technical secretariat of this process, advising the host country of the Ninth Summit of the Americas and member states,

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...
 5. The Government of Nicaragua has placed on record its express reservations to the Declaration of Port of Spain of the Fifth Summit of the American, held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, in 2009; ...

when so requested, on all aspects related to the process; and supporting the preparations and technical coordination for the next Summit, to be held in the United States in June 2022 and Summit-related activities associated with the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Inter-American Democratic Charter.

2. To request that the General Secretariat, through the Summits Secretariat, continue:
 - a. supporting follow-up and dissemination of Summits mandates and initiatives, as applicable, including through the involvement of ministerial processes;
 - b. providing member states with support in the implementation of the mandates and initiatives of the Summits and utilization of reporting tools and sources, and advising member states, when so requested, on all aspects related to the process of supporting the follow-up activities to the Eighth Summit, particularly the implementation of the Lima Commitment, and the preparations for and follow-up to the Ninth Summit to be held in the United States in June 2022; and^{6/}
 - c. making efforts to promote and publicize the mandates and initiatives among the stakeholders involved, in order to facilitate their contribution to, and participation in, follow-up and implementation through the available information and communications platforms, including social networks, and the Summits of the Americas Virtual Community.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat, in its capacity as Chair of the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG), to continue coordinating and promoting the implementation and follow-up in JSWG institutions of the mandates of the Summits of the Americas, to hold at least one meeting of agency heads each year to review progress made and plan joint activities, and to report thereon to the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities and to the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG).

4. To urge member states, through the SIRG, to report regularly on the implementation and follow-up of the mandates and initiatives established by the Summits of the Americas process; and to request the member states and organizations constituting the JSWG that have not already submitted their information to the Mechanism for Follow-Up and Implementation of the Lima Commitment to do so.^{7/}

5. That 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; to instruct the General Secretariat to use its resources as needed and to negotiate and raise voluntary funds and other resources from international cooperation and nongovernmental agencies to carry out the activities mentioned in this resolution; and to urge member states to contribute to the funding of those activities.

6. The Government of Nicaragua kindly informs the Heads of State and Government present at the Eighth Summit of the Americas that Nicaragua does not approve the Lima Commitment: “Democratic ...

7. *Ibid.*

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

5. ... and to the so-called Summit of Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, held in 2012; because, during those events, the Heads of State and Government did not discuss – nor did they adopt – the Political Declarations, which included the will of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to show support for the sister Republic of Cuba to participate in said forums unconditionally and on an equal and sovereign footing. We wish to reiterate that the “Summit of the Americas” cannot be held without the presence of Cuba. The mandates and operative parts of the core themes were part of the Political Declarations and, since the latter were not adopted, the former were also rendered not adopted. Nicaragua therefore does not agree with mention being made of these documents and mandates that were not adopted.

The Government of Nicaragua kindly informs the Heads of State and Government present at the Eighth Summit of the Americas that Nicaragua does not approve the Lima Commitment: “Democratic Governance against Corruption,” nor other documents, declarations, communiqués, or resolutions issued by that Summit, because it was not involved in negotiating them.

6. ... Governance against Corruption,” nor other documents, declarations, communiqués, or resolutions issued by the that Summit, because it was not involved in negotiating them.

AG/RES. 2974 (LI-O/21)

INTERNATIONAL LAW^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on November 11, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING resolution AG/RES. 2959 (L-O/20) and all previous resolutions adopted on this topic; and

HAVING SEEN the “Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly, November 2020 – November 2021” (AG/doc.5726/21 add. 1), in particular the section on the activities of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP),

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 and to instruct the General Secretariat to provide the necessary support to those ends.

i. Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the “Biennial Report on the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law” (document CP/CAJP-3585/21), which the Department of International Law of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, within the framework of the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law—as adopted by resolution AG/RES. 1471 (XXVII-O/97) and updated by resolution AG/RES. 2660 (XLI-O/11)—, presented to the CAJP at its meeting of May 20, 2021, and which concerned activities carried out for the promotion and dissemination of international law among member states in collaboration with agencies and organizations engaged in this area,

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...

RESOLVES:

1. To express its appreciation to the Department of International Law for its efforts in the promotion and dissemination of international and inter-American law and to request that it continue to implement the actions contained in the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law and present a biennial report thereon to the CAJP, and to request the Permanent Council to organize a special meeting in 2022 to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Program to enable member states to identify the Program's activities that they regard as priorities for addressing their particular needs and interests.

2. To celebrate with satisfaction the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of declaration AG/DEC. 12 (XXVI-O/96), "Declaration of Panama on the Inter-American Contribution to the Development and Codification of International Law," adopted by the General Assembly in 1996, and to reaffirm, as that declaration did, that the Organization of American States is the principal and irreplaceable forum in which states, on an equal footing, adopt legal provisions in both public and private international law to govern their relations at the hemispheric level.

3. To request the Department of International Law to continue promoting technical training, cooperation, and exchange of knowledge with the ministries of foreign affairs and international development of member states, as well as their respective diplomatic academies, when so requested by the member state concerned, and to continue strengthening the cooperation and exchange activities that it has been pursuing with various academic institutions in the region for the purpose of disseminating the inter-American system.

4. To welcome the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the International Court of Justice and to highlight its work as a forum for the resolution of disputes between States, in a position of sovereign equality, which has been used on several occasions by States in the region.

ii. Private International Law

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the rich exchange of ideas and the results of the special meeting held by the CAJP on June 3, 2021, on promotion of the study of private international law in the Americas, as well as the need to advance new developments in this area that reflect particular circumstances and specific needs in the region,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the CAJP to hold another special meeting to discuss strategies for the Organization to resume its activities in the area of codification and progressive development of private international law. To that end, to request the Department of International Law to prepare in advance a document containing the current state of the body of inter-American law in this area and proposals for possible courses of action to advance the aforementioned strategies, in consultation with member states.^{5/}

5. The United States notes that the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs does not have a mandate in the area of "codification and progressive development of private international law" ...

2. To request the Department of International Law, for the purpose of strengthening the study of private international law, to continue to promote greater dissemination of this subject among public officials of member states and other actors, in collaboration with private international law associations, universities and specialized institutions that work in this area, through events and activities that promote greater knowledge of the inter-American conventions on the subject and “soft law” instruments that address the most recent developments within the Organization such as international contracts, international arbitration, simplified corporations, secured transactions, and access to credit. Within the framework of those efforts, to welcome the project for the establishment of a jurisprudence database on the application of inter-American conventions on private international law initiated by the Department of International Law and the American Association of Private International Law, as presented at the special meeting of the CAJP of June 3, 2021.

3. To request the Department of International Law to explore the possibility of periodically organizing joint meetings with the areas specializing in private international law of the legal offices of the ministries of foreign affairs and other ministries of member states, in order to explore the need and possibility to advance new developments in this area, and in that regard, to request that member states continue to designate points of contact with which the Department of International Law can coordinate.

4. To request states parties to the various inter-American conventions on legal and judicial cooperation, if they have not already done so, to designate the respective central authorities for the purpose of facilitating and promoting such cooperation, or to update the information for the central authorities already designated.

5. To instruct the Department of International Law to continue working in cooperation with other international agencies such as the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, the Hague Conference on Private International Law, and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT), in order to generate common proposals to reactivate activities related to the study and development of private international law and to promote, within those agencies, the work that has been carried out in the inter-American system. At the regional level, to continue to work closely with the regional offices of those forums, including the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Hague Conference on Private International Law, in order jointly to address issues currently being discussed within the expert groups of those forums.

iii. Inter-American Juridical Committee

CONSIDERING the observations and recommendations of the member states on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Juridical Committee, contained in document CP/doc.5675/21 of February 23, 2021;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that during its ninety-eighth regular session held in April 2021, the Inter-American Juridical Committee approved its “Updated Principles of the Inter-American Juridical Committee on Privacy and Personal Data Protection, with Annotations” (CJI/doc.638/21) and recommended the adoption of those Principles by the General Assembly; and

RECALLING that Permanent Council resolution CP/RES. 1149 (2278/20), “Women’s Representation and Participation in the OAS,” condemns the multiple forms of discrimination and violence against women in the Hemisphere, in particular the lack of access for women to full

participation in the public sphere in both representation and decision-making positions, and insists that it is the responsibility of member states to generate conditions and spur opportunities for the nomination and/or appointment of women in the organs and entities of the Organization of American States (OAS),

RESOLVES:

1. To highlight the importance of the latest contributions of the Inter-American Juridical Committee (CJI) to international law, including the “Updated Principles on Privacy and Personal Data Protection”; the “Model Inter-American Law 2.0 on Access to Public Information”; the “Report on International Law and Cyber Operations of States”; the “Recommendations for the adoption of domestic legislation regarding the regulation of fireworks and pyrotechnic articles in the Americas”; the Declaration on neuroscience, neurotechnologies, and human rights: new legal challenges for the Americas; and the “Guide to the Law Applicable to International Commercial Contracts in the Americas,” and to request that the Department of International Law, as its technical secretariat, continue to disseminate these documents and those pertaining to other topics on its work agenda as widely as possible, including through virtual media.

2. To adopt the “Updated Principles on Privacy and Personal Data Protection” and to request the Department of International Law to disseminate them as widely as possible.^{6/}

3. To request the CJI to continue making progress with its agenda and to renew the invitation to member states to comment in a timely manner and to the extent that their possibilities allow on requests for information from the CJI in order to facilitate the preparation of the reports contained in that agenda.

4. To request the CJI to consider more topics concerning the analysis of private international law on its work agenda in order to reactivate activities related to the development of this area at the regional level and, if necessary, to propose to the General Assembly the updating of some of the legal instruments in this area and/or propose new convention or protocol texts that may be submitted for consideration by the General Assembly that reflect the practice of States and the particular circumstances and specific needs of the region in relation to private international law and new communication technologies and transmission of data and information.

5. To recognize the need to move forward with the administrative and budgetary strengthening of the CJI to ensure that it can fulfill the multiple mandates that it receives, and to reiterate to the General Secretariat the request that it reinstate the position of executive secretary of the CJI or establish alternative means for such administrative and budgetary strengthening.

6. To request the CJI to continue cementing its collaboration with different international organizations, academia, and civil society, highlighting the importance of continuing to strengthen exchanges with the legal offices and counsels of ministries of foreign affairs in member states in order, thereby, to gather the opinions of member states on developments in the work of the CJI and, at the same time, to thank the member states whose legal counsels participated in the joint meeting with the CJI held in August 2021.

6. The United States remains concerned that the “Updated Principles on Privacy and Personal Data Protection” includes many concepts drawn from privacy regimes established outside of the Americas, ...

7. To amend Article 5 of the Statutes of the CJI to incorporate gender parity, such that it reads as follows:

In the election of the members of the Committee, gender parity and an equitable geographical representation shall be taken into account, insofar as possible. No two members may be nationals of the same State.

iv. Justice Studies Center of the Americas

RECALLING that Permanent Council resolution CP/RES. 1149 (2278/20), “Women’s Representation and Participation in the OAS,” insists that it is the responsibility of member states to generate conditions and spur opportunities for the nomination and/or appointment of women in OAS organs and entities,

RESOLVES:

1. To amend Article 11 of the Statute of the Justice Studies Center of the Americas to incorporate gender parity, such that it reads as follows:

Article 11

[...]

The Board of Directors should reflect the various legal systems in the Americas and, to the extent possible, different sectors of the legal affairs community. It shall be endeavored to ensure gender parity in the election of its members.

v. International Law in Cyberspace

REAFFIRMING the applicability of international law to cyberspace and the importance of implementing voluntary, non-binding norms for responsible State behavior in cyberspace, as adopted by the United Nations in the consensus reports of the Group of Governmental Experts and Open-Ended Working Group on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security; and

RECALLING the report of the CJI titled “Improving Transparency: International Law and State Cyber Operations” (CJI/doc.615/20 rev. 1),

RESOLVES:

1. To take note with satisfaction of the course proposal prepared by the Department of International Law at the request of the CJI on “International Law and Cyber Operations,” and to request that it undertake the training activities requested by member states in that regard.

2. To request the General Secretariat, the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission, the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, and the Inter-American Defense Board to coordinate actions to support the efforts of member states and offer them assistance in implementing

the framework adopted by consensus through the pertinent United Nations resolutions for responsible state behavior in cyberspace.

3. To request the Department of International Law to disseminate as widely as possible and foster reflection on the CJI report “Improving Transparency: International Law and State Cyber Operations,” including through the organization of a course for public officials from member states that so request.

vi. Promotion of the International Criminal Court^{7/}

EMPHASIZING the universality of the Rome Statute as an instrument to put an end to impunity and of the International Criminal Court (ICC), as the first and only permanent, independent, impartial international criminal court that investigates, tries, and punishes those responsible for the most serious crimes against the international community, such as genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression;

TAKING NOTE of the most recent developments within the ICC, including the election of a new prosecutor and six new judges, as well as the “Final Report of the Independent Expert Review of the International Criminal Court and the Rome Statute System”;

REAFFIRMING the primary responsibility of states to investigate and prosecute those responsible for the above-mentioned crimes and their commitment to support the ICC by upholding and preserving its principles, integrity, independence, and impartiality, particularly from actions by states that would limit its actions, those of its officials, and those who collaborate with it, so that it can fulfill its mandate; and

RECOGNIZING the importance of the “Exchange of Letters Between the International Criminal Court and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American State for the establishment of a Framework Cooperation Arrangement” signed in 2011, the cooperation agreement signed by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the ICC in 2012, and the “Memorandum of Understanding between the International Criminal Court and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights” signed in 2016, as well as the need for effective and comprehensive cooperation between States, international and regional organizations, and civil society to strengthen the ICC,

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate its support for the International Criminal Court (ICC), which acts in favor of the common commitment to combat impunity for the most serious crimes of concern to the international community, in accordance with the Rome Statute, complementary to domestic criminal jurisdictions.

2. To welcome the new prosecutor and the six judges of the ICC elected for the 2021-2030 term.

7. Although the United States is not a party to the Rome Statute, we underscore our firm and deep commitment to justice and accountability, particularly for the worst crimes known to humanity. ...

3. To encourage those member states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as appropriate, the Rome Statute of the ICC and its Agreement on Privileges and Immunities.

4. To urge member states that are party to those instruments to adopt, in accordance with their domestic law, the necessary measures to ensure their full and effective implementation.

5. To call upon those member states that are parties to the Rome Statute and urge those member states that are not parties, as well as international and regional organizations, to strengthen cooperation and assistance with the ICC in keeping with applicable international obligations, particularly with regard to arrest and surrender, production of evidence, protection and transfer of victims and witnesses, and enforcement of judgments, in order to avoid impunity for those responsible for committing the crimes over which it has jurisdiction.

6. To express its satisfaction with the cooperation between the OAS and the ICC in the area of international criminal law, to urge the General Secretariat to continue strengthening that cooperation within the sphere of its competencies, and to request the Permanent Council, within the framework of the CAJP, to hold, in the second half of 2022, a technical working meeting for member states to discuss measures that could strengthen cooperation with the ICC , particularly within the framework of the Review Mechanism to evaluate the recommendations contained in the “Final Report of the Independent Expert Review of the International Criminal Court and the Rome Statute System.” The ICC, international organizations, academia, national authorities, and civil society will be invited to cooperate and participate in that working meeting.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

5. ...as this paragraph suggests. While the Inter-American Juridical Committee has a mandate “to promote the codification and progressive development of international law” (Article 99 of the OAS Charter), that body is a technical body, unlike the CAJP, and has been given the “broadest possible technical autonomy” (Art. 102 of the OAS Charter). Accordingly, any activities in this area should be undertaken, if at all, by the CJI, not the CAJP.

6. ...many of which are inconsistent with privacy rules and principles that exist under U.S. law. Additionally, the United States remains concerned that the “Updated Principles on Privacy and Personal Data Protection,” if adopted broadly, could unduly restrict cross-border digital commerce and stifle innovation.

7. ... The United States recognizes that the International Criminal Court can play a meaningful role in bringing those responsible for the worst atrocities to justice. To that end, we have provided - and continue to provide - specific support to the ICC in connection with certain investigations and prosecutions, consistent with U.S. law and policy. The United States understands that any OAS support rendered to the ICC would be drawn from specific-fund contributions rather than the OAS regular budget.

AG/RES. 2975 (LI-O/21)

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

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on November 11, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

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

MINDFUL that the Charter of the OAS provides in its preamble “that representative democracy is an indispensable condition for the stability, peace and development of the region” and proclaims that one of the essential purposes of the Organization is “to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention”;

RECALLING resolution AG/RES. 2958 (L-O/20) and all previous resolutions adopted on this subject;

HAVING SEEN the “Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly, November 2020-November 2021” (AG/doc.5726/21 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 further the essential purposes of the Organization enshrined in the Charter of the OAS,

i. Consumer protection in the Americas

BEARING IN MIND the impact that COVID-19 has had on the health and safety of consumers in the Americas, and that consumer protection is a highly relevant issue in the context of the pandemic and the post-pandemic world; and

CONSIDERING that protection of life, health, and physical safety in the consumption or use of goods and services is recognized as a fundamentally important right of the consumer or user, as is protection of their economic interests through fair, non-discriminatory, and non-abusive treatment by suppliers of goods and services,^{5/}

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...
 5. The United States notes that there are no recognized “rights of the consumer” under international law, including international human rights law, and understands this language to refer to...

RESOLVES:

1. To request the OAS Consumer Safety and Health Network (CSHN) to develop guidelines for consumer protection in the area of product safety that contribute to the early detection of unsafe consumer products or those that present an unforeseen risk in the post-pandemic context, in collaboration with international agencies, the private sector, civil society, and academia.

2. To invite States that are not members of the CSHN to join it and to urge States that are members, as well as permanent observers, to contribute to the voluntary fund to ensure the sustainability of the work of the CSHN.

ii. Rights of children and adolescents

REAFFIRMING that the principles of active participation by children and adolescents, nondiscrimination, their best interests, and their rights to life, survival, and development, as well as the exercise of the right to express an opinion, in accordance with their age and maturity, on decisions that concern them and the experience of being heard by adults are enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and are basic components in building a responsible citizenry; and

NOTING with appreciation the progress made in this regard by the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN), particularly the creation of subregional networks of children and adolescents; the operation of the network of child and adolescent correspondents; the publication and dissemination of relevant documents on how children and adolescents experience the effects of the pandemic on their rights and quality of life; the participation of the IIN in the OAS Permanent Council on the occasion of Americas Children and Youth Day in accordance with resolution CP/RES. 1081 (2313/2017); and the ongoing coordination with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Inter-American Court of Human Rights aimed at enhancing their communication with children and adolescents,

RESOLVES:

1. To acknowledge the work of the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) in promoting the participation of children and adolescents and the exercise of their freedom to seek, receive, and disseminate information, as well as in maintaining channels for intergenerational dialogue by practicing coexistence based on democratic values that respect diversity of opinions and encourage equality, equity, and non-violence, freedom, justice, and peaceful settlement of disputes.

2. To reaffirm the need to establish an environment of respect, diversity, and inclusion for the ethnic and cultural identity of all children and adolescents and to raise the visibility of children and adolescents with disabilities or functional diversity and the importance of adopting measures to fully include them, as a prerequisite for the existence and reproduction of a pluralist dimension in democratic society, especially given the disparities that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. To welcome the progress made with the mandate to expand and consolidate bodies within the OAS in which children and adolescents participate, and to encourage further efforts in that regard.

iii. Follow-up on 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 steps backward;

UNDERSCORING that the preamble of the Charter of the OAS establishes that representative democracy is an indispensable condition for the stability, peace, and development of the region, and that one of the purposes of the OAS is to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention;

REAFFIRMING that promotion and protection of human rights are a basic prerequisite for the existence of a democratic society, and recognizing the importance of the continuous development and strengthening of the inter-American human rights system for the consolidation of democracy in our region;

EMPHASIZING 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";

RECOGNIZING the importance of upholding the commitments and principles of the Inter-American Democratic Charter as crosscutting pillars that guide the comprehensive response of our States to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, with the full and equitable participation of all women in the political structures of their countries, especially those with decision making authority, in order to achieve effective and lasting solutions;

EXPRESSING SATISFACTION at the special meeting on "Democratic Resiliency, the Role of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and the Summits Process," held by the CAJP in coordination with the Summits Secretariat and the CISC on May 4, 2021, at which recommendations were shared for consideration by the Summit Implementation Review Group in advance of the Ninth Summit of the Americas;

EMPHASIZING the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, adopted by acclamation at the special session of the OAS General Assembly in Lima, Peru, on September 11, 2001; and

REAFFIRMING all the mandates contained 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 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 to promote strengthening of democratic institutions, values, practices, and governance, the fight against corruption, the consolidation of the rule of law, the achievement of the full enjoyment and effective exercise of human rights, and the reduction of poverty, inequality, and social exclusion, through cooperation measures in these fields among member states.

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 that so request.

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 in the region; and to instruct the Permanent Council to promote, in broad consultation with member states for recommendations as to panelists, the holding of a special meeting to continue the dialogue on the effectiveness of the Inter-American Democratic Charter and its challenges in terms of protection and preservation of democracy in the Hemisphere, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first regular session on the results of that special meeting.

5. To promote all women's political participation, including as elected leaders, technical experts in elections, engaged civil society leaders, and informed voters.

iv. Technical cooperation and electoral observation missions^{6/}

EMPHASIZING the fundamental contribution of the OAS in the strengthening and development of electoral processes and systems in member states through OAS electoral observation missions and technical cooperation in electoral matters, when so requested by member states and consistent with the Inter-American Democratic Charter, the Declaration of Principles for International Observation of Elections, and the Code of Conduct for International Election Observers;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the importance of strengthening democracy and the valuable experience of member states and of their electoral bodies and authorities, and recalling that member states are responsible for organizing, holding and guaranteeing free and fair electoral processes;

REITERATING the recognition to the staff of the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation, whose professionalism and dedication have enabled the OAS to maintain the deployment of electoral observation missions during the COVID-19 pandemic;

TAKING NOTE OF the "Electoral Good Practices Guide for Strengthening Electoral Processes" published by the General Secretariat;

RECALLING the "Guide to Organizing Elections during a Pandemic" published by the General Secretariat; and

RECALLING ALSO resolution AG/RES. 2905 (XLVII-O/17), "Strengthening Democracy," which lifts the restrictions that prevent the Regular Fund of the Organization from being used to cover costs related to electoral observation missions,

6. Bolivia takes a serious and firm view of this section based on its experience in 2019, when the team of auditors operating under the Agreement signed between the Government of the Plurinational State of ...

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the fulfillment by the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO) of the mandate to prepare the “Electoral Good Practices Guide for Strengthening Electoral Processes” with input from electoral authorities in the region, and to encourage the General Secretariat, while informing the member states, to update and improve it, when necessary, with its own input and that of electoral bodies and authorities of member states.

2. To request the General Secretariat to update, as necessary, the measures contained in the “Guide to Organizing Elections during a Pandemic” and to continue disseminating that document to member states that so request.

3. To instruct DECO to update the “Manual for OAS Electoral Observation Missions,” taking into account the valuable experience and good practices of the electoral authorities of the member states, as well as other recognized international standards in this area, and to share the result of this process with the member states so that they may make the observations and suggestions they deem pertinent for consideration by DECO.

4. To invite donors to continue providing support to enable the deployment of electoral observation missions and for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the reports of said missions which may address electoral justice, gender, political financing, electoral organization, media, underrepresented groups, electoral technology, and political and legal systems.

5. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue its efforts to raise funds to ensure the financial sustainability of electoral observation missions, and to continue strengthening, in that context, efforts to support rationality, transparency, austerity, and accountability.

v. Strengthening cadastre and property registry in the Americas amid the COVID-19 pandemic (2021)

CONSIDERING the sections “Strengthening cadastre and property registry in the Americas” in resolutions AG/RES. 2927 (XLVIII-O/18) and AG/RES. 2931 (XLIX-O/19), “Strengthening Democracy,” which recommend that the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management, continue supporting efforts by member states that so request to strengthen their cadastre and property registry management and to share experiences and good practices that will advance the regional agenda on this matter;

MINDFUL of the multidimensional effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and of the need to address its impacts, among others, on weakened local economies and to provide public services to citizens, including cadastre and property registry;

TAKING NOTE of the 2019 activity report of the Inter-American Network on Cadastre and Property Registry (RICRP) delivered at its Sixth Conference and Assembly held virtually on December 4, 2021, and at the virtual meeting of the CAJP on February 25, 2021; and

THANKING the Government of Peru for its organization of the Sixth Conference and Assembly of the RICRP in 2020, in collaboration with the World Bank and the General Secretariat, as

well as the Dominican Republic —as Chair— and Colombia, Honduras, Jamaica, México and Paraguay, as representatives on the Executive Committee of the RICRP for 2021,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management, to continue its support as Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Network on Cadastre and Property Registry (RICRP), by promoting activities, programs, and projects to strengthen cadastre and property registry in the Americas amid the COVID-19 pandemic, disseminating their contribution to the process of economic and social recovery in the region, building partnerships, and engaging in cooperation for their implementation, including training for cadastre and property registry agencies in the region, sharing experience and knowledge among them, and exchanges of experience in remote attention to citizens and the virtualization of cadastres and registries.

2. To reaffirm the importance of intensifying efforts and promotion of experience sharing among national cadastre and registry agencies with a view to advancing cadastre and registry management, as well as their collaboration with other public and private-sector institutions and civil society. Together with the effort to improve territorial cadastre-registry databases, to consider ongoing maintenance and updating of cadastres and registries in the region; and to urge member states to contribute to the creation of a basic regional guide of best practices in the digitalization of the procedures and services of the cadastres and registries with users, and the Department for Effective Public Management to support the development of those guidelines.

3. 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 experience to strengthen not only cadastre and registry management amid the COVID-19 pandemic, but also digital transformation, through the use of traditional and, in particular, emerging systems, databases, and technological models; and to instruct the Department for Effective Public Management to conduct the biannual survey of cadastre and property registry and to report its findings to the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP).

4. To reiterate the invitation for all member states to attend the Seventh Annual Conference and Assembly of the RICRP, to be held in person and virtually in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic from November 1 to 4, 2021, with the support of the Real Estate Registry of the Dominican Republic as RICRP Chair.

vi. Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Other Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas

BEARING IN MIND that cooperation among authorities with responsibilities in the area of justice is one of the priority areas of the OAS and that the Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Other Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA) has consolidated itself as the hemispheric political and technical forum in the areas of justice and international legal cooperation, which are 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 REMJA process and the implementation of its conclusions and recommendations,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its satisfaction with the results of the Eleventh Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Other Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA-XI), held virtually, with Ecuador as the host State, on May 18 and 19, 2021; to thank Ecuador and, in particular, the Office of the Attorney General for the successful organization of that meeting; to endorse the “Conclusions and Recommendations of REMJA XI,” the text of which is contained in document [REMJA-XI/doc.2/21 rev. 1](#); and to instruct the Department of Legal Cooperation of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, in its capacity as Technical Secretariat of the REMJA, to carry out the mandates entrusted to it, within the resources allocated.

2. To welcome the fulfillment of REMJA mandates during the COVID-19 pandemic with the support of the REMJA Technical Secretariat, such as the organization of regional training workshops and webinars on various topics, including cybercrime and cryptocurrencies.

3. To welcome the creation by REMJA-XI of a new working group of experts from the Ministries of Justice or other Ministries or the offices of Attorneys General of the Americas with the mandate to develop recommendations on or actions to strengthen the REMJA process, in order to engage in timely and appropriate follow up on the recommendations and conclusions adopted by REMJA.

4. To instruct the Permanent Council to convene the meetings of the REMJA working groups, within the available resources, and to request the REMJA Technical Secretariat to provide technical support for the holding of those meetings.

5. To request the 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 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.

vii. 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, as 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,” adopted in Lima, Peru, in April 2018, related to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and its Follow-Up Mechanism (MESICIC), as well as the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption [AG/RES. 2275 (XXXVII-O/07)]; and the “Recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of States Parties of the MESICIC” (MESICIC/CEP-IV/doc.2/15 rev. 1),

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm the commitment of member states to resolutely prevent and combat corruption, further transparency in public management and in public-private relations, promote accountability, and continue effectively implementing the recommendations of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC).

2. To express its appreciation for the work of the Committee of Experts of the MESICIC—with the support of the Department of Legal Cooperation as Technical Secretariat of that Mechanism—in initiating its sixth round and carrying out the work on the review process within the framework of said round for Paraguay, Peru, Costa Rica, and Mexico, in the context of the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic and according to the timetable adopted.

3. To express its satisfaction with the continued strengthening of the MESICIC as a forum for cooperation and exchange of best practices, information, experience, and significant developments in member states in their prevention and fight against corruption, as has occurred in the context of the virtual meetings of the MESICIC Committee of Experts and the webinars held during the COVID-19 pandemic.

4. To instruct the Department of Legal Cooperation of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, in its capacity as Technical Secretariat of the 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.

5. To instruct the Technical Secretariat of the MESICIC 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.

6. To urge the Technical Secretariat of the MESICIC 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.

7. 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 continue developing measures to facilitate the identification of opportunities and the offering of technical cooperation to the States Parties that so request, through the use of the capacities of the Inter-American Cooperation Mechanism for Effective Public Management (MECIGEP).

8. 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,” 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 fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly.

9. To recognize the progress made by the MESICIC in implementing the mandates mentioned in paragraph 8, in particular the consideration of proposed indicators to stamp out impunity for acts of corruption and the increase in activities to promote synergies with other international anti-corruption mechanisms, such as those of the United Nations, the Group of States against Corruption of the Council of Europe, the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

10. To urge member states to take effective measures to recover stolen assets, combat tax avoidance and evasion, counter money laundering and illicit financial flows from corruption, identify beneficial owners, and monitor closely the management of public procurement and contracting processes.

11. To encourage member states and permanent observers to cooperate and support the funding of the MESICIC in order to ensure that it meets its objectives, recognizing the difficulties that an OAS budget shortfall can entail for the work of MESICIC.

viii. Inter-American Program of Judicial Facilitators

RECOGNIZING the importance of the work done by judicial facilitators, even during the COVID-19 pandemic, including in the most remote and disadvantaged communities, as an appropriate vehicle for bringing peace and harmony to the population and for promoting access to justice, strengthening the institutional framework by coordinating communication between community members and national institutions; and

CONSIDERING that the Inter-American Program of Judicial Facilitators is moving into a new phase, establishing new activities and outlining its objectives in an effort to streamline the work being done by national facilitator services in States that are part of the Program,

RESOLVES:

1. To invite member states to support the new phase of the Inter-American Program of Judicial Facilitators (IPJF) and, within that framework, enhance the following activities: streamlining the operations of national judicial facilitator services, strengthening and support, ongoing training and capacity building, and dissemination of content and activities.

2. To request the General Secretariat, in collaboration with the IPJF and subject to available resources, to evaluate and measure the impact of the services provided under the Program, in order to identify which of the mechanisms implemented have produced the best results and greatest benefits for the communities where the IPJF operates, especially the most vulnerable ones, in order to share best practices, lessons learned, and technological capacities among the national judicial facilitator services and thus support efforts to facilitate the identification of needs, priority issues, direct benefits to communities, and coordination with national standards and the IPJF.

3. To urge the General Secretariat, together with the IPJF, to help states identify new functions for judicial facilitators and to find opportunities for community mediation to have a more positive impact on access to justice for communities.

ix. Public management strengthening and innovation in the Americas

CONSIDERING that democracy is essential to social, political, and economic development for the peoples of the Americas and that effective public management, respect for human rights, an inclusive and safe civic environment, promotion of transparency, openness, inclusion—including digital inclusion—and combating corruption are vital components for democracy to be fully exercised;

REAFFIRMING the commitments made in the Lima Commitment adopted by our Heads of State and Government at the Eighth Summit of the Americas, held in Lima, Peru, in April 2018, especially those relating to strengthening democratic institutions, promotion of policies on integrity and transparency, open government, e-government, open data, and public procurement, gender equity and equality, empowerment of women, and involving a diversity of vulnerable groups in the definition of measures to strengthen governance and combat corruption; as well as recognizing the importance of creating synergies between the various international forums that exist for the issue;

RECOGNIZING the importance of the activities of the Department for Effective Public Management being pursued, when necessary, in coordination with the Inter-American Commission of Women, given the latter's promotion and protection of the rights of all women and gender equity and equality;

REAFFIRMING the importance of transparency in government and of a culture of lawfulness with citizen participation and accountability mechanisms 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;

AWARE of the adverse impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the citizens of our region, especially women, girls, and other persons belonging to vulnerable groups; and given that information and communication technologies are essential tools for governments to respond effectively to the negative effects stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic by facilitating care and accessibility for citizens and for public services to be able to operate remotely; and

UNDERSCORING the potential of digital transformation and the open government approach for strengthening democracies in the Hemisphere and delivering a sustainable, resilient, and inclusive recovery from the pandemic,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the member states to promote codes of conduct and protect an inclusive and safe civic environment, to respect human rights and with high standards of ethics, probity, transparency, and integrity in the public sector by supporting public awareness and training efforts in these issues and taking as reference the recommendations contained in the "Guidelines for the Management of Policies for Probity in the Public Administrations of the Americas."

2. To instruct the General Secretariat to strengthen the School of Governance so that, as resources permit, it may support national and local public institutions in member states that so request, through training and education programs designed to enhance democratic governance that respects human rights, inclusive governance, gender equality, empowerment for women and other marginalized groups, ethical practices, probity, institutional transparency and integrity, access to justice, innovation, citizen participation, and accountability to citizens, as well as programs to enhance public innovation capacities focused on people-centered design, multidimensional analysis, co-creation, use of evidence, and program management and evaluation, among other aspects.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management, to continue supporting member states that so request, in the implementation of policies for open government, e-government, interoperability, open data for the development of the digital economy and digital transformation based on the value of open data, fiscal transparency, administrative streamlining, open budget, electronic public procurement and contracting systems, and public registry of state suppliers, among other aspects, as well as the training and professionalization that public servants need in public innovation to ensure that such interventions are relevant and sustainable, taking into account that these issues are critical to the COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery—in view of the adverse effects—and call for the participation of civil society and other stakeholders.

4. To request the Department for Effective Public Management to continue to support the member states' efforts to strengthen their effective public management, including by means of exchanges of experience through MECIGEP and, subject to the availability of resources, establishing a program of internships and secondments under the Department for Effective Public Management with the member states to share experiences in organization, process management, and improvement of public services.

5. To urge the member states to promote public innovation as a one of the key pillars of their transformation, by encouraging a new design, implementation, and management approach with a focus on the joint crafting of solutions to priority, crosscutting public-sector problems and by creating and measuring innovation capacity in their institutions and public servants.

6. To urge member states to participate in the Inter-American Award for Innovation in Effective Public Management as a mechanism for recognizing, encouraging, organizing, and annually promoting public management innovations being pursued in the region, through their respective public institutions for public innovation.

7. To request that the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management, as Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Network on Government Procurement, continue to support the strengthening of the national government procurement and contracting systems of the member states, by implementing policies and practices in data analytics and use, integrity, innovation, sustainability, efficiency, and professionalization, in order to engineer effective models to promote proper accountability and greater participation and collaboration with civil society and the private sector.

8. To promote open, inclusive, and accessible government and digitization of public services for people in the region, so as to provide virtual or in-person access to public institutions to pursue administrative procedures and limit the need for citizens to appear physically at those institutions.

9. To invite member states, through the School of Governance, to promote and encourage universities and higher education institutions to train professionals in public management in order to supply the trained human resources needed at various levels of government.

10. To encourage member states to share established standards for holding public office so as to make public service transparent and encourage a culture of lawfulness, inclusion, equity and integrity in public office, with a view to strengthening governance and the fight against corruption.

x. Open, digital, inclusive, and transparent government

REAFFIRMING the commitment of member states to the open government model and recognizing the considerable value of regional cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, such as the Network of e-Government Leaders of Latin America and the Caribbean (GEALC Network) in developing, disseminating, and implementing best practices and lessons learned in digital government in the Americas to support the processes of institutional development and trust, and its progress in terms of the maturity levels of digital government in the region;

CONSIDERING that the COVID-19 pandemic and its health, social, and economic impact, have underscored the vital importance of e-government and open government to ensuring that States are efficient, effective, modern, transparent and responsive to the needs of their citizens, as well as at their service, so as to implement public policies for collective well-being;

CONFIRMING the potential of digital transformation and the open government approach for strengthening democracies and bringing about a sustainable, resilient, and inclusive recovery, as reaffirmed at the Sixth Ministerial Meeting on eGovernment and the Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the GEALC Network through the commitment on “Digital Transformation for Economic and Social Revitalization”;

CONVINCED that the digitalization of government processes, procedures, and services, to place citizens at the center of its priorities, and the comprehensive incorporation of technologies into government operations enables continuation of the state-citizen relationship, even in times of crisis; and

REITERATING that the open government principles are a vehicle for strengthening democracy, reassessing public institutions and measures, and restoring public trust in the State,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states to continue promoting multilateral and bilateral open-government and digital-government cooperation initiatives and to support digital inclusion and a resilient and inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic for all, in order to ensure full and effective participation and equal opportunities for women and other groups in a situation of vulnerability.

2. To invite member states to actively participate in the Network of e-Government Leaders of Latin America and the Caribbean (GEALC Network), particularly in its working groups.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management—and, when necessary, in collaboration with other stakeholders such as the Inter-American Development Bank—to strengthen the GEALC Network as a mechanism for cooperation to drive exchanges among public institutions in all branches and at all levels of government, for the purpose of implementing e-government best practices in the Americas, and to promote policies and the use of digital technologies to advance transparency, participation and accountability, citizen-centered digital services, less red tape, and streamlined procedures.

4. To urge the General Secretariat to provide, through the Department for Effective Public Management, advisory services, support, technical assistance, and management of funds for member states that so request in implementing the Inter-American Open Data Program adopted by resolution AG/RES. 2391 (XLIX-O/19), the purpose of which is to strengthen open information policies and enhance the capacity of governments and citizens to use open data to prevent and combat corruption.

5. To further urge the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management, subject to available resources, to support member states that so request in implementing open government principles and to promote capacity building, education, technical training activities, and sharing of experiences in open government, open data, and digital government.

6. To encourage member states to engage actively in other cooperation activities in open government, particularly the Open Government Partnership, the model of which ensures the joint establishment of concrete commitments with direct civil society participation, monitoring, and dialogue and allows for the identification of opportunities for collaboration on projects to strengthen democracy.

7. To recommend that member states enhance the digital skills of public servants and include a digital innovation and user-experience focus in researching, designing, developing, and operating digital services.

8. To urge member states to incorporate and promote digital literacy and citizenship strategies for individuals to learn and develop skills to exercise their rights and obligations in the digital space, as a key arena for participation, inclusion, and adoption of digital services.

9. To call on member states to promote secure and standardized data interoperability and digital signature mechanisms to help foster cross-border information sharing, in accordance with the applicable legal and regulatory frameworks in each country.

10. To invite member states to participate in the Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the GEALC Network, to be held in Panama City on November 18 and 19, 2021.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

5. ... any consumer rights that may exist under domestic law, where applicable.

6. ...Bolivia and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States, in an unlawful and unethical move, issued a biased and illegal 13-page “Preliminary Findings Report” at 4:05 a.m. on Sunday, November 10, 2019. This was not provided for in the Agreement signed with the Bolivian state, nor was validated by the latter. The Report furthermore contained a series of statements and disregard for the truth, which altogether fomented the *coup d'état* in Bolivia and the consequent egregious human rights violations, according to the IGIE-Bolivia Report.

AG/RES. 2976 (LI-O/21)

PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS^{1/2/3/4/5/6/7/}

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on November 11, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

REAFFIRMING the norms and general principles of international law and those contained in the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), international human rights law, and international humanitarian law, binding inter-American instruments on the subject, as well as the rights enshrined in the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, the American Convention on Human Rights, as pertinent; and the important role played by the organs of the inter-American human rights system in promoting and protecting human rights in the Americas;

RECALLING declarations AG/DEC. 71 (XLIII-O/13) and AG/DEC. 89 (XLVI-O/16), as well as resolution AG/RES. 2961 (L-O/20) and all previous declarations and resolutions adopted on this subject;

HAVING SEEN the “Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly, November 2020 - November 2021” (AG/doc.5726/21 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 further the essential purposes of the Organization enshrined in the Charter of OAS,

i. Autonomous official public defenders as a guarantee of access to justice for women in vulnerable situations

RECALLING that the General Assembly took note of the Principles and Guidelines on Public Defense in the Americas, unanimously adopted by the Inter-American Juridical Committee in resolution CJI/RES. 226 (LXXXIX-O/16);

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...
 5. The State of Guatemala declares that it promotes and defends the human rights recognized in international covenants, for all its citizens, in accordance with the Political Constitution of the Republic ...
 6. The Government of Saint Lucia supports all efforts aimed at the promotion and protection of the rights of all citizens and remains committed to its obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights ...
 7. Jamaica remains committed to the principle of equality of treatment of all its citizens in accordance with its Constitution and the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms. Jamaica takes note of ...

RECALLING ALSO the report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) “Violence and Discrimination against Women and Girls: Best Practices and Challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean”;

CONSIDERING General Recommendation No. 1 of the Committee of Experts of the Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (MESECVI) on self-defense and violence against women under with Article 2 of said Convention;

NOTING that Regulation 9 of the Brasilia Regulations Regarding Access to Justice for Vulnerable People calls for the necessary steps to be taken to eradicate discrimination against women in accessing the justice system for the custody of their legitimate rights and interests,⁸ in order to achieve effective equality of conditions. Special attention shall be paid to strengthening mechanisms aimed at protecting their legal assets, their access to due diligence and to speedy and timely proceedings; and

EMPHASIZING the importance of giving special attention to the situation of women in vulnerable circumstances within the context of the current health crisis and, in that regard, taking note of IACHR resolution No. 1/2020, “Pandemic and Human Rights in the Americas,” including the section referring to women,

RESOLVES:

1. To underscore the vital importance of the *pro bono* legal aid service provided by official public defender offices in the Americas—within the scope of their authority—in guaranteeing everyone access to justice, especially all women and girls who have experienced sexual and gender-based violence; as well as in recognizing and promoting their rights without discrimination, particularly their economic, social, and cultural rights, which are indispensable to leading autonomous lives free from violence.

2. To urge member states to incorporate a gender perspective into criminal defense for women who run afoul of criminal laws, especially those who are in custody. Particularly in the context of the pandemic, member states are encouraged to pursue, where appropriate, alternatives to incarceration for women who have been accused and/or convicted, taking into special consideration the impact that this situation has on them and their immediate environment.

3. To urge member states, so long as problems stemming from the context of the COVID-19 pandemic remain, to consider declaring legal assistance and care services for all women in situations of vulnerability to be essential and indispensable. Furthermore, in the event that restrictions on freedom of movement are imposed, to endeavor to ensure alternative avenues for care.

Likewise, to encourage member states to facilitate access to justice for women who have experienced sexual and of gender-based violence, particularly within the scope of the functions of each competent institution, in keeping with the applicable regulations, in an effort to guarantee free, accessible, effective, and specialized legal aid and representation services for women who report

8. Updated version adopted by the Plenary Assembly of the XIX Ibero-American Judicial Summit, Quito, Ecuador, April 201.

situations of sexual and gender-based violence; to facilitate early, urgent, and timely access to justice in order to secure protective measures for them.

4. To request the Permanent Council to instruct the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) to include in its work plan the following issue covered by this resolution, prior to the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly with a view to promoting the sharing of experiences and best practices: “Autonomous official public defenders as a guarantee of access to justice for women in vulnerable situations.” The holding in the first quarter of 2022, a tenth special meeting of the CAJP on best practices employed by each official public defender institution in the region for ensuring access to justice for women in vulnerable situations in defense of their human rights, to be attended by the member states and their respective official public defender institutions that provide legal aid, members of the Inter-American Association of Public Defender Offices (AIDEF), and experts from the academic community, civil society, and international organizations. Attendance by members of the AIDEF must be guaranteed by that same organization.

ii. Human rights defenders

CONSIDERING the primary responsibility of States to respect, protect, promote, and ensure all human rights and fundamental freedoms for everyone, including the right to defend and promote human rights, as well as their deep concern about situations that prevent or impede the work of human rights defenders at the national and regional levels in the Americas; and

UNDERSCORING the important and legitimate work carried out by all those individuals, groups, and communities that engage in non-violent protest, express their opinion, publicly denounce abuses and violations of human rights, provide rights education, seek justice, truth, reparation, and non-repetition, and work to prevent human rights violations, or undertake other activities to promote human rights,

RESOLVES:

1. To recognize the work done at the local, national, and regional levels by human rights defenders and to acknowledge their invaluable contribution to the promotion, observance, and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Americas.

2. To urge member states to take the necessary steps to create the social, economic, political, and other conditions, and to incorporate a comprehensive protection perspective, including differentiated and collective protections, and a gender perspective into the protection of human rights defenders—including journalists and environmental activists, and their family members—and the creation of a safe and enabling environment for the defense of human rights, providing the necessary legal guarantees for all persons, without discrimination of any kind, to be able to enjoy all those rights and freedoms, individually or collectively, especially those who defend and exercise the rights to freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly in contexts where human rights violations are committed.

3. To give special consideration to the situation of all women human rights defenders, who unfortunately face specific risks, including sexual and gender-based violence. It is essential to ensure the rights of all women who act as human rights defenders, since they can often face different kinds of violence and highlight the importance of strengthening the role of the family and the

community as spaces of protection and support, which prevent them from running risks of aggression because of their activities in defense of human rights.

4. To condemn any act intended directly or indirectly to prevent or hinder the work of human rights defenders in the Americas including acts of reprisal, threats, intimidation, harassment, and acts in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

5. To urge member states to continue working on prevention of situations that impede or hinder the work of human rights defenders, as well as protection of their human rights, both domestically and in different international forums, on the understanding that protecting human rights defenders and supporting their work is an essential part of member states' strategies to defend and guarantee human rights, as well as a vital part of the work of international organizations as a whole and of the activities of relevant nongovernmental organizations and civil society in general.

iii. Rights of children and adolescents

CONSIDERING the significant percentage of persons under 18 years of age in the Americas and the inequalities that exist in the region in terms of access to the full enjoyment of their rights;

REAFFIRMING the need to make more effort to honor commitments to the rights of children and adolescents, especially in the context of a pandemic that has triggered, *inter alia*, a health, learning skills, educational, and economic crisis that has severely affected their lives, aggravating existing inequalities;

EMPHASIZING the comprehensive and multidimensional nature of the rights of children and adolescents and the resulting intersectoral and interagency coordination needed to promote and protect them; as well as the importance of having duly qualified institutions in place for that purpose, suitably staffed, sufficiently equipped, and with suitable means and proven experience in this type of task, and taking note of Advisory Opinion OC-17/2002 of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights;

REAFFIRMING the commitment of member states to preventing, punishing, and eradicating all forms of abuse and violence against children and adolescents in all areas of their lives as a hemispheric priority, especially during the pandemic, which, given its importance, should be the subject of a regional analysis geared towards further action; and

BEARING IN MIND that children and adolescents, by reason of their age, should receive protection and special care, for their full and harmonious development as human beings, within a family environment as a natural setting for their growth and well-being,

RESOLVES:

1. In order to promote integral development for children and adolescents, to continue promoting the creation and consolidation of comprehensive systems for promoting and protecting the rights of children and adolescents in the region, with a view to putting universal and inclusive, participatory and diversity-respecting public policies in place to deliver quality services that promote integral development, with special attention to historically excluded and/or groups in vulnerable situations, including groups of children and adolescents fleeing their countries in search of international protection.

2. To encourage member states to continue to focus their joint work on behalf of children and adolescents, with particular attention to the response to the effects of the health crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and on priority issues such as early childhood and adolescence, as well as the need to insist on strengthening promotion and protection of all their rights, taking into account the variety of conditions and circumstances, gender equality without any type of discrimination, and the creation of venues for their opinions to be heard. Likewise, to continue the actions undertaken with respect to challenges such as international child abduction; elimination of violence, trafficking and exploitation, including sexual exploitation; prevention of pregnancy in girls and adolescents; physical and emotional abuse, including in the digital context, where risks must be mitigated and opportunities in education must be enhanced; guaranteeing asylum-refugee procedures in a manner consistent with international law and the corresponding national legislations for those who so request in the face of persecution or human rights violations; and establishing self-protection networks with intergenerational participation, among other forms of organization, with the supervision of parents or caregivers.

3. To recognize the activities of the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN), especially its human-resource education and training initiatives for policies to protect the rights of children and adolescents, with particular emphasis on those in vulnerable situations, as well as its establishment of various working groups within existing resources and the ongoing work carried out to define strategic guidelines and innovative methodologies in operating them.

4. To instruct the General Secretariat, through the CAJP, in consultation with member states and in collaboration with the IIN and other relevant OAS bodies, to present to the General Assembly at its fifty-second regular session a hemispheric study on prevention, eradication, and punishment of abuse and all forms of violence against children and adolescents, which, based on any national evaluation done by States with various inputs, including the report that will be prepared by the IIN, in accordance with the provisions of resolution AG/RES. 2961 (L-O/20), will serve, *inter alia*, to consider the advisability of further action that may include a possible inter-American instrument on the subject, using existing resources.

iv. Strengthening the Follow-up Mechanism for Implementation of the Protocol of San Salvador

HIGHLIGHTING that, to date, 16 member states have ratified the Additional Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights in the Area of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Protocol of San Salvador), Article 19 of which provides that the States Parties undertake to submit periodic national reports on the progressive measures they have taken to ensure due respect for the rights set forth in the Protocol, and that the corresponding standards were established by resolution AG/RES. 2074 (XXXV-O/05) and subsequent resolutions,

RESOLVES:

1. To commend the States Parties to the Additional Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights in the Area of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Protocol of San Salvador) on their commitment and efforts in meeting the deadlines for submitting national reports, and to request those States Parties that have not yet done so to submit promptly the reports covering both groups of rights. Likewise, to encourage States Parties to take into consideration the observations for developing

their public policies to promote economic, social, and cultural rights, including the right to a healthy environment, as recognized in Article 11 of the Protocol of San Salvador.

2. To invite member states that are not yet party to consider, as applicable, signing, ratifying, or acceding to the Protocol of San Salvador.

3. To urge the Working Group to Examine the Periodic Reports of the States Parties to the Protocol of San Salvador, when so requested, to continue and strengthen training and technical assistance to the States Parties to the Protocol of San Salvador in the process of preparing national reports and following up on its observations, and to urge States Parties to share best practices in that regard and consider existing innovative proposals for implementing the recommendations on the Protocol of San Salvador.

v. Human rights of older persons

CONCERNED that, in the context of the health emergency brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, older persons have been particularly affected and discriminated against by reason of their age in the provision of healthcare and health services, and recognizing that older persons have a right to life and dignity in old age, as set forth in Article 6 of the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons; as well as to the highest level of physical, mental, and social well-being without discrimination of any kind, as recognized in Article 19 of said Convention, to which 8 member states are parties;

CONSIDERING this scenario and our commitment to working within the framework of the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030), starting with a concerted, catalytic, and collaborative action involving governments, civil society, international organizations, academia, the media, and the private sector to improve the lives of older persons, their families, and the communities that inhabit the Americas region, and the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought to light; and

BEARING IN MIND that gender-based discrimination, together with other forms of discrimination, exacerbates the impact of the current pandemic and, therefore, adversely affects the lives of older women, increases the risks of exclusion, and places them at greater risk of COVID-19 infection,

RESOLVES:

1. To encourage member states to make the necessary efforts to protect the human rights of older persons in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has increased their vulnerability, as evidenced, *inter alia*, by physical and psychological abuse, isolation, and difficulty of access to priority care.

2. To urge member states to prioritize and accommodate older persons, from a human rights and gender standpoint, in any public health efforts to prevent or address COVID-19, including immunization plans, and to furnish them with adequate and accurate information thereon.

3. To encourage member states to ensure preferential care and universal, equitable, and timely access to quality comprehensive, primary care-based social and health services, especially those that provide care for older persons in vulnerable situations.

4. To urge those member states that have not yet done so to consider, as appropriate, signing, acceding to, or ratifying the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons, bearing in mind that 10 States Parties to the Convention are required for the Committee of Experts to become operational.

vi. Eradication of statelessness in the Americas

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the universal nature of the right of all persons in the Americas to a nationality, as enshrined in Article 15 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in various other international instruments, and in particular, the recognition of this right in the Americas under Article XIX of the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man and Article 20 of the American Convention on Human Rights, and that statelessness is a serious humanitarian problem that has worsened as a result of the health crisis and must be eradicated; and

UNDERSCORING the importance of the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness: 2014-2024; the commitment reaffirmed by the States of the region in the Brazil Declaration and Plan of Action (2014) for the eradication of statelessness by 2024; the commitments adopted at the High-Level Segment on Statelessness in 2019 and the Global Refugee Forum held in 2019, and the significant strides made in the region recently in this area, such as the adoption of protection frameworks for stateless persons and the establishment of statelessness determination procedures in eight countries; the accession to one or both United Nations conventions on statelessness by 12 countries; the adoption of legal and institutional frameworks facilitating naturalization for stateless persons in 6 countries; and the elimination of gender discrimination from nationality laws, among other progress,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm the commitment of member states to preventing and eradicating statelessness in the Americas and to urge member states to press ahead with the actions and strategies set out in the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness (2014-2024) and in the Brazil Plan of Action (2014).

2. To invite member states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations conventions on statelessness, especially during the ceremony commemorating the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness that took place on the fringes of the UN General Assembly held in September 2021, and, at the same time, to adopt or amend their domestic laws, as required, in order to establish fair, efficient, and timely procedures to determine statelessness and grant facilities for stateless persons to be naturalized in a manner consistent with their obligations under international law.

3. To urge member states that have not yet done so to eliminate gender-based and other discrimination from nationality laws in order to eliminate discriminatory and xenophobic practices against stateless persons; to develop appropriate safeguards to prevent statelessness, in particular in the case of children, adolescents, and groups in a vulnerable situation; to promote universal birth registration by increasing registration of births that occur or have occurred in border zones, indigenous

territories, and remote rural areas; to improve data on stateless populations; and to resolve existing cases of statelessness within a reasonable time, in a manner consistent with their respective international rights commitments and obligations, especially in situations resulting from arbitrary denial and deprivation of nationality.

vii. Situation of people of African descent in the Hemisphere and racism

CONSIDERING resolution A/RES/75/314, establishing the Permanent Forum of People of African Descent; Sections ix, “Promotion of the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Related Forms of Intolerance and the fight against all forms of discrimination” and xii, “Situation of Afro-descendent populations in the Hemisphere and racism” of resolution AG/RES. 2961 (L-O/20) “Promotion and Protection of Human Rights”; the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Related Forms of Intolerance; the Inter-American Convention against All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance; resolutions AG/RES. 2824 (XLIV-O/14), “Recognition of the International Decade for People of African Descent,” AG/RES. 2891 (XLVI-O/16) “Plan of Action for the Decade for People of African Descent in the Americas (2016–2025), and CP/RES. 1093 (2144/18), “Inter-American Week for People of African Descent in the Americas”; the Commitment of San José adopted on October 18, 2019, and the points raised by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Network of High Authorities on Policies for Afro-descendant Populations concerning the disproportionate and differentiated impacts that people of African descent have experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the 2021 marks the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states to improve the collection and processing of disaggregated statistical data, incorporating the gender and age perspective and the dimension of intersectionality in the design and implementation of targeted, comprehensive public policies to address the serious labor, health, housing, access to justice, and education inequalities affecting women and men of African descent, in order to address associated and systemic inequalities, as well as the structural causes of systemic racism, while giving special attention to the economic and social challenges that seem likely to emerge in the post-pandemic context and the need to ensure decent living conditions, as well as promoting and respecting the principles of equality and non-discrimination.

2. To urge member states to continue pursuing the goals and commitments adopted in the Plan of Action for the Decade for People of African Descent in the Americas (2016-2025), taking into account the regional report on the status of people of African descent and on the progress made in implementing the Plan, which was prepared by the Department of Social Inclusion of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity; and to continue recognizing and promoting the contributions made by peoples and communities of African descent towards building an inclusive, multicultural society that respects diversity.

3. To encourage member states to consider ratifying the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Related Forms of Intolerance and/or the Inter-American Convention against All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance.

4. To invite those member states that have not yet done so, to join the Inter-American Network of High Authorities on Policies for Afro-descendant Populations.

viii. Promotion of the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Related Forms of Intolerance and the fight against all forms of discrimination

RECOGNIZING the importance of ratifying the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Related Forms of Intolerance,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the CAJP to organize within existing resources a follow-up meeting aimed at gathering input from member states for countering intolerance and discrimination in the region.

2. To invite member states to consider signing, ratifying, or acceding to, the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Related Forms of Intolerance and the Inter-American Convention against All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance, bearing in mind that the two instruments promote coexistence in diversity, which is understood as one of the bulwarks of democratic societies in the Hemisphere.

ix. Protecting human rights in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

RECALLING resolutions 1/2020, 4/2020, and 1/2021 of the IACHR, concerning standards and recommendations to guide states on measures for handling and containing the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the guidelines on the human rights of persons with COVID-19, and resolutions CP/RES. 1151 (2280/20) and CP/RES. 1165 (2312/21) of the Permanent Council, emphasizing that health is a public good that ought to be realized by all States on an equal basis and without discrimination; and considering that the pandemic has generated differentiated and intersectional adverse effects on, and exacerbated preexisting gaps in, the enjoyment of human rights of all sectors of the population, in particular for people and members of populations in situations of special vulnerability and/or historically subjected to discrimination,

RESOLVES:

1. In order to tackle the pandemic and its consequences, to include a gender perspective in measures to promote the enjoyment of rights and the preservation of health, with a differentiated focus on people and members of populations in situations of special vulnerability and/or historically subjected to discrimination.

2. To promote and protect the enjoyment and exercise of human rights, including the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including for persons with COVID-19, consistent with the principles of equality and nondiscrimination.

3. To promote regional technical and cooperation exchanges that encourage good practices by States as part of measures adopted in the context of the pandemic, including a gender perspective in order to effectively and humanely improve epidemiological responses, seeking and promoting accessibility and affordability—in a participatory, transparent, non-discriminatory way and with the widest possible geographical coverage—of medicines, treatments, vaccines, other health

technologies, quality goods, services, information, and knowledge developed for preventive, curative, palliative, or rehabilitative care of people with COVID-19.

x. Rights of persons deprived of liberty

RECALLING all previous resolutions adopted on the rights of persons deprived of liberty, as well as the reports published by the IACHR on the human rights of persons deprived of liberty, and recognizing the commitment of member states to promoting and protecting the human rights of persons who have been deprived of liberty, as set forth in international instruments and human rights treaties on the subject and those of general scope; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the especially vulnerable situation of persons deprived of liberty in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for measures to guarantee respect for their human rights in institutions used as detention facilities, particularly in the penitentiary and prison system,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm the international obligations of member states to respect, guarantee, promote, and protect the human rights of persons deprived of liberty, paying particular attention to persons facing a death penalty sentence, with a comprehensive and differentiated approach and a gender, human rights, and intercultural perspective, based on the decent treatment of the individual and the principle of equality and non-discrimination, including those who belong to groups in vulnerable circumstances or that have traditionally been discriminated against.

2. To urge member states to continue perfecting their legal, institutional and public-policy frameworks to ensure that conditions of detention are compatible with the dignity of persons and to consider incorporating by law a series of measures as alternatives or substitutes for deprivation of liberty, whose application takes into account internationally recognized standards in this area, as appropriate, adopting a gender perspective and other differential approaches that address groups in vulnerable circumstances and that consider the participation of society and the family in their implementation.

3. To call on member states to strengthen and orient their legal and regulatory frameworks and public policies toward the eradication of torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, and, in so doing, ensure protection for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons deprived of their liberty.

4. To encourage member states, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), and its Rapporteurship on the Rights of Persons Deprived of Liberty to continue the dialogue on good practices with respect to prison and penitentiary policies and in psychiatric institutions, with particular emphasis on strategies and actions to ensure respect, guarantees, and protection for the rights of persons deprived of liberty

5. To encourage international cooperation from states with the efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the United Nations Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and national mechanisms for the prevention of torture within the scope of their competencies, by contributing to the design, promotion, review, and

adoption of national and regional initiatives to respond to the needs of persons deprived of their liberty in the various countries in which they operate.

xi. Protection of asylum seekers and refugees in the Americas

UNDERSCORING the importance of the Brazil Plan of Action: “A Common Roadmap to Strengthen Protection and Promote Sustainable Solutions for Refugees, Displaced and Stateless Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean within a Framework of Cooperation and Solidarity,” adopted on December 3, 2014, as the strategic framework for the protection of asylum seekers, refugees, displaced and stateless persons for Latin America and the Caribbean;

UNDERSCORING ALSO the importance of the Global Compact on Refugees, the work of the Asylum Capacity Support Group, and follow-up on the commitments adopted by a number of member states of the Organization at the first Global Refugee Forum, held in Geneva in December 2019, particularly as regards strengthening asylum and protection capacities, shared responsibilities, and lasting solutions;

RECALLING resolutions AG/RES. 2928 (XLVIII-O/18), AG/RES. 2941 (XLIX-O/19), and AG/RES. 2961 (L-O/20), which refer to the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework, a mechanism that contributes to multilateral initiatives for dialogue and cooperation in relation to asylum seekers, refugees, returnees in need of protection, and displaced persons, comprising Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama;

EMPHASIZING that the region continues to face unprecedentedly complex humanitarian and forced displacement situations, that more than two million people had pending asylum applications at the end of 2020, and that the humanitarian situation has worsened in several countries, including as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

EMPHASIZING ALSO the progress made by several countries in the region in the protection of refugees and asylum seekers, such as the establishment of prima facie refugee status procedures, temporary protection schemes, complementary protection, and differentiated procedures, among others,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states to continue implementing the programs and thematic pillars of the Brazil Plan of Action and, with the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Asylum Capacity Support Group, as applicable; to continue increasing, their national capacities in that regard, so as to enhance their response to the large-scale influx of persons needing international protection, within available resources; and to invite the member states concerned to fulfill the commitments made at the first Global Refugee Forum and to present the progress achieved at the first High-Level Officials Meeting, due to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, on December 14 and 15, 2021, which will identify progress, challenges, and situations where further support and engagement is needed to achieve the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees.

2. To recommend that interested member states continue developing best practices for determining refugee status, based on optimization of the mechanisms for identifying international protection needs in keeping with each person’s profile, risks, and vulnerabilities; strengthening of

systems for identification and referral of cases to national committees for refugees (CONAREs) or equivalent bodies; development of tools for biometric registration and digital application management; establishment of screening systems and expedited, simplified, merged, and special procedures for determining refugee status, or procedures based on the presumption of inclusion or group determination, as appropriate, in accordance with domestic law and enabling in all instances a review of refugee status on a case-by-case basis; promotion of digital identity; and interoperability between systems for the determination of refugee status and national identification and protection systems.

3. To thank the UNHCR and the international community for their technical and financial assistance and call on them to continue supporting the design, financing, and implementation of national projects to strengthen national systems for the determination of refugee status in the countries concerned, as well as their regional training and exchange initiatives for the staff of CONAREs, identification of at-risk person profiles (through country of origin information), exchange of countries' best practices via a regional digital platform, and dissemination of a regional model for the determination of refugee status, all of which are initiatives that should take into account the different realities and particular circumstances of each country.

4. To urge all member states to continue to respect international refugee law, in particular the principle of non-refoulement, and to continue to respect the international obligations and commitments in their operations at the border; to reaffirm the fundamental importance of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) and its Protocol (1967); and to recommend, where appropriate, the application of the regional definition of refugee contained in the Cartagena Declaration on Refugees (1984) to respond to international protection needs identified in various countries of the region, and to take note of the Advisory Opinions OC-21/14 and OC-25/18 of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, in accordance with domestic legislation and international human rights obligations, as applicable. Also, to underscore the complementarity of refugee status with other protection statuses adopted in the region, such as complementary protection or temporary protection, as well as with migratory statuses or regularization processes that involve legal stay arrangements with appropriate protection safeguards for migrants.

5. To reiterate to member states the need to treat refugees, asylum seekers, migrants, and stateless persons with dignity and provide humanitarian assistance with the support, *inter alia*, of international actors, the private sector, and financial entities; to support the adoption of protection measures, including gender-responsive ones; and to promote inclusion in national systems and the search for lasting solutions for persons in need of international protection, particularly those whose vulnerability and situation of risk have increased as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

6. To recognize the constant efforts made by the States that belong to the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS), with the collaboration of the General Secretariat—through the Department of Social Inclusion—and the UNHCR, to respond and attend to the needs of asylum seekers, refugees, returnees with protection needs, and displaced persons, especially amid the COVID-19 crisis and the impacts of natural disasters and climate change.

7. To highlight the contributions provided by the MIRPS Support Platform in mobilizing financial and technical assistance. To underscore the political support necessary to promote continuity, predictability and sustainability of the commitments acquired and the national and regional objectives of the countries in terms of protecting and seeking solutions for these persons. In that regard, to recognize that the Solidarity Event for Forcibly Displaced Persons and Host Communities in Central

America and Mexico, held on June 10, 2021, and organized by Spain, Guatemala, and Costa Rica, was a very positive effort that should be replicated.

8. To urge member states, permanent observers, and other donors to make voluntary contributions to the MIRPS Fund, in order to support the objectives of increasing and strengthening its activities and regional cooperation mechanisms for implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees.

xii. Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women for the promotion of gender equity and equality and the rights of women^{9/10/}

RECALLING Section xx of resolution AG/RES. 2961 (L-O/20) and the importance of the Declaration of Santo Domingo on Equality and Autonomy in the Exercise of Women's Political Rights for the Strengthening of Democracy, the Declaration of Lima on Equality and Autonomy in the Exercise of Women's Economic Rights, resolution CP/RES. 1149 (2278/20), the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP), and the 2019-2022 Triennial Program of Work;

RECOGNIZING that the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated pre-existing gaps, revealing a differentiated impact that is based on gender and socioeconomic situations and which needs to be addressed using a comprehensive, gender, life-cycle approach that covers the interconnection of multiple forms of discrimination, exclusion and inequality, respects and values the full diversity of women's situations and conditions, and takes into account social, economic, environmental, geographic, ethnic, and cultural factors to ensure that persistent inequalities are eliminated;

RECOGNIZING ALSO that the realization of women's rights and gender equality, both in law and in practice, demands the removal of all obstacles to women's access to health services, education, and the promotion of prevention, care, and the eradication of violence against all women and girls, as well as the possible allocation of human and financial resources at the regional, national, and local levels in order for policies, plans, and standards to be effectively implemented; and

TAKING NOTE of the work carried out by the Inter-American Commission of Women in relation to the differentiated needs of women in the COVID-19 context, and of the publications "COVID in the lives of women: Reasons to recognize the differentiated impacts," "Violence against women in the face of measures aimed at reducing the contagion of COVID-19," "COVID in the lives of women: Global emergency of care," and "COVID-19 in the lives of women: Care as investment" as potential references for member states in the management and mitigation of the crisis and the design of public policies and measures for post-COVID recovery,

RESOLVES:

1. To support the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) so that, in keeping with the functions set out in its Statute and subject to the availability of funds, it may provide member states with recommendations, in accordance with the Integrated System of Indicators of

9. Paraguay joins the consensus in the approval of Sections XII and XIII in accordance with its current law, while expressly stating for the record that it rejects those definitions or terms that are ...

10. Trinidad and Tobago is unable to join consensus on Operative Paragraph 2 of this section due to a conflict with existing domestic legislation. The Government of the Republic Trinidad and Tobago ...

Women's Human Rights, for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, especially goal 5 and all its targets, focused on achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls, from an approach that covers the interconnection of multiple forms of discrimination, exclusion and inequality, while respecting and valuing the full diversity of women's situations and conditions.

2. To recognize the need to work to eliminate all forms of gender-based violence and discrimination, ensuring universal access to mental health services and sexual and reproductive health care services, ensuring women's full and effective participation and equal opportunity, for all women, for leadership at all decision-making levels in political, economic, and public life, respecting and valuing the full diversity of women's situations and conditions.

3. To urge the CIM, within the scope of its objectives and available resources, to review the existing gaps, which have widened in the context of the health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, with a view to providing measures and/or strategies to address issues such as recognition of unpaid work, household and care work, as well as the promotion of shared social responsibility, strengthening of social welfare services, and promotion of a life free from domestic and gender-based violence, in order to advance towards equality, empowerment, and the full realization of the autonomy of all women, while respecting and valuing the full diversity of women's situations and conditions.

4. To request the CIM to further strengthen gender mainstreaming through the identification of new sectors and working partnerships and the protection and strengthening of National Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women as guidelines for national equality policies, as well as the strengthening of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP) in all activities of the Organization of American States (OAS), including equal participation for women in decision-making positions in the Organization.

5. To request the Executive Secretariat of the CIM, subject to available resources, to coordinate periodic meetings with the permanent missions to the OAS, aimed at establishing a forum for sharing information with the Commission regarding activities to achieve and promote gender equality and the human rights of women and girls in the region.

xiii. Strengthening the Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (MESECVI) ^{11/}

RECALLING Section xxi. of resolution AG/RES. 2961 (L-O/20), the obligations emanating from the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará), the purposes of the MESECVI, its 2018-2023 Strategic Plan, and the agreements resulting from the Eighth Conference of States Parties to the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI-VIII/doc.134/20 rev. 2) and the Seventeenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI (MESECVI/CEVI/doc.261/20); and

EMPHASIZING its concern at the exacerbated increase in physical, psychological, sexual, and gender-based violence-against women and girls in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic,

11. Paraguay joins the consensus in the approval of Sections XII and XIII in accordance with its current law, while expressly stating for the record that it rejects those definitions or terms that are ...

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate the commitment of the States Parties to the work of the Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (MESECVI) and its purposes and to urge it to generate, within available resources, relevant data and information disaggregated by sex and age and other important standards on the magnitude and extent of the multiple forms of sexual and gender-based violence and discrimination against women and girls in its various manifestations, from an approach that covers the interconnection of multiple forms of discrimination, exclusion and inequality technical cooperation with all sectors in order to achieve gender equality and full access and enjoyment of human rights for all women and girls and adolescents.

2. To urge the MESECVI to analyze the implementation of the recommendations of the Third Multilateral Evaluation Round and to encourage the participation of the States Parties in the Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round by providing data and information pertaining to the indicators transmitted by the Committee of Experts.

3. To instruct the MESECVI to conduct, within available resources, a review to generate dialogue, data, and strategies on gender-based violence, including but not limited to physical, psychological, and sexual violence against girls and adolescents, respecting and valuing the full diversity of women's situations and conditions, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and its possible effects on problems such as child and adolescent pregnancy, and to identify strategies, including with respect to sexual and reproductive health rights and services.

xiv. Program of Action for the Decade of the Americas for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities 2016–2026 and support for the Committee for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities

RECALLING the commitments made in the Inter-American Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities and the Program of Action for the Decade of the Americas for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, the importance of commemorating International Day of Persons with Disabilities, the World Down Syndrome Day, World Autism Awareness Day, and all those dates that highlight the duty to protect and promote the rights of persons with disabilities, including groups in vulnerable situations, especially situations of gender-based violence; and

RECOGNIZING that the nature of some disabilities may put individuals at increased risk of infection, and that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have exacerbated the vulnerability of persons with disabilities, aggravating pre-existing barriers to their equal access to essential public services, healthcare, education, employment, information and communication technologies, social protection, and the rights to which all persons are entitled without any discrimination,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states to combat structural discrimination against persons with disabilities in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and to adopt measures consistent with international human rights obligations, in order to address their specific needs in current responses, as well as in preparedness for possible health emergencies, with actions to protect persons with disabilities

so that they can exercise their rights on equal terms without discrimination, including measures aimed at ensuring access under conditions that enable telework; measures to ensure their safety and protection in situations of risk or emergency, particularly for persons with disabilities who also belong to other groups in vulnerable situations, especially situations of gender-based violence; and measures guaranteeing their access to the highest attainable standard of health without discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as to information necessary for disease prevention and treatment, among others.

2. To encourage member states that are not party to the Inter-American Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (CIADDIS) to consider acceding to said Convention, in order to intensify regional efforts for inclusion of and non-discrimination against persons with disabilities; to take into account the conclusions of the Committee for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (CEDDIS) on progress and challenges in the region with regard to the inclusion of persons with disabilities, following completion of the evaluation cycle for the Third National Report on implementation of the CIADDIS and the Program of Action for the Decade of the Americas for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities (PAD); and to encourage member states that are party to the CIADDIS to implement the recommendations put forward by CEDDIS in its evaluations, by sphere of activity, and to make voluntary contributions to the specific fund to support the operations of CEDDIS and its Secretariat and to the Specific Fund for the Mixed Working Group for Monitoring and Follow-up on Implementation of the PAD.

3. To highlight the work of the OAS Group of Friends of Persons with Disabilities, welcome new member states, and encourage other countries to join its work.

4. To instruct the Department of Social Inclusion, in its capacity as Technical Secretariat of CEDDIS and the area that promotes programs for social inclusion of persons with disabilities, to carry out—within available resources, in coordination with member states, and with the support of the General Secretariat— initiatives to disseminate and promote the rights of this group and their full participation, with collaboration from persons with disabilities and other actors.

5. To urge the General Secretariat, to take the necessary steps to mainstream the inclusion of all persons with disabilities within the Organization as well as through its actions, and in accordance with international human rights obligations, ensuring the full and effective participation of organizations of persons with disabilities in this process; and to mark International Day of Persons with Disabilities, which falls annually on December 3, with activities that contribute to the full recognition, visibility, exercise and enjoyment of their rights.

xv. Human rights and the environment ^{12/}

RESOLVES:

1. To renew the mandates set forth in section xiv of resolution AG/RES. 2961 (L-O/20), with a view to the consideration of the topic in the first half of 2022. ^{13/}

12. “Human rights and the environment” of resolution AG/RES. 2961 (L-O/20), which takes note of a right to live in a healthy environment and urges additional members states to consider signing, ratifying, or ...

13. In connection with the aforesaid section xiv, paragraph 3, of resolution AG/RES. 2961 (L-O/20), ‘Human rights and the environment,’ the Republic of Chile notes that it has not signed the Regional ...

xvi. Human rights and prevention of discrimination and violence against LGBTI persons ^{14/15/16/17/18/19/}

RECOGNIZING the efforts made by member states in the fight against violence and discrimination against all groups in vulnerable situations in accordance with their international human rights obligations, and within the framework of development plans and public policies of each State;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that despite such efforts, lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex (LGBTI) and gender diverse persons continue to be subjected to violence and degrading medical practices, including conversion therapies in some countries of the region and discrimination based on their sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, and sexual characteristics;

RECOGNIZING that trans persons, especially trans women, are in a situation of particular vulnerability as a result of the combination of various factors such as prejudice, exclusion, discrimination, and violence in public and private spheres;

CONSIDERING with special concern that violence against children including adolescents manifests itself both in the public and private spheres, for various reasons, as a consequence of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and/or expression and sexual characteristics;

CONSIDERING ALSO that, although the COVID-19 pandemic has affected everyone, its spread and consequences, as well as the measures adopted to combat them, affect specific groups such as LGBTI persons differently;

TAKING NOTE that the specific human rights violations and abuses commonly suffered by intersex persons may involve, *inter alia*, irreversible sex assignment and genital modification surgeries without informed consent; non-consensual sterilization; excessive and/or coercive submission to medical examinations, photographs, and exposure of genitalia; lack of access to medical information and medical histories; delays in birth registration; and denial of services or health insurance;

TAKING NOTE ALSO of the work and contributions of the IACHR's Office of the Rapporteur for the Rights of LGBTI Persons and, in particular, its reports "Violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex persons in America," of November 2015, and "Progress and challenges towards the recognition of the rights of LGBTI persons in the Americas," of December 2018, of the

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14. The Government of Barbados states that this section of the resolution contains a number of issues and terms which are neither reflected in its national laws nor the subject of national consensus ...
 15. The Republic of Paraguay reiterates its commitment to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international conventions concluded on the subject reaffirming the provisions...
 16. The Republic of Honduras declares its commitment to human rights and international conventions and, with respect to the provisions contained in this resolution, expresses its reservations regarding those ...
 17. The Government of Saint Lucia remains committed to its obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and related international conventions to which Saint Lucia is signatory.
 18. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is unable to join consensus on the approval of this section of the resolution. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines promotes and defends human rights and reaffirms the ...
 19. Trinidad and Tobago is unable to join consensus on this section due to a conflict with existing domestic legislation. The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago remains firmly committed...

Working Group of the Protocol of San Salvador (GTPSS) and of the Department of Social Inclusion of the Secretariat of Access to Rights and Equity; and

REAFFIRMING the authority of member states to implement their national policies in accordance with the principles defined by their respective national constitutions in accordance with universally recognized international human rights law,

RESOLVES:

1. To condemn, in accordance with international law, and the American Convention on Human Rights when applicable, violations and abuses of human rights, discrimination, speeches and manifestations of hatred, incitement and acts of violence motivated by prejudice against persons by reason of their sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, and sexual characteristics in the Hemisphere, as well as medical discrimination and degrading medical practices.

2. To urge member states to continue strengthening their institutions and public policies to eliminate the barriers faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex (LGBTI) persons in the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as to adopt measures to prevent, investigate, hold accountable, punish, and eradicate violence and discrimination against persons based on their sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, and sexual characteristics, and to ensure that victims of violence and discrimination have access to justice under conditions of equality.

3. To urge member states to take urgent measures to promote and protect LGTBI persons' full enjoyment of all human rights, including equality before the law, as well as to generate, where appropriate, institutional mechanisms to support their families, considering the pandemic context, and to guarantee access without any discrimination to equitable, timely, and quality health services.

4. To urge member states to adopt measures to include LGBTI people in economic development and guarantee their equal access to the labor market.

5. To urge member states to adopt measures that ensure effective protection for intersex persons and to implement policies and procedures, as appropriate, that guarantee that medical practices with respect to intersex persons respect human rights.

6. To instruct the Permanent Council to organize, within existing resources and in coordination with the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity, a special meeting on human rights and prevention of discrimination and violence against LGBTI persons in the Americas, with special attention to access to health care for trans and gender-diverse persons in the context of the pandemic.

7. To request from the IACHR, subject to the availability of resources, a follow-up report on "Violence against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Persons in the Americas" (2015) and that, in collaboration with other bodies and agencies, such as the Pan American Health Organization, it present a report on medical discrimination and degrading medical practices, especially in relation to intersex people, as well as a report on the situation of gender identities in the region.

xvii. Observations and recommendations on the 2020 annual reports of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Inter-American Court of Human Rights^{20/}

RECOGNIZING the work of the IACHR and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to support the observance, protection, and promotion of human rights in fulfilling their functions to address situations of human rights violations, according to the principles of subsidiarity and complementarity,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm the commitment of the member states to the inter-American system for protection of human rights.

2. To encourage those member states that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying, or acceding to all the inter-American human rights instruments, particularly the American Convention on Human Rights.

3. To reaffirm the importance for the Organization of maintaining a sustainable financial budget allocation that allows the IACHR and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to fulfill all their mandates and continue their work.

xviii. Strengthening follow-up on recommendations of the IACHR

BEARING IN MIND that the current international human rights agenda calls for dialogue on mechanisms to guide member states on ways to advance policies and measures to promote observance of human rights in the Hemisphere;

BEARING IN MIND ALSO that on June 10, 2020, in cooperation with Paraguay, the IACHR made the Inter-American Recommendations Monitoring System (Inter-American SIMORE) available to the public as an online computer tool that compiles recommendations made by the IACHR through its various mechanisms and serves as a conduit for sharing and receiving information on those recommendations; and

NOTING that on July 2, 2021, the IACHR Impact Observatory was launched,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the effort undertaken by the IACHR, in cooperation with a number of member states, to put the Inter-American Recommendations Monitoring System (Inter-American SIMORE) and the IACHR Impact Observatory into operation, in order to underscore the importance of dialogue with the member states on the recommendations, within the scope of its functions.

2. To invite the IACHR to hold a coordinated dialogue with member states with a view to committing to the sharing of information and best practices to enable the design of strategies, plans, and programs in this area to the extent that their national capabilities allow.

20. Nicaragua has been internationally recognized for its dedication to peace and for being the safest country in the region, the one that has most rapidly reduced poverty and inequality, the one with the ...

3. To encourage member states and other stakeholders to activate Inter-American SIMORE accounts and to publish information relating to follow-up, as well as to make use of the IACHR Impact Observatory.

xix. Follow-up on the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and on the Plan of Action on the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2017–2021)^{21/}

BEARING IN MIND the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Plan of Action on the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2017-2021); resolution AG/RES. 2898 (XLVII-O/17), “2019, International Year of Indigenous Languages”; and resolution AG/RES. 2934 (XLIX-O/19), “Effective Participation of Indigenous Peoples and People of African Descent in Organization of American States Activities”; and resolution 74/135 adopted on December 18, 2019, by the United Nations General Assembly, which proclaims the period 2022-2032 as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, to draw attention to the critical loss of indigenous languages and the urgent need to preserve, revitalize, and promote indigenous languages and to take urgent steps at the national and international levels; and

CELEBRATING the holding of inter-American weeks for indigenous peoples,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states, the General Secretariat, and the institutions of the OAS to take all necessary steps to implement the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Plan of Action on the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2017-2021), and the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022-2032).

2. To urge member states and permanent observers to contribute to the Voluntary Contributions Specific Fund to support implementation of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Plan of Action on the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2017-2021).

3. To continue to entrust the General Secretariat with organizing a meeting of high-level authorities of member states responsible for policies on indigenous peoples, with broad and effective participation by representatives of the indigenous peoples of the Americas and other international and regional agencies; to promote opportunities for dialogue on challenges in connection with the rights of indigenous peoples; and to consider options for the mandate, format, and costs of the potential mechanism for institutional follow-up on the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as envisaged in its Plan of Action (2017-2021).

4. To extend the Plan of Action on the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2017-2021) for an additional period (2022–2026) in order to ensure its due follow-up and implementation, given the obstacles imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

5. To reiterate the importance of coordination and cooperation among member states in order to continue supporting the holding of activities to mark Inter-American Week for Indigenous Peoples in the Americas.

21. The United States recalls the distinction between human rights, the beneficiaries of which are individuals, and collective rights, the beneficiaries of which are peoples. The United States ...

6. To promote the highest possible level of protection for the rights of indigenous peoples in the region, including indigenous women and girls, and the individual and collective right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, as well as to ensure access without discrimination to all services, including health care and health services. Likewise, to promote actions so that inclusive rights-focused responses to the COVID-19 pandemic respect and protect the rights of indigenous peoples.

7. To promote and protect, within the framework of member states' international human rights obligations, the rights of indigenous peoples against organized-crime actions that could worsen their vulnerability, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

xx. Universal civil registry and the right to identity^{22/}

CONSIDERING that the recognition of people's identity facilitates the exercise of the right to a name, nationality, civil registration, family relations, and juridical personality, as well as of other rights enshrined in such international instruments as the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man and the American Convention on Human Rights, and taking into account that the member states have pledged to redouble their efforts to provide everyone with access to a legal identity, especially through birth registration, in order to meet target 16.9 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to ensure that everyone has a legal identity,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the General Secretariat, through its Universal Civil Identity Program in the Americas (PUICA) and the Latin American and Caribbean Council for Civil Registration, Identity, and Vital Statistics (CLARCIEV) to continue providing assistance to those member states that so request for the strengthening of their civil registration systems in order to ensure the protection and upholding of the right to identity, the universal registering of births, deaths, and other changes and deeds related to civil status, and of interconnections between registration systems and national identity systems in order to ensure legal identity for everyone, and thereby strengthen the protection of all human rights, particularly those of populations that are vulnerable, displaced, and/or historically subject to discrimination, as well as prevent and eradicate statelessness and allow universal and equitable access to essential public services.

2. To urge all member states to promote, in keeping with their domestic laws, access for all persons to identity documents by implementing effective and interoperable civil registration, identification, and vital statistics systems, including simplified, free, and nondiscriminatory procedures that are accessible to everyone and respect cultural diversity, taking particular care with the protection of personal information and adopting a holistic and differentiating approach that takes account of gender, age, and rights.

22. The United States notes that the preambular paragraph and the first operative paragraph of this section reference "rights" that do not exist in customary international law or in any ...

xxi. The power of inclusion and the benefits of diversity

RECALLING that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent, and interrelated; that everyone is entitled to enjoy those rights without any distinction; and that the principle of non-discrimination promotes the exercise of those rights without discrimination of any kind;

RECALLING ALSO that, through the Declaration of Asunción “Development with Social Inclusion” (2014) all the States of the Americas have articulated the imperative to promote fair, equitable, and inclusive societies;

NOTING that inclusion is a prevailing and crosscutting theme of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its pledge that “no one will be left behind,” in particular SDG 16, which calls for the promotion of peaceful inclusive societies and the provision of access to justice for all through effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions;

NOTING WITH ALARM that from across the region there continue to be reports of acts and expressions of exclusion, xenophobia, racism and discrimination in multiple forms;

REAFFIRMING that the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family are the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace, and that social inclusion is an essential precondition for the full realization of human dignity, respect for human rights, sustainable development and lasting peace in our democratic societies; and

HIGHLIGHTING WITH SATISFACTION that on April 8, 2021, the CAJP held a special meeting at which member states heard from experts, shared lessons learned, and exchanged good practices to advance the goals of this resolution concerning good practices undertaken by governments and civil society actors to promote and sustain a culture of inclusion,

RESOLVES:

1. To recognize inclusion as the full and meaningful participation of all persons, without discrimination of any kind, in economic, social, cultural, civic and political life.
2. To reaffirm that inclusion is a precondition to the full realization of every person’s unique potential and that inclusive democratic societies value and respect diversity as a source of strength and recognize such diversity as beneficial for the advancement and welfare of their populations.
3. To urge member states to continue their efforts to build more inclusive societies by:
 - (a) adopting, implementing, maintaining, and improving inclusive legislation, public policies, programs, services, and institutions, and
 - (b) sustaining a culture of inclusion by supporting civil society initiatives that bridge differences, foster mutual understanding, and promote greater respect for diversity of backgrounds, perspectives, and identities.

4. To uphold inclusion as a foundational principle of democracy, comprising the full and meaningful participation of all persons in civic and political life, including, as appropriate, in open, free and fair elections; inclusive and accountable public institutions and policy development; equitable representation and participation of a population's diversity in politics and public institutions; safe civic spaces; free and uncensored media, both offline and online; and digital inclusion—from internet connectivity to digital literacy—which is necessary for informed and engaged democratic citizens.

5. To request the CAJP to organize, within existing resources and in coordination with the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity, a special meeting where member states may share lessons learned and exchange good practices to advance the goals of this section, with a special focus on aspects identified in paragraph 3(b), and that the CAJP present the results of that meeting to the Permanent Council prior to the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly.

xxii. Promotion of the rights to freedom of expression, of peaceful assembly, and of association in the Americas

RECALLING resolution AG/RES. 2928 (XL VIII-O/18), which recognizes the right to freedom of thought and expression in electoral contexts, including on the Internet;

CONSIDERING that the exercise of the right to freedom of thought and expression is one of the cornerstones of a democratic society and performs an essential function in holding political parties and leaders accountable, ensuring robust and open debate on matters of public interest, safeguarding the right of citizens to receive information from a variety of sources for the exercise of their political rights, and reaffirming the obligations of States to ensure the enjoyment of human rights;

CONCERNED that situations exist in the Hemisphere that directly or indirectly prevent or hinder the work of governments, individuals, or independent democratic groups, or organizations working to promote and protect democracy, human rights, fundamental freedoms, and gender equality, among others; as well as with recent events in the Hemisphere; taking into account that COVID-19 has posed challenges to the exercise of the rights to freedom of assembly and of association;

UNDERSCORING the importance of access to a variety of sources of information and ideas and opportunities to disseminate them, and that a variety of media should exist in a democratic society; and

BEARING IN MIND that the Internet has become a key space for exercising freedom of expression and has contributed to the instantaneous dissemination of information, ideas, and opinions, and taking into account the challenges this represents for human rights,

RESOLVES:

1. To call on member states to respect and fully protect the rights of all individuals to assemble peacefully and associate freely, and to take all necessary steps to ensure that any restrictions on the free exercise of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, including on the Internet, are in accordance with domestic legislation and international human rights obligations, as applicable.

2. To request that the CAJP hold, within existing resources, a special meeting prior to the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly, at which member states may share lessons learned and exchange best practices on freedom of peaceful assembly and of association.

xxiii. Right to freedom of conscience and religion or belief

RECALLING Section xviii of resolution AG/RES. 2941 (XLIX-O/2019) and Section xi of resolution AG/RES. 2691 (L-O/20), adopted at the forty-ninth and fiftieth regular sessions of the General Assembly held in June 2019 and October 2020, respectively,

RESOLVES:

To request that the General Secretariat continue to follow up on the mandates contained in resolution AG/RES. 2941 (XLIX-O/2019) and AG/RES. 2691 (L-O/20) and that it organize a regional dialogue on the right to freedom of conscience and religion or belief, ideally in the framework of International Religious Freedom Day on October 27, with input from member states, the IACHR, and religious and civil society actors, in order to discuss best practices, including protecting places of worship; and to request the CAJP to organize, within existing resources, a special meeting where member states may continue to discuss lessons learned and exchange good practices, and that it present the results of that meeting to the Permanent Council prior to the next regular session of the General Assembly.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

5. ...and does not discriminate on any grounds. It also considers that the absence of legal recognition of unions between persons of the same sex or the substantiated refusal to amend the institution of marriage in its legislation do not constitute an unlawful discriminatory practice.

We likewise recognize every person's right to enjoy his or her fundamental freedoms without that requiring us to alter the anthropological foundations of our legal system as a whole. For that reason, Guatemala does not concur with those parts that contravene current national laws and, moreover, reserves the right to interpret the provisions of sections iii, vii, ix, xii, xiii, and xvi.

Guatemala reaffirms its commitment to combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls. It also recognizes and reaffirms the right to life protected in its Political Constitution, which it also recognizes in international covenants. For that reason, it disassociates itself from all references that include abortion.

The State respects the rights and duties of parents, or, where applicable, guardians of children and adolescents, to provide appropriate guidance and advice to enable children and adolescents, as they develop, to exercise the rights recognized in the Political Constitution of the Republic.

6. ...and related international conventions to which Saint Lucia is a signatory. Moreover, the Government of Saint Lucia is guided by the provisions of its Constitution which promotes and protects the human rights, non-discrimination and fundamental freedoms of all persons, and the preservation of the rule of law. All persons are provided the same level of protection in accordance with the Constitution of Saint Lucia.

The Government of Saint Lucia places reservations on all provisions of this resolution that are contrary to its domestic law and those that its domestic laws do not address and will not be bound by any provisions within said provisions.

7. ... Sections X, XII and XVI and joins consensus where national laws allows, however, it is not in a position to agree to those issues in conflict with national legislation or that require national policy guidance.

9. ... in conflict with its laws.

10. ... remains firmly committed to protecting the fundamental rights and freedom of all women in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

11. ... in conflict with its laws.

12. ... acceding to the Escazu Agreement. Although the United States congratulated Latin American and Caribbean states on the adoption of this agreement in 2018, we also expressed concerns at that time regarding certain elements of the Agreement. These concerns remain. Namely, with regard to paragraph 1 of Article 4 of the Agreement, the United States has consistently reiterated that there are no universally recognized human rights specifically related to the environment, such as a human right to a safe, clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.

We are also concerned that certain “principles” listed in Article 3, like the “precautionary principle,” are ill-defined and subject to misinterpretation. We support the precautionary approach as reflected in Rio Principle 15: when faced with threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty is no reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent that damage.

13. ... Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement) that was opened for signature on September 27, 2018, in New York City, for the reasons given to the National Congress and to Chilean public opinion.

14. ... As such, Barbados would not be in a position to meet these requirements. Notwithstanding this, the Government of Barbados remains steadfastly committed to protecting the rights of all from harm and violence, in keeping with the rule of law and the provisions of its Constitution.

15. ... of Title II “On Rights, Duties, and Guarantees,” Chapter III “On Equality,” and Chapter IV “On the Rights of the Family” of the National Constitution and concordant provisions. It therefore expresses its reservation regarding the text of Section xix “Human rights and prevention of discrimination and violence against LGBTI persons.” Similarly, the reference to “gender identity or expression” contained in the paragraphs of this resolution shall be interpreted in accordance with its domestic law.

16. ... articles that are contrary to the Constitution of the Republic of Honduras.

17. ... The Government is guided by the provision of its Constitution which promotes and protects the human rights, non-discrimination and fundamental freedoms of all persons.

Saint Lucia maintains that each and every citizen is entitled to protection against violence and arbitrary discrimination equally in keeping with our belief in the intrinsic dignity of the human person. We will continue to apply these principles in the application of all laws and policies. Saint Lucia is committed to the protection of the family, as a fundamental cell unit of society and in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

18. ... equality of all human beings as enshrined in its Constitution. It is necessary to underscore that some of the terms in this resolution are not defined in the domestic laws of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines or internationally. Accordingly, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines disassociates itself from those terms that are incompatible with and contrary to its national laws, reserving its rights to interpret the terms of this resolution.

19. ... to the promotion and preservation of the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms of all people, as enshrined in the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago.

20. ... greatest access to quality health and education, the one with the highest multiyear average growth, and one of the world’s top five countries in terms of gender parity.

As regards gender equality, in March of this year, UN-Women ranked Nicaragua first in the world with the highest female occupation of ministerial positions at 58.82%, and in fourth place for the proportion of women in parliament, with 48.4%.

Furthermore, according to the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report, in 2020 Nicaragua was ranked in fifth place, surpassing the 90th position that it held in 2007 and the 10th it had in 2016. As the country with the greatest gender equity in Latin America, we have decreased inequality by 80.4% and, according to the World Economic Forum's forecasts, if this progress continues, Nicaragua will completely close the gender gap in 2034.

Nicaragua is a peace- and security-loving country that respects the principles of international law and the right of every nation to settle its internal affairs without external interference of any kind.

In its annual report, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) insists on maintaining a double standard in how it treats human rights in the region, which affects its impartiality and credibility.

Its approach with respect to Nicaragua remains far from reality, with a partial and biased vision, because it minimizes the criminal actions of the terrorist groups that sowed terror among the civilian population in 2018, actions that were aimed at disrupting the constitutional order and that the IACHR calls alleged "peaceful protests."

Between April and July 2018, the Nicaraguan people were subjected to an attempted coup d'état by political groups disguised as nongovernmental organizations with ties to organized crime and financed from abroad, involving kidnappings, acts of torture, extortion, murder, looting, obstruction of public roads, and the destruction and burning of public buildings. This failed coup attempt threatened peace, security, stability, and the economy.

The IACHR's reports and documents repeat unverified false information against the State of Nicaragua and make irresponsible and frivolous accusations without any evidence, despite the constant objective clarification reports that the State has submitted to the Commission.

We demand that the IACHR and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (I/A Court) adhere strictly to their true mission and *raison d'être* as international agencies of the Inter-American System and discharge, in an objective and transparent manner, their duty of serving in good faith the defense of the rights of individuals and peoples.

21. ... further recalls that, with limited exceptions not relevant here, the international human rights obligations of States do not extend to the conduct of private actors. The United States underscores our persistent objections to the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples initially placed on the record in 2007 and further elaborated in our footnote to OAS General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 2888 (XLVI-O/16) of June 15, 2016. In particular, the United States reiterates its view that the focus of the member States of the OAS should be on implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. To the extent the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is discussed herein, the United States notes that the language used should be consistent with the non-binding nature of the instrument.

22. ... international law or in any treaties to which the United States is party. The United States further notes that the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man is a non-binding instrument and that the United States is not party to the American Convention. The United States further understands that OAS General Assembly resolutions do not change the current state of conventional or customary international law. Finally, the United States recalls the distinction between human rights, the beneficiaries of which are individuals, and collective rights, the beneficiaries of which are peoples.

AG/RES. 2977 (LI-O/21)

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND
ITS IMPACT ON THE HEMISPHERE^{1/2/3/4}

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on November 12, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

ACKNOWLEDGING that the peoples of the Americas who continue to face the unprecedented effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on their lives, livelihoods, and economies;

RECOGNIZING WITH ALARM that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable people in the region;

RECOGNIZING ALSO that the economic and social crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic has widened pre-existing social divides and gender gaps;

AWARE that the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the inherent and structural vulnerabilities of small island and low-lying coastal developing states due to their small size, financial- and human-resource constraints, and susceptibility to exogenous shocks;

RECOGNIZING that the COVID-19 pandemic has deepened shortages of and inequities in access to essential medicines, including pharmaceutical products, vaccines, and other health technologies, adversely affecting the response capacity of health systems and limiting the provision of health care services;

BEARING IN MIND that the health crisis has highlighted the heavy dependence of Latin America and the Caribbean on imports of medicines and other health technologies, the vulnerability of global supply chains in emergencies, and inequality in terms of vaccine research, development, and production capability in the Americas;

RECOGNIZING that, overall, the pandemic has deepened regional planning, preparedness, detection, and response coordination weaknesses in the area of public health;

BEARING IN MIND that at the special meeting of the Permanent Council to consider developments in the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact in the Hemisphere, held on September 30, 2021, top global and hemispheric health authorities emphasized the need for coordinated actions to improve the region's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and future health crises;

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...

REAFFIRMING that joint and coordinated hemispheric solidarity and cooperation will help slow and prevent the spread of COVID and contribute to strengthening the regional response and recovery efforts, and recognizing the potential role to be played in that regard by the Organization of American States, the Pan American Health Organization, and subregional health institutions in the Hemisphere, especially the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA);

CONCERNED at the lack of equitable distribution of vaccines, which resulted in developing countries depending on charitable donations;

RECOGNIZING the urgent need to establish production facilities in developing countries that meet the technical requirements for the production of safe, effective, good-quality, affordable vaccines and other health-related technologies, which may be accomplished through regional collaboration and the exchange of relevant scientific and technical knowledge on mutually agreed terms;

CONSIDERING the need to achieve greater political agreement in the region on support for structural-change measures to build resilient health systems that are capable of managing current and future threats, while promoting universal health care access and coverage for their populations;

REAFFIRMING the importance of financing and technical assistance to allow member states, especially the most vulnerable nations, to mitigate the economic losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and to prepare for future pandemics and other threats to health;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT resolution CP/RES. 1151 (2280/20) “The OAS Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic,” adopted by the Permanent Council at its virtual special meeting of April 16, 2020, and resolution CP/RES. 1165 (2312/21) “The Equitable Distribution of COVID-19 Vaccines,” adopted by the Permanent Council at its virtual regular meeting of February 17, 2021;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALSO resolutions CD59.R3 “Increasing Production Capacity for Essential Medicines and Health Technologies” and CD59.R13 “Reinvigorating Immunizations as a Public Good for Universal Health” adopted by the 59th Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) at its session of September 2021; and

EXPRESSING its continued gratitude to PAHO, the World Health Organization, the member states, and regional health agencies, including CARPHA, for their work to protect the health of the peoples of the Americas at all times, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Permanent Council to continue facilitating regular dialogue and updates from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), with a view to strengthening hemispheric coordination and cooperation to effectively combat COVID-19 and address its devastating socioeconomic effects.

2. To urge member states to promote mutual hemispheric solidarity in the development and acquisition of safe, accessible and effective vaccines and other health technologies, and within that framework, to invite member states to support the development of voluntary regional platforms, in alignment with global multilateral efforts, such as the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator,

the Regional Platform to Advance the Manufacturing of COVID-19 Vaccines and other Health Technologies in the Americas, launched by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO); the Technology Transfer for Production of mRNA Vaccines in the Americas initiative supported by the World Health Organization (WHO) and PAHO; and the WHO-supported COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP) initiative.

3. To urge member states to make the greatest possible efforts to continue strengthening public investment in health, which allows for improvement and expansion of national and regional capacities for the development and production of raw materials, vaccines, diagnostic tests and therapeutics, in order to achieve a speedy recovery of regional health sectors and economies, and overcome our region's vulnerability and external dependency during global health emergencies, allowing the achievement of adequate preparedness and response capabilities in our region.

4. To urge member states to take strategic and targeted measures to achieve resilient health systems by rapidly advancing health care access and coverage, addressing structural deficiencies in health systems exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, tackling health inequities and environmental risk factors, and ensuring the adoption and consolidation of innovations introduced in health systems during the pandemic response.

5. To call on member states to apply consistent economic policies that make a sustained contribution to job creation, increased economic productivity, and promoting innovation, including by strengthening digital infrastructure, technologies, and literacy.

6. To call on member states and permanent observers to coordinate common positions in multilateral organizations aimed at jointly facilitating the post-pandemic recovery, with special attention to the economic, productive, and financial difficulties aggravated by the pandemic.

7. To endorse the role of extensive COVID-19 immunization as a global public good and again urge member states and those permanent observers with the capacity to do so to take measures to facilitate the equitable distribution of vaccines in the Hemisphere, considering that accelerating equitable and necessary access to safe, effective, affordable, and good-quality COVID-19 vaccines is a key element in overcoming the emergency.

8. To call on international financial institutions to provide concessionary financing to developing countries,^{5/} particularly small states, based on vulnerability, in order to mitigate economic losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

9. To encourage member states to implement communication and social participation strategies aimed at regaining the population's confidence in vaccines in furtherance of the achievement of immunity in each of them.

10. To urge member states, in accordance with their national realities and priorities within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and, in particular, within the global framework of immunization and international travel requirements, to apply, where appropriate, measures to facilitate the free movement of travelers in line with the International Health Regulations and bearing in mind WHO recommendations and guidance on immunization and travel.

5. The United States believes that the most highly concessional finance should be focused on the countries most in need and least able to mobilize financing from other sources. The Organization of American ...

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

5. ... States is not the appropriate venue for these discussions, and the United States does not consider recommendations made by the Organization of American States on these issues to be binding.

AG/RES. 2978 (LI-O/21)

THE SITUATION IN NICARAGUA^{1/2/3/4/5/6/}

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on November 12, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states that “the peoples of the Americas have a right to democracy and their governments have an obligation to promote and defend it”;

CONSCIOUS OF the resolutions and mandates adopted since 2018, urging maintenance and strengthening of democratic institutions and human rights in Nicaragua, and of the many efforts by the OAS to engage constructively with the Government of Nicaragua in order to assist with political dialogue and electoral reform;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that the Government of Nicaragua has disregarded all recommendations of the OAS and, according to authoritative reports from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, has harassed, restricted, and arrested candidates, parties, independent media, and civil society in the elections process, in contradiction of Articles 2 and 3 of the Inter American Democratic Charter; and

ALARMED at the findings of the IACHR, in its report “Nicaragua: Concentration of Power and the Undermining of the Rule of Law,” published on October 25, 2021, which states that “a police state was also established” through repression, corruption, electoral fraud, and structural impunity designed by the Government to achieve its “indefinite perpetuation in power and maintenance of privileges and immunities,”

RESOLVES:

1. To deplore that the diplomatic and technical initiatives undertaken since June 5, 2018, by the Organization of American States (OAS) to promote representative democracy and the protection of human rights in Nicaragua have been unsuccessful because they were ignored or rejected outright by the Government of Nicaragua.

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...
 5. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines remains in strict adherence to the bedrock principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of states, as enshrined in Article 1 of the Charter of the Organization ...
 6. Intervention of the Delegation of the Government of Conciliation and National Unity of the Republic of Nicaragua in the fifty-first regular session General Assembly of the OAS - Fourth Plenary Session -...

2. To declare that, in the evident circumstances, the elections on November 7 in Nicaragua were not free, fair or transparent and have no democratic legitimacy.

3. To conclude that, based on the principles set out in the Charter of the OAS and the Inter-American Democratic Charter, democratic institutions in Nicaragua have been seriously undermined by the Government.

4. To reiterate its previous calls for the release of all political candidates and political prisoners, the restoration of their democratic rights, and an immediate end to the arrest and harassment of independent media and members of civil society.

5. To instruct the Permanent Council to undertake an immediate collective assessment of the situation, in accordance with the Charter of the OAS and the Inter-American Democratic Charter, to be completed no later than November 30 and to take appropriate action.^{7/}

7. With respect to Operative paragraph 5, the Delegation of Barbados believes that the use of the word “appropriate” is ambiguous and open ended as far as the extent of the actions that can be taken on this matter.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

5. ... of American States, which states that 'the Organization of American States has no powers other than those expressly conferred upon it by this Charter, none of whose provisions authorizes it to intervene in matters that are within the internal jurisdiction of the Member States.' Additionally, in its State-to-State interactions Saint Vincent and the Grenadines respects and is bound by the precepts of the UN Charter which promote non-intervention in the internal affairs of states and the peaceful settlement of disputes, and strongly urges that these principles are obeyed in multi-lateral relations.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore urges the Organization of American States to adhere to these principles and to promote consultation and dialogue in its interaction with the Republic of Nicaragua.

6. ... Honorable Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Delegates of the 51st Session of the OAS General Assembly. Honorable Authorities of the Member States and Governments of Our America. Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General,

Our Country has just finished one of the most beautiful tasks it has undertaken in recent years. This beautiful task not only required a lot of work, preparation, organization, resources and dedication of the various institutions, but above all, THE WILL AND DECISION OF A PEOPLE, who have shouted from the 4 winds, that they want to Live in Peace, work in Harmony and reaffirm UNITY, as an essential premise for Life itself.

Our recently concluded electoral process, in which the democratic and civic spirit of all Nicaraguans was revealed, demonstrated, as we have said previously in different sessions of the Permanent Council of this OAS, that the Nicaraguan Society has embarked on a path of no return towards Democracy, actively participating from the initial bases that cemented this colossal effort.

It is already known that the Political Parties, from the beginning, participated in the formation of ALL THE ELECTORAL STRUCTURES OF OUR COUNTRY, as established by the laws and the Constitution of the Republic. The main actors were also consulted and participated in the debate on the legal framework that regulates the elections. No Party refrained from proposing members in the electoral structures, and all of them were able to accredit their monitors and delegates, all of whom were present at the Vote Stations, before, during and after the voting process and have verified the scrutiny of the votes and the transfer of materials and results, to the various counting centers, for their proper registration.

Honorable Delegates, NO ACT OR INCIDENT OF PROTEST OCCURRED, no act of physical aggression or limitation of the actions of any delegate of the Political Parties. No candidate registered by the parties was attacked or limited during their campaigns. A WORK OF TOLERANCE AND RESPECT, is, was

and will continue to be a constant of a People like ours, which knows War, and therefore, treasures Peace, as a fundamental good, for Life.

The data is already known. More than 65% of the citizens participated in the national elections, through a civil structure that organized the logistical work of the Supreme Electoral Council, with just over 250,000 people, in order to guarantee that Nicaraguans could vote in Peace, Transparency and Tranquility. NOBODY CAN DENY THIS, ABSOLUTELY NOBODY! Unless, he has an interest in justifying, proposing or committing unworthy acts of aggression against our country.

Recently we clearly revealed the events that are planned and developed against our country, and we have energetically denounced those responsible for these attacks. We have shown evidence, motives, causes and methods used, from media malice, to the financing of terrorist groups, all used for aggressive purposes.

Ladies and Gentlemen. The point under discussion today is one of the least eloquent contradictions that can be known. There is NO possible way to deny that the majority of the Nicaraguan People clearly and decisively expressed their desire and will!

Any of the almost three million Nicaraguans who attended to vote, and who saw themselves through the media and in the streets surrounding the more than 3,000 voting centers and above all, the more than 75,000 prosecutors from Political Parties, can certify this unquestionable truth. We all expected the elections to take place in Peace, and that is how they were carried out. IN TOTAL AND ABSOLUTE PEACE.

Each of you can wonder about the state of mind of the Nicaraguans who ratified President Daniel Ortega and Vice President Rosario Murillo. We are encouraged, happy, confident and eager to continue working even more, for Our Nicaragua.

But it is also possible to observe the almost 600,000 compatriots who opted for other political alternatives and who respect the results; they also join us to work for Nicaragua.

It is not just civic awareness, Mr. President, it is a Vision of Peace and Nationhood, a sense of Nicaraguan Identity.

We regret that the authorities of some countries in our region, try to blatantly deny the truth, and adhere to scripts and campaigns that seek to undermine the legitimate rights of the Nicaraguan People, who sovereignly elected their authorities, and persist in proposing documents, which from their very early stages, Our People have declared unacceptable.

Almost three million Nicaraguans have sent a very clear message that what we want is WORK AND PEACE, RESPECT AND UNITY, FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION, SOVEREIGNTY AND SELF-DETERMINATION.

Nicaragua has exercised, exercises and will continue to exercise sovereignly its Rights within the framework of the Laws and Standards of Life of our Peoples. That is why today we come to share our joy at the recent election of our authorities, in a peaceful and transparent manner; but also to demand firmly and vehemently, RESPECT FOR OUR NATION.

The OAS is not our SUPREME ELECTORAL COUNCIL, the OAS does not have the authority to constitute our VOTING STATIONS, OAS officials are not and should not be POLITICAL PARTY MONITORS, the OAS is not an Arbitrator or Auditor of the Electoral Process; each nation establishes these authorities through its laws. When the goal has been to impose the opposite, history has been dramatically painful.

On other occasions we have emphatically expressed our criteria regarding the so-called "recommendations" of the OAS, on schemes for holding elections. We have referred to the dangerous discretions

that can be involved, when a foreign official or representative wants to limit, judge or impose a foreign vision on a Country. Therefore, we demand that they be respectful and refrain from describing an electoral process that is typical of our People and that was overseen by more than 200 international and 9,000 national companions and covered by more than 626 independent national and foreign journalists; certified by more than 75,000 political party monitors; but above all, it was celebrated by almost 3 million Nicaraguans. OUR COUNTRY HAS DEMONSTRATED RESPECT AND THEREFORE DEMANDS RESPECT.

It is not the lie or the repeated aggression, like the one we hear today, it is not the lying platform of terrorist campaigns, of actors on the payroll of foreign governments that will mark our actions; this just does not fit, nor should it be reflected in any of the documents of an organization like this one, which should refrain from gross interference, because with this, it refuses to recognize the obvious truth of all Nicaraguans. The truths that are reliably evident in our country and that sustain our Voice and Our Demands.

Our people are already preparing actions, tasks and plans to undertake new struggles, more ambitious goals for the future and with Energy and Faith in our Most High God. Our Confidence is based on the clarity of our Objectives: Fighting Against Poverty; Promoting equitable participation and expanding economic growth to benefit rural families, giving priority to women, youth, Indigenous and Afro-descendant Peoples, Professionals and Workers; to all sectors of our diverse society, maintaining citizen security and living in Peace, Democracy and Development.

Foreign Ministers and Delegates to this 51st OAS Ordinary Session, Our Country consistently practices a Policy of Peace, Respect and Compliance in Good Faith with the commitments that derive from Treaties, Agreements and Decisions validly adopted, and in which our Country participates. A very clear and recent example of this is the signing of the Border Delimitation Decrees between Nicaragua and Honduras in the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Fonseca. This Treaty is adopted as an expression of compliance with the Rulings of the International Court of Justice in The Hague, on different dates. On October 27, 2021, at the Binational meeting between the Sister Republics of Nicaragua and Honduras, the President of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega Saavedra stated: "This is a step in which we are contributing to the strengthening of the International Court of Justice, which is the instrument that nations have to resolve conflicts. This signature is a contribution to Peace."

Nicaragua complies with its commitments and therefore demands, with the same firmness that others also comply with the Principles of Respect for National Sovereignty, Non-interventionism in the Internal Affairs of States and Self-determination of their Peoples.

In this session of the 51st General Assembly of the OAS, we demand respect for our Right to Live in Peace, since the work and daily effort of Nicaraguan families constitute our beacon of light, our spearhead, to continue advancing.

May the credibility of this organization not continue to be deteriorated and may the objectives of this OAS body, supposedly created to defend and promote the Sovereignty of the Peoples of America, never be forgotten.

NICARAGUA HAS THE RIGHT TO LIVE IN PEACE. FROM NICARAGUA, LAND OF ANDRÉS CASTRO, DARÍO, ZELEDÓN AND SANDINO.

AG/RES. 2979 (LI-O/21)

STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
IN ADVANCING DISASTER RESILIENCE IN THE HEMISPHERE^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on November 12, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECOGNIZING:

That the Western Hemisphere is among the world's most disaster-prone regions and that over 300 million of its citizens live in areas most vulnerable to disasters;

That disasters pose a significant threat to integral human development, public health and safety, and critical infrastructure, affecting the well-being of current and future generations; and,

The need for a broader and a more people-centered approach to disaster risk management and for disaster risk reduction practices to be multi-hazard, multisectoral, inclusive, and accessible in order to be efficient and effective;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that women, persons with disabilities, older persons, children and youth, and groups of people in conditions of vulnerability are often disproportionately affected by disasters, and stressing the need to ensure that their specific vulnerable situations/conditions are identified and addressed in preparedness for response and recovery;

RECOGNIZING:

The primary responsibility of each State for preventing and reducing disaster risk and for engaging in disaster management, including through the voluntary implementation of and follow-up to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, as well as early response and recovery efforts, in order to minimize the impact of disasters and to build resilience, and the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of affected countries which may have limited capacities in that regard; and

The contribution of the priorities agreed upon at the 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction—the first after the adoption of the Sendai Framework—held in Cancun, Mexico, from May 22 to 26, 2017, to the coordinated action of the international community to reduce the risk of damage caused by disasters;

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the Report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...

RECALLING that the Sendai Framework:

- recognizes that disasters have “significant economic, social, health, cultural and environmental impact in the short, medium and long term, especially at the local and community levels;”
- encompasses a broad range of hazard events to include “small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters caused by natural or man-made hazards, as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks”; and,
- recognizes the need for a multidimensional-risk informed approach for preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk through “integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disasters, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience”;

REAFFIRMING the value of implementing the Sendai Framework to ensure the substantial reduction of disaster risk and loss of life, livelihoods, health, and economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of individuals, businesses, communities and countries, and recognizing that implementation of other instruments, such as the Paris Agreement, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development also contributes to reducing disaster risk and advancing disaster resilience;

ACKNOWLEDGING that, consistent with the Sendai Framework, aside from what the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction terms “intensive” and “extensive” disasters, the Organization of American States (OAS) has applied an approach to addressing disaster risk that includes rapid-onset and slow-onset disasters, as adopted in the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development 2016-2021 (PIDS) by resolution AG/RES. 2882 (XLVI-O/16), in the Inter-American Plan for Disaster Prevention and Response and the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance by resolution AG/RES. 2750 (XLII-O/12), and, most recently, by resolution AG/RES. 2952 (L-O/20), particularly in the context of the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;

ACKNOWLEDGING ALSO the priority recommendations contained in the CARICOM Framework Strategy Document: “From Vulnerability to Resilience,” including—with regard to disasters—the urgent need for rebuilding resiliently after hurricanes, as is also applicable to the recurring drought experienced in the Hemisphere;

WELCOMING the new regional and international strategic partners of the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction and encouraging continued coordination in all efforts to assist member states in emergency situations;

RECALLING the commitments expressed in previous resolutions and declarations of the Permanent Council, and reiterated most recently in resolution CP/RES. 1169 (2318/21) and declaration CP/DEC. 73 (2307/20) with respect to the compounded vulnerability caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, to assist member states affected by disasters through financing mobilized to a greater extent from resources provided through public-private partnerships to urgently address the needs for multisectoral recovery and reconstruction, and for achieving resilience;

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION that the ultimate goal of all disaster management activities is to build resilience to make cities and communities inclusive, sustainable and safe from disasters, in order to reduce the disaster vulnerabilities of member states and accelerate the recovery for disaster victims;

BEARING IN MIND the important role to be played by the OAS in complementing, facilitating, and integrating synergies and efforts with global and regional disaster management partners, with its regional instruments, institutions, and initiatives for assisting member states in preparing for, responding to, recovering from, and reducing vulnerability to disasters; and

CONCERNED that the multisectoral impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has weakened member states in their efforts to achieve their sustainable development goals and enhance their capacity for advancing multidimensional security in the Hemisphere,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm its commitment to the full implementation of all the recommendations on the tools and entities of the inter-American system to address disaster management contained in document CIDI/CPD/doc.200/20 rev. 3, in particular, the implementation of a Western Hemisphere database as soon as possible, for the benefit of all member states and international and subregional disaster management strategic partners; and to instruct the Inter-American Council on Integral Development (CIDI), in coordination with the Committee on Hemispheric Security of the Permanent Council, with overseeing the implementation of those mandates entrusted to the General Secretariat.

2. To invite member states, permanent observers, and global and regional disaster management agencies to provide official data, including information on the sharing of knowledge, expertise, lessons learned and good practices available to member states through cooperation, for inclusion in the Western Hemisphere database, to be used in facilitating effective preparation, response, and recovery, and so, in advancing resilience in any country that may be experiencing a disaster.

3. To instruct the Permanent Council and the CIDI to hold a joint hemispheric meeting on disaster resilience in the first quarter of 2022 with the virtual participation of the members of the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR) and subregional disaster prevention and response organizations such as the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEPREDENAC), the Andean Committee for Disaster Prevention and Relief (CAPRADE), the Southern Common Market's Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities on Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management (RMAGIR/MERCOSUR), similar agencies from the United Nations system, and other international organizations, to consider and offer recommendations for more-inclusive, innovative, and integrative measures to improve the effectiveness of the role of the Organization of American States (OAS) in multilateral cooperation on disaster risk reduction, response, recovery, and reconstruction, in order to advance disaster resilience in the Hemisphere.

4. To promote multisectoral integration, cooperation and collaboration within the OAS and the General Secretariat on all measures adopted for implementation under the four pillars of the OAS that advance disaster resilience in the Hemisphere.

5. To request that the General Secretariat further strengthen its outreach to international and subregional disaster management strategic partners, particularly in the IACNDR, in order to complement, facilitate and integrate the implementation of any new and existing measures to advance disaster resilience in the Hemisphere.

6. To encourage member states, in line with the call in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, to promote disaster risk reduction, including prevention, mitigation and preparedness, to ensure rapid and effective response to and recovery from disasters, and to promote international cooperation to build resilience.

7. To call upon member states to continue, as required, adopting and effectively implementing necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of disasters, as well as integrating disaster risk reduction strategies into development planning.

8. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second 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.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that country since April 2019. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Legitimate Government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary-General of its denunciation of the Charter in accordance with Article 143 of the Charter of the Organization of American States and the Charter ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela which ceased to belong to the organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 Representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the 49th, 50th and 51st Regular Sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the 51st Regular Session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any Council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this Fifty-first Regular Session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any Council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for or act on behalf of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

AG/RES. 2980 (LI-O/21)

PLACE AND DATE OF THE FIFTY-SECOND REGULAR SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on November 12, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT Articles 43 and 44 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly relating to the holding of regular sessions of the General Assembly and the determination of the date and place for those sessions; and

CONSIDERING:

That the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) shall hold a regular session each year, preferably during the second quarter; and

That the Government of Peru, by note AG/CP/INF.798/21, has offered to host the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly of the Organization, which is to be held in 2022, as a reaffirmation of its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the OAS and as a demonstration of its firm resolve to continue participating actively in strengthening the Organization,

RESOLVES:

1. To determine that the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly be held in Peru on a date to be determined within the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States.
2. To thank the Government of Peru for its generous offer to host the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly.

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.

AG/RES. 2981 (LI-O/21)

VOTE OF APPRECIATION TO THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA^{1/2/3/4/}

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on November 12, 2021)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States was held virtually in Guatemala City, Guatemala, from November 10 to 12, 2021; and

That in the course of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly the delegations expressed their profound gratitude to His Excellency Ambassador Pedro Brolo Vila, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guatemala, for the skill with which he steered the discussions, which led to the adoption of important declarations and resolutions on issues of high priority on the hemispheric agenda; and

UNDERSCORING the warm welcome extended by the people and Government of Guatemala,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its gratitude to His Excellency Alejandro Giammattei, President of the Republic of Guatemala, and, in particular, to the Guatemalan people, for the warm and generous hospitality that they showed to the participants at the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly.

2. To recognize and commend His Excellency Pedro Brolo Vila, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guatemala, on his able leadership as President of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly.

3. To express its appreciation and gratitude to Ambassador Rita Claverie de Sciolli, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the OAS, the members of the Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the OAS, and the officials from the Guatemalan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, whose efficiency, dedication, and professionalism contributed to the success of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly.

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1. Mexico once more notes with concern inconsistencies and irregularities in the report of the Secretary General on the presentation of credentials of the delegations taking part in the fifty-first regular ...
 2. Nicaragua endorses the statements made by the delegations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the United Mexican States, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia rejecting the improper accreditation of ...
 3. 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 Republic ...
 4. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines places on record its non-recognition and non-acceptance of the credentials of the purported delegation of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic ...

4. To express its appreciation for the work done by the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States in ensuring the success of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which result in acts contrary to international law.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that the accreditation of delegations participating in the General Assembly represents (1) an act of a declaratory nature whose validity issues from the membership granted to the State concerned; (2) is limited to the material scope of the participation of that delegation in the work of the corresponding body; and (3) does not accord special rights to any government or State in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the OAS or international law.

The accreditation of any person claiming to represent the Venezuelan State in the framework of the OAS is an act in breach of international law, since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounced the Charter of the Organization in April 2017, with the result that said Charter ceased to have any effect on that from April 2019 onwards. The legal relationship that Venezuela retains with the Organization is limited, according to the provisions of Article 143 of the Charter, to international obligations pending fulfillment.

The recognition of governments is a sovereign act of States, not of international organizations. The OAS does not possess, nor can it arrogate to itself, powers of collective recognition enforceable as to membership, and therefore any act with such a purpose is beyond the scope of its competence and is null and void.

Therefore, so long as any person remains accredited as Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OAS based on ultra vires acts, Mexico will continue to participate and exercise its prerogatives and rights within its organs, agencies, and entities; however, that should not be construed as acquiescence in the recognition of any government.

Accordingly, Mexico declares that it will exercise its right to maintain or suspend diplomatic relations with any country, without qualifying the right of any nation to accept, keep, or change its governments or authorities and without that impacting its participation as a member state of the OAS, nor does it represent any recognition of governments of the Hemisphere.

Consequently, Mexico reserves the right to question the validity of acts and decisions emanating from the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization when they are contrary to international law, and to express that such acts and decisions are not enforceable upon it where they overstep the scope of competence of the Organization, without prejudice to its rights and obligations as a member state of the Organization.

2. ... persons attempting to usurp the legal representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro Moros. We request that this rejection be registered in all documents to be discussed at this fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly.

3. ... of Venezuela properly notified the Secretary General of its denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in accordance with Article 143 of said Charter, which ceased to be in force with respect to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which ceased to belong to the Organization on 27 April 2019.

Antigua and Barbuda 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 representative to the OAS and did not accept the credentials of the officials intending to represent the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the forty-ninth, fiftieth, and fifty-first regular sessions of the General Assembly.

Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda notifies all member states and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that until further notice, it will not consider itself bound by any declaration or

resolution of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization that includes the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and/or in which an absolute or two-thirds majority vote is attained with the participation of a purported representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

4. ... of Venezuela. In 2017, the duly elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Organization of American States its written denunciation of the Charter of the Organization of American States and, in keeping with the provisions of Article 143 of the said Charter, ceased to be a member of the Organization.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not support resolution CP/RES. 1124 (2217/19) of April 9, 2019, which, in a procedural travesty, seated the purported representative. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore advises this General Assembly that, until further notice, it reserves its full rights with regard to being bound by any declaration or resolution emanating from this fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly or any future declarations or resolutions of any council or organ of the Organization when these include the participation of any person or entity purporting to speak for, or act on behalf of, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and whose vote enables the attainment of a majority.



THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

The Organization of American States (OAS) is the world's oldest regional organization, dating back to the First International Conference of American States, held in Washington, D.C., from October 1889 to April 1890. At that meeting the establishment of the International Union of American Republics was approved. The Charter of the OAS was signed in Bogotá in 1948 and entered into force in December 1951. The Charter was subsequently amended by the Protocol of Buenos Aires, signed in 1967, which entered into force in February 1970; by the Protocol of Cartagena de Indias, signed in 1985, which entered into force in November 1988; by the Protocol of Managua, signed in 1993, which entered into force on January 29, 1996; and by the Protocol of Washington, signed in 1992, which entered into force on September 25, 1997. The OAS currently has 35 member states. In addition, the Organization has granted permanent observer status to 72 states, as well as to the European Union.

The essential purposes of the OAS are: to strengthen peace and security in the Hemisphere; to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention; to prevent possible causes of difficulties and to ensure peaceful settlement of disputes that may arise among the member states; to provide for common action on the part of those states in the event of aggression; to seek the solution of political, juridical, and economic problems that may arise among them; to promote, by cooperative action, their economic, social, and cultural development; and to achieve an effective limitation of conventional weapons that will make it possible to devote the largest amount of resources to the economic and social development of the member states.

The Organization of American States accomplishes its purposes by means of: the General Assembly; the Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs; the Councils (the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development); the Inter-American Juridical Committee; the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; the General Secretariat; the specialized conferences; the specialized organizations; and other entities established by the General Assembly.

The General Assembly holds a regular session once a year. Under special circumstances it meets in special session. The Meeting of Consultation is convened to consider urgent matters of common interest and to serve as Organ of Consultation under the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance (Rio Treaty), the main instrument for joint action in the event of aggression. The Permanent Council takes cognizance of such matters as are entrusted to it by the General Assembly or the Meeting of Consultation and implements the decisions of both organs when their implementation has not been assigned to any other body; it monitors the maintenance of friendly relations among the member states and the observance of the standards governing General Secretariat operations; and it also acts provisionally as Organ of Consultation under the Rio Treaty. The General Secretariat is the central and permanent organ of the OAS. The headquarters of both the Permanent Council and the General Secretariat are in Washington, D.C.

MEMBER STATES: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, The Bahamas (Commonwealth of), Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica (Commonwealth of), Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

OEA/Ser.P/LI-O.2 PROCEEDINGS VOLUME I AG/DEC. 103 - 105 (LI-O/21) AG/RES. 2965 - 2981 (LI-O/21) AG