

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
GENERAL ASSEMBLY



FIFTY-SECOND REGULAR SESSION
Lima, Peru
October 5 to 7, 2022

PROCEEDINGS VOLUME I

AG/DEC. 106 (LII-O/22) to AG/DEC. 109 (LII-O/22)
AG/RES. 2982 (LII-O/22) to AG/RES. 2996 (LII-O/22)

CERTIFIED TEXTS OF THE DECLARATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY



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Volume I

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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-second regular session, held in Lima, Peru, from October 5 to 7, 2022.

Luis Almagro
Secretary General
Organization of American States

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AG/DEC. 106 (LII-O/22)

DECLARATION OF LIMA:
“TOGETHER AGAINST INEQUALITY AND DISCRIMINATION”^{1/}

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on October 7, 2022)

THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS), meeting in Lima, Peru, from October 5 to 7, 2022, on the occasion of the fifty-second regular session of the OAS General Assembly,

CONSIDERING:

That the core theme of the fifty-second regular session of the OAS General Assembly emphasizes the importance of coordinated efforts to combat inequality and discrimination in all its forms and manifestations;

That the inherent dignity and equality of all members of the human family are basic principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man; the American Convention on Human Rights and its Additional Protocol in the Area of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (Protocol of San Salvador); the Inter-American Convention Against All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance; and the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Related Forms of Intolerance; as well as the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination; the Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities; the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belem do Pará); the Inter-American Convention on the Protection of the Human Rights of Older Persons; and other relevant international and regional instruments, as appropriate;

That inequality, discrimination, and poverty have a direct impact on the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, especially for groups in situations of vulnerability that have been historically discriminated against, undermining democratic governance across the board;

That, as recognized in the American Convention on Human Rights, the Protocol of San Salvador, and the Inter-American Democratic Charter, the elimination of all forms of discrimination, especially for reasons of gender, ethnicity and race, among others, as well as diverse forms of intolerance, including those of a political nature, contributes to the strengthening of democratic governance and citizen participation;

That inequality and social gaps are deepened by the persistent exclusion of populations traditionally marginalized by a lack of access to basic health services and fundamental rights, quality and inclusive education, social protection, food security, financial inclusion, decent work, and justice, *inter alia*, a situation that affects their human rights and significantly reduces opportunities for their full, equal, and effective participation in political life as well as their overall development;

1. Trinidad and Tobago denounced the American Convention on Human Rights on May 26, 1998, which came into effect on May 26, 1999. Consequently, Trinidad and Tobago is unable to join consensus...

That inequality and discrimination affect the right to participate in political life, particularly for persons belonging to groups in situation of vulnerability that have been historically discriminated against, and pose challenges to strengthening of democratic governance in the Hemisphere;

That Latin America and the Caribbean are among the most unequal regions in the world and that the COVID-19 pandemic, the economic, climate, and food crises, and international economic events that directly impact the lives of human beings, have intensified structural inequalities, deepened poverty and mainly affecting all women, teenagers and girls, and groups in situation of vulnerability that have been historically discriminated against;

That it is necessary to advance toward achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, specially recalling that goal 10 “Reduced Inequalities” and goal 5 “Gender Equality,” and their targets seek to achieve equal opportunities and gender equality, as well as the empowerment of all women, teenagers, and girls;

That in the fight against inequality and discrimination, the participation of civil society, the private sector, and other relevant actors is an important issue; and

That tackling climate change and its severe effects in our region, as well as strengthening our societies, infrastructure, and economies in order to advance toward climate change resilience with access to financing, is a necessary undertaking;

Noting that the inclusion of groups that have been historically marginalized and improvement of their situation will benefit all of society, and moreover will stimulate their participation in the economy and thereby stimulate economic development,

DECLARE:

1. That it is important for people and their communities to be placed at the center of national policies on development and the fight against inequality and discrimination, by adopting concrete measures to reverse persistent inequities and inequalities in the Hemisphere, especially in the aftermath of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Their commitment to strengthening democratic governance and institutions in the countries of the region as a factor of social cohesion, promoting conditions that bring about equal, fair, and prosperous societies, ensuring respect for democratic processes and the rights of all people, especially including members of minority groups.

3. Their commitment to the promotion and protection of the human rights of all people and their conviction that the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms is *sine qua non* for democratic and inclusive societies.

4. The reaffirmation of the commitment to promoting social, political, and economic inclusion and participation in order to improve the living standards of the peoples of the Hemisphere and strengthen democratic governance, as well as to build credibility and public confidence in democratic institutions, particularly in terms of the legitimacy of electoral processes, with full respect for the rule of law and by enhancing transparency and accountability of institutions and democratic processes.

5. The need to secure significantly increased financing under favorable terms and investment from a wide variety of public and private sources, as well as from international development cooperation, including multilateral agencies, developed countries, and the private sector, in order to attain equitable, just, diverse, and more prosperous societies.

6. The importance of reducing the digital divide in our countries, including the gender digital divide, and emphasizing the importance of equitable access to information and communication technologies (ICTs), cybersecurity, digital literacy, and personal data protection, as well as the use of new technologies from an equitable and neutral perspective in order to foster development in our societies, particularly for groups that have traditionally been underrepresented, such as women and populations or groups in situations of vulnerability.

7. Their commitment to reducing barriers to financial inclusion, particularly among people in situations of poverty and vulnerability, and the unbanked, through financial inclusion strategies, the use of innovative financial products and services, and to enhancing multilateral cooperation with member states to promote fair, consistent, and predictable global financial regulatory frameworks that support equitable and inclusive sustainable economic development throughout the hemisphere.

8. The need to combat poverty as the ultimate expression of inequality and exclusion of large segments of the population, taking into consideration that substantive exercise of democracy requires the participation of citizens and social organizations without exclusions.

9. Their condemnation of any distinction, exclusion, restriction, or preference, and, in particular, any kind of violence, based on, but not limited to, race, color, sex, gender, language, religion, ethnicity, origin or identity as indigenous people or people of African descent, age, political or other kind of opinion, national or social origin, economic status, birth or other social status, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression, and which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by all persons, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms.^{2/3/4/}

10. The importance of applying a gender perspective and intersectionality, understood as the interconnection of multiple forms of discrimination, exclusion, and inequality, in a manner that they be sensitive to the differences and requirements of traditionally underrepresented groups, such as women and populations or groups in situation of vulnerability, among others.

11. Their conviction that the empowerment and autonomy of all women, conducive to the full, equal, meaningful, and effective participation of women and groups historically excluded from political power structures, especially in those with decision-making power, is indispensable to achieving effective and lasting solutions.

-
2. The Republic of Paraguay hereby declares for the record that the paragraphs of this Declaration shall be interpreted in accordance with its domestic legal system, particularly the expression ...
 3. The State of Guatemala declares that its relations with other States are governed by international principles, rules and practices, with the purpose of contributing to the maintenance...
 4. The Republic of El Salvador reaffirms its firm commitment to the fulfillment of its human rights obligations and commitments at both the inter-American and universal levels. El Salvador...

12. Their decision to continue to promote, through cooperation and multilateral activities, in compliance and in adherence of national development priorities of each member state, the 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, racism, and social, political, or economic exclusion.

FOONOTES

1. ...on preambular paragraphs 2 and 4, which refer to the American Convention on Human Rights and its Additional Protocol in the Area of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Protocol of San Salvador), as it is no longer bound by the Convention and is neither a signatory to the aforementioned Protocol, the Inter-American Convention against All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance (2013) nor the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination and Related Forms of Intolerance (2013). Moreover, Trinidad and Tobago is unable to join consensus on operative paragraph 9 due to a conflict with existing domestic legislation. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago remains firmly 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.

2. ... “gender identity or expression.” The Republic of Paraguay does not accept references that clash with its domestic laws or that are not covered by its legal system.

3. ...of peace and freedom, respect for and protection of human rights, strengthening of democratic processes and international institutions that guarantee mutual and equitable benefits among States.

Guatemala promotes, defends, and protects at the same level and without discrimination, the human rights of all persons recognized in the international treaties, in accordance with their text, the proper meaning of their words, their context, and constitutional provisions.

Under the Political Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala, men and women have equal opportunities and responsibilities. Accordingly, the Guatemalan State recognizes every person's right to enjoy his or her fundamental freedoms without requiring it to alter the anthropological foundations of its legal system.

For this reason, Guatemala dissociates itself from all provisions, uses or terms of this resolution that are not expressly set forth in the international commitments to which it is a party and that contravene its national legislation, including, but not limited to, the interpretation and/or legal recognition of the expressions “sexual orientation” or “gender identity or expression,” and, in general, the use and interpretation of the terms “diversity” or “identity” in a sexual and/or gender-related context.

4. ...establishes a reservation to any interpretation or application of the terms contained in this resolution that, by their nature and scope, conflict with constitutional principles and its internal system of laws. The same applies to those that, in the legal sphere, are not in accordance with public policies aimed at favoring the great majorities, or that would tend to modify language agreed upon in international treaties ratified by the country.

El Salvador ratifies its commitment to the full application of the constitutional principle of equality and non-discrimination of persons and compliance with the obligations under that principle that apply to its national legislation.

It also reaffirms its responsibility to continue working in a coordinated manner to transform sociocultural patterns that generate violence, inequality, and discrimination in all areas.

AG/DEC. 107 (LII-O/22)

DECLARATION ON “THE QUESTION OF THE MALVINAS ISLANDS”

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on October 7, 2022)

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,

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.

AG/DEC. 108 (LII-O/22)

SUPPORT FOR TOTAL PEACE IN COLOMBIA

(Adopted at the first plenary session, held on October 6, 2022)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND that peace is a fundamental value in the Hemisphere, in accordance with the principles established in the Charter of the Organization of the American States;

RECALLING the commitment set forth in resolution AG/RES. 2862 (XLIV-O/14), in which the General Assembly declared the Americas to be a zone of peace;

REITERATING that peace is a value and a principle in itself, based on democracy, justice, respect for human rights, solidarity, security, and respect for international law; and that peace is a supreme good and legitimate aspiration of all peoples, and its preservation is a core part of hemispheric integration and cooperation;

RECALLING General Assembly resolution AG/RES 2880 (XLVI-O/16), which declared the negotiation process between the Government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) to be of crucial importance for the Americas as a contribution to the ongoing building of the Americas as a zone of peace;

REITERATING the spirit of declarations CP/DEC. 65 (2087/16) and CP/DEC. 67 (2096/16) of the Permanent Council, supporting efforts to forge peace in Colombia;

RECALLING its support for efforts to implement the Final Agreement to End the Armed Conflict and Build a Stable and Lasting Peace, signed in 2016;

UNDERSCORING that the aforementioned Final Agreement to End the Armed Conflict and Build a Stable and Lasting Peace acknowledges the important part played by women in preventing and resolving conflicts and consolidating peace, and the need to promote and strengthen the political and civic participation of women, particularly in the context of the end of the conflict, when their leadership and participation on an equal footing are necessary and essential in public decision-making processes and in the formulation, execution, evaluation, and monitoring of government policies to achieve stable and lasting peace;

CONSIDERING that the Government of Colombia has emphasized the primary importance of building an environment of total peace, in which all citizens can live on an equal footing rooted in gender equity, social justice, economic justice, and environmental justice;

HIGHLIGHTING the ample and flexible backing provided by the Mission to Support the Peace Process in Colombia (MAPP/OEA) through its experience, territorial deployment, and skills developed during more than 18 years of uninterrupted work,

DECLARES:

1. The fundamental importance of consolidating peace in Colombia, as a contribution to the ongoing building of the Americas as a zone of peace.
2. That it values the efforts by President Gustavo Petro and the Government of Colombia geared to achieving total peace as well as the commitment to consolidate a state policy to provide institutional support for peace-building efforts in the country.
3. That it recognizes the effort being made by the Government of Colombia to involve all sectors of Colombian society so as to ensure the achievement of these objectives and it urges all parties to continue working together to achieve the peace for which Colombia and the Hemisphere yearn.
4. That it supports the initiatives designed to strengthen the gender perspective and to guarantee and promote further the full, equal, and meaningful participation of women in forging peace and preventing and solving conflicts in Colombia.
5. Its recognition of the work done by the Mission to Support the Peace Process in Colombia, based on successive mandates.
6. That it calls upon the organs of the OAS, member states, and the international community to continue supporting efforts to build stable and lasting peace in Colombia.
7. Its readiness to continue supporting those efforts.

AG/DEC. 109 (LII-O/22)

DECLARATION OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE ARGENTINE PEOPLE
IN VIEW OF THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON THE
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA

(Adopted at the first plenary session, held on October 6, 2022)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING taken cognizance of the assassination attempt against the current Vice President and President of the Senate, and twice President of the Argentine Republic, Dr. Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, which occurred on September 1, 2022;

HIGHLIGHTING the expressions of repudiation, by the international community, of the attempted assassination of the Vice President of the Argentine Republic;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the expressions of condemnation and expressions of solidarity and support by the Chair of the Permanent Council of the OAS, member states, permanent observers, and the General Secretariat at the regular meeting of the Permanent Council of September 7; and

EMPHASIZING the need to redouble efforts to eradicate from our Hemisphere acts of political violence and hate speech towards those who think differently, which hurt our societies,

DECLARES:

1. Its solidarity with the Government and the people of the Argentine Republic for the attempt on the life of the Vice President and President of the Senate and two-time President of the Argentine Republic, Dr. Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, an act that constitutes an affront to democracy.
2. Its support to Argentine society, which after almost 40 uninterrupted years of democracy, has succeeded in consolidating its republican institutions, fostering peaceful coexistence and tolerance.
3. Its strongest condemnation of the assassination attempt on the Vice President of the Argentine Republic.
4. Its rejection of all forms of political violence and its constant support for dialogue and respect for the democratic institutions of the state, as well as the need for the prompt and complete clarification and condemnation of those responsible for that unfortunate incident.
5. Its standing call to seek paths that lead to social peace and respect for democratic institutions and the rule of law.

AG/RES. 2982 (LII-O/22)

THE SECURITY SITUATION IN HAITI
AND HEMISPHERIC COOPERATION FOR THE PRESERVATION
OF DEMOCRACY AND THE FIGHT AGAINST FOOD INSECURITY

(Adopted at the first plenary session, held on October 6, 2022)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING the statement by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation on the situation in Haiti, during the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS);

RECALLING resolution CP/RES. 1168 (2315/21) of March 17, 2021, establishing the Good Offices Mission with a mandate to facilitate political dialogue to lead to free and fair elections;

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

RECALLING resolution 2645 (2022) adopted by the United Nations Security Council at its 9095th meeting;

CONSIDERING the concerns expressed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Haiti in his intervention before the Permanent Council of the OAS on August 17, 2022;

CONSIDERING the latest United Nations report on food security in Haiti;

CONSIDERING the devastating effects of the earthquake of August 14, 2021, which devastated the Grand Sud of the Republic of Haiti;

REITERATING the recommendations of the Good Offices Mission of the Organization of American States in Haiti from June 8 to 10, 2021, for the adoption of urgent measures to restore a secure climate;

CONCERNED by the worrying insecurity characterized in particular by kidnappings for ransom and the proliferation of armed gangs that threaten the future of democracy in Haiti and the foundation of the rule of law;

CONSIDERING the concerns expressed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in July 2022 regarding the worsening violence in Port-au-Prince and the increase in cases of human rights violations, including sexual and gender-based violence, committed by heavily armed gangs against the population;

REAFFIRMING the principles enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of American States, particularly those relating to representative democracy and social security;

CONSIDERING the need to strengthen the Haitian judicial system and civil society, fight impunity and corruption, and shed light on the various crimes committed in Haiti; and

FURTHER CONSIDERING that general elections should be held as soon as feasible, when the conditions are in place, to make the country's democratic institutions functional,

RESOLVES

1. To request the OAS General Secretariat, member states, and permanent observers that are in a position to do so to urgently offer direct support to the Government of the Republic of Haiti to better train port security officials to combat firearms trafficking, strengthen the capacities and means of the National Police to restore security in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, and stop the expansion of armed gangs that are terrorizing the population.

2. To urge member states, in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 2645, to prohibit the transfer of small arms and light weapons and ammunition to non-state actors engaged in or supporting gang violence, criminal activities, or human rights abuses in Haiti as well as to prevent their illicit trafficking and diversion, and encourage member states to cooperate in preventing the illicit trafficking and diversion of arms.

3. To encourage member states to work with the Republic of Haiti to strengthen its judicial system to fight corruption and impunity and shed light on the various crimes committed, including against the civil population and the assassination of the President Jovenel Moïse.

4. Request the OAS General Secretariat to provide a list of security-related resources and training that the OAS could provide to Haiti, based on specific requests made by the government of the Republic of Haiti.

5. To encourage all regional and sub-regional initiatives in support of the ongoing dialogue involving the Government of Haiti, political parties, the private sector, religious actors, and civil society, including women's organizations, regarding the organization of free and fair presidential, legislative, and local elections, consistent with the Inter-American Democratic Charter, as soon as the minimum conditions allow.

6. To request the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) to conduct an assessment of Haiti's actual food security needs and to encourage member states to support Haiti in overcoming food insecurity by supporting the government's social programs and investments in the agricultural sector.

7. To invite the member states to continue to offer Haiti their support under the Integrated Recovery Plan for the Southern Peninsula (PRIPS) for rebuilding infrastructure destroyed in the earthquake of August 14, 2021.

8. To re-establish a mechanism for regular OAS meetings to follow up on the Good Offices Mission to Haiti and to request the OAS to remain actively engaged in Haiti.

AG/RES. 2983 (LII-O/22)

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

(Adopted at the first plenary session, held on October 6, 2022)

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), AG/RES. 2972 (LI-O/21), CP/RES. 759 (1217/99), CP/RES. 864 (1413/04), and all prior resolutions adopted on this subject;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALSO the Secretary General’s 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 fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly on November 12, 2021, the Permanent Council has approved 14 civil society organizations for entry to the OAS register, bringing the total number of civil society organizations registered with the OAS to 650; and

TAKING NOTE ALSO of the holding on September 13, 2022, of a meeting on the participation of civil society organizations as part of the preparations for the fifty-second regular session of the OAS General Assembly,

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 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, including women’s organizations, and other social actors, 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.

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, such as women's organizations, and other social actors, 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, as well as in activities related to the Summits of the Americas process.

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.

AG/RES. 2984 (LII-O/22)

SUPPORT FOR AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE SUMMITS OF THE AMERICAS PROCESS

(Adopted at the first plenary session, held on October 6, 2022)

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), the Eighth Summit of the Americas (Lima, 2018), and the Ninth Summit of the Americas (Los Angeles, 2022);

BEARING IN MIND the mandates contained in the five leader-level commitments of the Ninth Summit of the Americas: Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance; Action Plan on Health and Resilience in the Americas; Our Sustainable Green Future; Regional Agenda for Digital Transformation; and Accelerating the Clean, Sustainable, Renewable, and Just Energy Transition; which were adopted by consensus in the city of Los Angeles, United States of America, June 8-10, 2022;

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. 2973 (L-O/21) 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, when so requested, on all aspects related to the process; and supporting the follow-up activities of the Ninth Summit, held in Los Angeles, United States of America, in June 2022.

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 Ninth Summit, particularly the implementation of leaders' five commitments that emanated from it;
- 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 the Summits of the Americas Follow-up System (SISCA) and the Online Platform of the Lima Commitment Follow-up and Implementation Mechanism from the Eighth Summit of the Americas, social media, 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, through the Summits Secretariat, 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.

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.

AG/RES. 2985 (LII-O/22)

PROGRAM-BUDGET OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR 2023

(Adopted at the first plenary session, held on October 6, 2022)

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 2023 program-budget of the Organization ([CP/doc.5796/22](#)) presented by the General Secretariat on August 2, 2022 and the annual report of the Audit Committee to the Permanent Council ([CP/doc.5784/22](#)), presented on June 15, 2022;

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 2023" ([CP/CAAP-3856/22](#)), presented in accordance with Article 60.b of the Charter of the Organization of American States;

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”;

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

AG/RES. 2971 (LI-O/21) “Program-Budget of the Organization for 2022”, 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, for example 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 2023, 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 (LIIE-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 2023.

2. To set the overall budget level of the 2023 Regular Fund program-budget, including the cost-of-living and inflation adjustment, at US\$85,019,780, and to finance it as follows:

- a. Net contributions of member states in the form of quota payments to the Regular Fund totaling US\$84,459,780, 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\$470,120 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\$560,000 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 2023 at US\$82,800,000.

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

5. To authorize the General Secretariat to use in fiscal year 2023 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 2023. 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 2023 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\$7,388,000, in accordance with the General Standards.

7. To set the tentative overall budget level for 2024 at US\$85,019,780.

II. BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

1. To approve and authorize the program-budget of the Organization for the fiscal year from January 1 to December 31, 2023, financed by funds not to exceed:

- a. Regular Fund (RF) US\$82,800,000
- b. Indirect Cost Recovery (ICR) US\$7,388,000

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 (\$1,000s)	ICR (\$1,000s)
Chapter 1 - Office of the Secretary General		
14A Office of the Secretary General	2,081.4	38.8
14B Office of Protocol	610.6	0
Chapter 1 - Office of the Secretary General Total	2,692.0	38.8
Chapter 2 - Office of the Assistant Secretary General		
24A Office of the Assistant Secretary General	2,087.0	0
24B Office of the Secretariat to the General Assembly, the Meeting of Consultation, the Permanent Council, and Subsidiary Organs	1,249.5	0
24C Coordinating Office for the Offices and Units of the General Secretariat in the Member States	4,741.2	0
24D Conferences and meetings	2,951.6	0
24E Regular sessions of the General Assembly	110.0	0
24F Permanent Council meetings	324.0	0
24G Preparatory Committee meetings	33.0	0
24H General Committee meetings	20.0	0
24I Meetings of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP)	100.0	0
24J Meetings of the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CSH)	100.0	0
24K Meetings of the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP)	99.8	0
24M Meetings of the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (CISC)	25.0	0
24N Meetings of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI)	90.0	0
Chapter 2 - Office of the Assistant Secretary General Total	11,931.1	0
Chapter 3 - Principal and Specialized Organs		
34A Secretariat of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights	5,024.0	0
34B Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)	10,230.7	117.0
34C Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM)	1,647.1	101.4
34D Office of the Director General of the Inter-American Children's Institute	946.5	18.4
34E Inter-American Juridical Committee (CJI)	405.2	0
34F Secretariat of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL)	657.0	51.4

		RF (\$1,000s)	ICR (\$1,000s)
34G	Meetings of the CITEI Assembly	53.0	0
34H	Inter-American Defense Board (IADB)	745.4	0
34I	Pan American Development Foundation (PADF)	66.1	0
34J	Trust for the Americas	248.7	0
34K	IADB - Maintenance of the Casa del Soldado	171.0	0
Chapter 3 - Principal and Specialized Organs Total		20,194.7	288.2
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	498.1	215.7
44C	Department of Press and Communication	895.1	126.9
44E	Department of External and Institutional Relations	433.6	117.2
Chapter 4 - Office of the Strategic Counsel for Organizational Development and Management for Results Total		1,826.8	459.8
Chapter 5 - Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity			
54A	Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity	525.7	0
54B	Department of Social Inclusion	1,359.4	0
Chapter 5 - Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity Total		1,885.1	0
Chapter 6 - Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy			
64A	Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy	1,112.9	895.8
64C	Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation	1,552.1	0
64D	Department of Sustainable Democracy and Special Missions	689.9	0
64F	Department for Promotion of Peace and Coordination with Subnational Governments	233.1	0
Chapter 6 - Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy Total		3,588.0	895.8
Chapter 7 - Executive Secretariat for Integral Development			
74A	Executive Secretariat for Integral Development	1,826.0	285.0
74C	Department of Economic Development	1,449.4	0
74D	Department of Human Development, Education, and Employment	3,134.6	0
74F	CIDI ministerial and inter-American committee meetings	125.0	0
74G	Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports	216.7	0
74I	Department of Sustainable Development	1,001.1	0
Chapter 7 - Executive Secretariat for Integral Development Total		7,752.8	285.0

		RF (\$1,000s)	ICR (\$1,000s)
Chapter 8 - Secretariat for Multidimensional Security			
84A	Secretariat for Multidimensional Security	956.1	328.5
84D	Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE)	560.1	144.9
84E	Department of Public Security	890.0	91.2
84F	Multidimensional security meetings	31.5	0
84G	Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)	1,135.0	186.6
84H	Department against Transnational Organized Crime	410.5	0
Chapter 8 - Secretariat for Multidimensional Security Total		3,983.2	751.2
Chapter 9 - Secretariat for Hemispheric Affairs			
94A	Secretariat for Hemispheric Affairs	316.1	30.0
94B	Department of Effective Public Management	767.0	0
94D	Art Museum of the Americas	405.9	0
94E	Summits Secretariat	358.9	0
94F	Columbus Memorial Library	397.7	0
Chapter 9 - Secretariat for Hemispheric Affairs Total		2,245.6	30.0
Chapter 10 - Secretariat for Legal Affairs			
104A	Secretariat for Legal Affairs	870.5	110.0
104B	Department of Legal Services	1,282.2	60.0
104C	Department of International Law	1,157.3	0
104F	Department of Legal Cooperation	764.7	0
Chapter 10 - Secretariat for Legal Affairs Total		4,074.7	170.0
Chapter 11 - Secretariat for Administration and Finance			
114A	Secretariat for Administration and Finance	859.5	0
114B	Department of Human Resources	2,530.8	107.0
114C	Department of Financial Services	2,470.1	798.4
114D	Department of Information and Technology Services	1,791.8	0
114E	Department of Procurement Services and Management Oversight	1,329.4	716.7
114F	Department of General Services	1,395.3	102.9
Chapter 11 - Secretariat for Administration and Finance Total		10,376.9	1,725.0
Chapter 12 - Basic Infrastructure and Common Costs			
124A	DOITS Core Infrastructure Operations	1,459.5	0
124B	Office Equipment and Supplies	24.9	0
124C	DOITS Application Development Operations	306.1	250.0
124D	Building Management and Maintenance	955.4	500.2
124E	General Insurance	388.4	50.0
124F	Post Audits	35.9	0
124G	Recruitment and Transfers	217.9	0
124H	Terminations and Repatriations	555.5	50.0

		RF (\$1,000s)	ICR (\$1,000s)
124I	Home Leave	228.5	10.0
124J	Education and Language Allowance, Medical Examinations	42.5	0
124K	Pensions for Retired Executives, and Health and Life Insurance for Retired Employees	3,853.8	0
124L	Human Resources Development	46.8	0
124M	Contribution to the Staff Association	4.6	0
124N	Contribution to AROAS	4.6	0
124S	OASCORE Licensing	149.4	400.0
124U	Cleaning Services	1,069.4	491.0
124V	Security Services	760.3	334.8
124Y	Cloud Computing & Cybersecurity Operations	0	0
124Z	Public Utilities	763.2	391.1
Chapter 12 - Basic Infrastructure and Common Costs Total		10,866.7	2,477.1
Chapter 13 – Monitoring and Oversight Bodies			
133A	Secretariat of the OAS Administrative Tribunal (TRIBAD)	248.3	49.1
134B	Office of the Inspector General	843.8	70.0
134C	Audit Committee	77.8	88.0
134D	Office of the Ombudsperson	212.5	60.0
Chapter 13 – Monitoring and Oversight Bodies Total		1,382.4	267.1
TOTAL		82,800.0	7,388.0

3. To authorize the General Secretariat to utilize, in addition to the budget allocation for this purpose in the 2023 program-budget, up to US\$174,475 from savings accrued during the 2023 budget execution, in the event that the fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly is held at headquarters, as envisaged at Article 57 of the OAS Charter.

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

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 2023 budgetary cycle with the respective amended timelines, if applicable, 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 fulfillment of the mandates from past resolutions that remain in force during the 2023 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

- a. 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.
- b. In order to strengthen fiscal governance, compliance and reporting functions of the Permanent Council, instruct the General Secretariat, to produce semi-annual reports to the CAAP on financial and budgetary compliance within the Secretariat, with a view to improving efficiencies and maintaining fidelity to the obligations outlined in General Standards Article 120.
- c. To instruct the Secretariat of the Administrative Tribunal to keep the Permanent Council, through the CAAP, apprised of the status of judgments issued by the Administrative Tribunal once the decisions become final.
- d. 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) On an annual basis, the report "[Comprehensive Strategic Plan of the Organization](#)" (strategic lines and objectives) approved in resolution AG/RES. 1 (LI-E/16) rev.1 and resolution CP/RES.1121 (2209/19).
 - (3) The results of evaluations, monitoring, and audits of programs and operations.
 - (4) Staffing per organizational unit, also including the salary scale and other benefits, as well as vacant positions.
 - (5) Performance contracts (CPRs) awarded for both consultants and goods and services, pursuant to applicable regulations.

3. Direct and indirect cost recovery

- a. To ratify the amendments to Article 86 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat approved *ad referendum* by the Permanent Council at its regular meeting on August 17, 2022, through CP/RES. 1204 (2391/22) "Cost Recovery System of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States for Projects Financed with Specific Funds."
- b. To request that the General Secretariat, in the first three years of implementation of the new Cost Recovery System, conduct an annual analysis of the impact of the new policy and report on the results to CAAP by no later than the end of the third quarter of each year. The analysis should highlight: results achieved; financial impacts for areas which previously received ICR as a substantial portion of funded positions or activities; cover, *inter alia*, the impact of the new policy on the level of incoming voluntary funds and on the nature and scope of donor-funded projects; and include results from consultations with donors and OAS project managers/executing entities and identify areas for improvement for the consideration of member states.
- c. The semi-annual financial report produced by the General Secretariat will also include analysis on intake and distribution of ICR and proceeds from the Cost Recovery System across the General Secretariat.
- d. To amend the General Standards to delete Article 86.l. (formerly Article 86.f]) to eliminate the requirement of the OAS/DCF to contribute to the Regular Fund for the cost of technical supervision and administrative support to the programs managed by the OAS/DCF.

4. OAS Scholarships and Training Program funds

- a. To authorize the General Secretariat to use, in 2023, 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 authorize the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development to use the \$75,000 allocated to the Professional Development Scholarships Program (PDSP) under OAS Scholarship and Training Program, to execute a language proficiency training and certification program in the four languages of the OAS, to the extent that funding allows but in at least two languages starting in 2023. To instruct the SEDI to pursue additional resources to complement the PDSP funding, including, but not limited to, Cooperation with OAS member states and Observer member states.

To urge member states and permanent observer states to provide human, financial, and technical resources to support the Program. Said training and certification should be made available to all citizens of all OAS member states through the OAS Scholarships and Training Program, which should adjust its procedures to effectively implement this language proficiency training and certification program.

5. Human resources

- a. To instruct the General Secretariat to move forward with the implementation of the Organization's Comprehensive Human Resources Strategy for the Organization and to submit to the CAAP by March 30, 2023, an updated report showing the progress that has been made. The updated report should also reflect the advances in 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 contracts. 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.
- b. The member states recognize that in order to deal with spending reductions needed to fully account for the effects of inflation in the 2023 program-budget, the secretaries and executive secretaries should provide an accounting of and be authorized to make necessary changes to their organizational units, including to reorganize, consolidate, and cut resources as necessary. Consequently, in recognition of this principle, the General Secretariat will:
 - (i) Allow hiring of needed personnel under reorganization plans and not implement any hiring freezes until that reorganization is complete;
 - (ii) Proceed with the reclassification of positions only when dependencies determine that the reclassification is consistent with the organizational changes driven by reallocation of responsibilities derived from the reduced budget levels and once the necessary financing has been secured.
- c. To instruct the Permanent Council, through the CAAP, to review General Standards Chapter III, Subchapter C, and related policies of the General Secretariat, with a view to enhancing the OAS Employment Performance Evaluation System (PES) and providing a proposal, no later than the third quarter of 2023.
- d. To instruct the General Secretariat to cite the specific provisions of Chapter III, Sub-Chapter D, item (f)(i)-(iii) at all stages of the advertising, hiring, and employment notices and processes of the Organization.

6. Gender equity and equality policies

Taking note of the General Secretariat's progress in accomplishing the hiring of women who now make up the majority of the OAS staff, with roughly 50% representation or higher at all professional levels, to urge the General Secretariat to continue the work of implementing and executing gender equity and equality policies in the workplace and, as part of the implementation of the General Secretariat's Gender Parity Plan in Decision-Making Positions, 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."

7. Geographical representation

- a. To instruct the General Secretariat to prepare and present a report with the progress made in the implementation of the Geographic Representation Strategy, taking into consideration the indicators and the action plan developed, to achieve an 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. The report should be presented to the CAAP no later than May 31, 2023.
- b. To instruct the Permanent Council, through the CAAP, to review General Standards Chapter III, Subchapter D, and related policies of the General Secretariat, with a view to eliminating barriers to equitable geographic representation that relate to language requirements of the OAS, no later than the second quarter of 2023.

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 2023 program-budget.

9. Mandate prioritization

To Ratify the Methodology for the Prioritization of Mandates approved by the Permanent Council ([CP/doc.5766/22 rev. 1](#)) and to instruct the General Secretariat to proceed with the update of the prioritization of mandates, including the mandates approved by the General Assembly during its fifty-second regular session, and to present the results of the aforementioned update to the Permanent Council through the CAAP, in such a way that the prioritized mandates serve as a basis for the committees of the Permanent Council and CIDI when preparing the draft resolutions to be submitted for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-third regular session.

10. Annual Outreach and Implementation of Mandate Costing

- a. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue with the costing process for new mandates that will be submitted for consideration by the General

Assembly, through the use of the mandate cost calculation template approved by resolution AG/RES. 2971 (LI-O-/21), in order to ensure its implementation and prioritization.

- b. For the above, the General Secretariat, through the SAF must:
- (1) Hold regular outreach and training meetings on the use of the template with Secretaries and Executive Secretaries, no later than three months prior to the General Assembly.
 - (2) Together with the Chair of the CAAP, make a presentation to the Permanent Council on the use of the template, no later than two months before the General Assembly.
 - (3) In addition, hold dissemination sessions on the use of the costing template with the chairs of the Committees of the Permanent Council and CIDI before the start of the negotiations, with a view to ensuring that all chairpersons require the use of the template for the 2023 General Assembly round of negotiations. Also, provide the Chairs with the option to request an additional presentation within their Committees.
 - (4) Request the CAAP Chair to include an update and presentation, including details on the outreach detailed above, as well as comments on potential improvements, on the mandate cost template in the CAAP Annual Work Plan.
 - (5) Conduct an evaluation of the template for new mandates and the criteria for its use, in terms of its application and use, in order to improve the process when necessary and present it to the Permanent Council through the CAAP.

11. Ombudsperson

To adopt the amendments to Chapter III of the General Standards, concerning the Office of the Ombudsperson, contained in Annex V, which shall enter into effect upon adoption of this resolution.

12. Offices of the General Secretariat in member states

To recall and renew the mandate entrusted to the General Secretariat in resolution AG/RES. 2971 (LI-O/21) (III.15) to prepare a strategic plan for the Offices and Units of the General Secretariat in the Member States (hereafter “the National Offices”), for adoption by the fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly. To further instruct the General Secretariat to present to the CAAP, by the end of the first quarter of 2023, a draft of said strategic plan which outlines a concept of operations for the National Offices for the 2023-2028 period (including, but not limited to, a renewed mandate and key strategic objectives and operational activities) and includes options for optimizing the use of resources and maximizing their value and benefits for the General Secretariat and all OAS member states.

13. Comprehensive Strategic Plan of the Organization
 - a. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue with the development of the Comprehensive Strategic Plan for 2023-2025 by completing the supplementary information (indicators, goals, activities and/or programs, and responsible areas) no later than December 31, 2022.
 - b. To authorize the Permanent Council to adopt the Comprehensive Strategic Plan 2023-2025, for its implementation in 2023.
 - c. To request the General Secretariat to prepare on an annual basis, the report “Compliance with the Comprehensive Strategic Plan of the Organization.”
 - d. To instruct the General Secretariat to replace the Annual Operating Plan with the Comprehensive Strategic Plan of the Organization in compliance with the member states’ request for a comprehensive reporting and accountability tool.

14. Proposed Program-budget for the 2024 budget cycle
 - a. To instruct the General Secretariat, to incorporate into the proposed overall Regular Fund budget level the estimated annual adjustments required for the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) (including inflation), having regard for the ruling of Administrative Tribunal Judgement No. 124 from 1994.
 - b. To instruct the General Secretariat to present to the CAAP by November 30, 2022, a proposal to modify Chapters V and VI of the General Standards, updating the requirements of the proposed program-budget that aims to simplify and summarize the content and form of presentation of the proposed program-budget in order to facilitate the beginning of analysis by the member states, without prejudice to the dissemination of the extended version, using as reference document [CP/doc.5796/22](#) “Proposed 2023 Program-Budget of the Organization of American States.”
 - c. To authorize the Permanent Council to adopt the amendments to Chapters V and VI of the General Standards aimed at simplifying the presentation of the proposed program-budget, so they can enter into effect for the 2024 budgetary cycle, taking into account the recommendation made by the CAAP.

15. Technical Study to Analyze the Methodology for Calculating the Scale of Quota Assessments to Finance the Regular Fund of the OAS
 - a. To request the General Secretariat to prepare an analysis, taking into account the review of the quota assessment methodology conducted by the United Nations Committee on Contributions, on how more socio-economic and environmental criteria could be incorporated into the methodology to calculate the quota assessments of the OAS Regular Fund, and to present it within the 1st quarter of 2023, for consideration of the CAAP.

- b. To instruct the General Secretariat, without prejudice to the continuity of the preparation and consideration of the analysis requested in the preceding item, to proceed with the presentation of a scale of the quotas of the Regular Fund for 2024 according to the prevailing mandates governing the preparation of the 2024 program budget.

16. Real Assets Strategy

To instruct the General Secretariat to keep the CAAP apprised of options to optimize the use of all real assets, and to report on how proceeds of the sale or disposal of those assets deemed as under-utilized could support resourcing of infrastructure, maintenance or other under-funded Regular Fund obligations.

17. External Resource Mobilization

- a. To reiterate to the Secretary General the need 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, in order to ensure fulfillment of the mandates presented by the member states, as well as the need to keep the CAAP apprised of his 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 request that the General Secretariat present a plan regarding enhancing external resource mobilization, including from the private sector where relevant, by the close of the 1st quarter of 2023 for the consideration of the CAAP.
- c. To request the Secretary General to continue with the next steps as outlined in the March 2022 Report “Funding Options to contribute to the Inter- American Human Rights System,” and to provide an update to the CAAP in March 2023 with the intention of ensuring that additional funding options can supplement the Regular Fund Program-Budget of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court on Human Rights.

18. Timely decision to process vacant positions

To request the General Secretariat to ensure that recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Selection and Promotion for vacant positions are considered and addressed within two months after background checks have been conducted and that further delays are justified in writing to the Permanent Council, through the CAAP.

19. Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

To authorize the IACHR to cover payments to members of the Commission for special services, up to US\$5,000 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 resolution AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20).

20. Inter-American Court of Human Rights

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 US\$5,000 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 resolution AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20).

21. Inter-American Emergency Aid Fund

To request that the General Secretariat present options for strengthening the sustainability of the FONDEM for the consideration of the CAAP by the second quarter of 2023.



ANNEX I
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
REGULAR FUND
REGULAR FUND QUOTA ASSESSMENTS FOR 2023

Member States	Assessed Percentage	Quota Assessment	Tax Reimbursement	(a) Credits	Total
Antigua and Barbuda	0.044%	37,600			37,600
Argentina	3.687%	3,148,650			3,148,650
Bahamas	0.058%	49,500			49,500
Barbados	0.044%	37,600			37,600
Belize	0.044%	37,600			37,600
Bolivia	0.086%	73,450			73,450
Brazil	15.309%	13,073,700			13,073,700
Canada	12.045%	10,286,250		289,320	9,996,930
Chile	1.739%	1,485,100		27,848	1,457,252
Colombia	2.013%	1,719,050			1,719,050
Costa Rica	0.315%	269,000			269,000
Dominica	0.044%	37,600			37,600
Dominican Republic	0.329%	280,950		7,905	273,045
Ecuador	0.494%	421,850			421,850
El Salvador	0.093%	79,400			79,400
Grenada	0.044%	37,600			37,600
Guatemala	0.210%	179,300			179,300
Guyana	0.044%	37,600			37,600
Haiti	0.044%	37,600			37,600
Honduras	0.053%	45,250			45,250
Jamaica	0.065%	55,500		1,560	53,940
Mexico	7.951%	6,790,050		127,336	6,662,714
Nicaragua	0.044%	37,600			37,600
Panama	0.235%	200,700		1,875	198,825
Paraguay	0.107%	91,350		1,700	89,650
Peru	1.235%	1,054,650		11,306	1,043,344
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.044%	37,600			37,600
Saint Lucia	0.044%	37,600			37,600
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.044%	37,600			37,600
Suriname	0.044%	37,600			37,600
Trinidad and Tobago	0.159%	135,800		1,270	134,530
United States	49.990%	42,690,750	5,200,000 (b)		47,890,750
Uruguay	0.366%	312,550			312,550
Venezuela	2.384%	2,035,900			2,035,900
Subtotal	99.451%	84,929,900	5,200,000	470,120	89,659,780
Cuba (c)	0.549%	468,800			468,800
TOTAL	100.000%	85,398,700	5,200,000	470,120	90,128,580

- a. Represents 1% of 2022 quota assessment of full payment of 2022 quota received by March 31, 2022, plus 2% of any payment received before February 28, 2022 and 3% if received by January 31, 2022.
- 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 2023

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
1.	Semiannual reports on budget execution by the Inter-American System of Human Rights	<p>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.</p>	Annual
2.	Program-budget for the 2022 budgetary cycle	<p>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.</p> <p>AG/RES. 2971 (LI-O/21), paragraph III.13 Mandate: 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:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	2024

3.	External Resource Mobilization	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.3</p> <p>Mandate:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 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,</p>	Annual Report
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	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
		and to submit semiannual reports to the CAAP and the appropriate competent organs of the Organization.	
4.	OAS Scholarships and Training Program funds	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.5 Mandate: 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 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> <p>AG/RES. 2971 (LI-O/21), paragraph III.4. 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.</p>	

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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. 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: <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. 	

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
		<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, 2023</p>
7.	<p>Review of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States</p>	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.9 Mandate:</p> <p>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 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>	<p>Fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly</p>
8.	<p>Official travel</p>	<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</p>	<p>Semiannual</p>

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
		<p>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>	
9.	Human resources	<p>AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.12 Mandate: 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
10.	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 shall be covered with the resources allocated in this program-budget.</p>	
11.	Cost efficiencies	<p>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.</p>	
12.	Department of Press and Communication	<p>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.</p>	
13.	Trust personnel	<p>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</p>	

	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.	
14.	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.	
15.	Recommendations of the Inspector General	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.30 Mandate: 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. 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.	Semiannual b. change to 2024
16.	Ethics/harassment	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.31 Mandate: 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.	
17.	Real estate strategy	AG/RES. 2957 (L-O/20), paragraph IV.32 Mandate: 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.	

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
18.	Implementation of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System	<p>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.</p>	
19.	Use of the Organization's resources for the fulfilment of mandates	<p>AG/RES. 2971 (LI-O/21), paragraph II. 5. Mandate: 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.</p>	
20.	Meetings of the Permanent Council	<p>AG/RES. 2971 (LI-O/21), paragraph II. 8. Mandate:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	
21.	Per diem	<p>AG/RES. 2971 (LI-O/21), paragraph III. 5. 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</p>	

	TITLE	MANDATES	CHANGE IN TIMELINE AND/OR PERIODICITY
		<p>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.</p>	
22.	Creation of new mandates	<p>AG/RES. 2971 (LI-O/21), paragraph III.9 Mandate: 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.</p>	
23.	Methodology for calculating the scale of quota assessments to finance the Regular Fund of the Organization	<p>AG/RES. 2971 (LI-O/21), paragraph III.14 Mandate: 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.</p>	

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 2023)	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
Annual (no later than 60 days after the end of year)	AG/RES.1 (LI-E/16)	Compliance with the Comprehensive Strategic Plan of the Organization	SAF
Semiannual (no later than 45 days after end of the 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/OGMS
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, 2023	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	P01	Regular Fund
1	Office of Protocol	P05	Regular Fund
1	Director of CICAD ^{1/}	P05	Regular Fund
1	Director of CICTE ^{2/}	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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1. 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
 2. *Ibid.*

CHAPTER III

SUBCHAPTER H: THE OMBUDSPERSON

Article 68. The Ombudsperson

- (a) The Ombudsperson is a professional who provides assistance by informally addressing situations, or concerns regarding internal organizational policies and/or broader systemic problems, with due respect for confidentiality and anonymity, and provides recommendations for responsibly handling them.
- b) The Ombudsperson acts in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the Organization of American States, these General Standards, pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly, the Code of Ethics of the General Secretariat, the Staff Rules the General Secretariat, any relevant norms and procedures of the General Secretariat, including the terms of reference of the post, as well as generally accepted international standards of practice for institutional Ombudspersons, such as the International Ombudsman Association Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice.
- c) No official of the Organization or any person may interfere with, control, limit, threaten, retaliate against or penalize the Ombudsperson in the performance or as a result of his/her duties.
- d) The articles of the General Standards and the-Staff Rules pertaining to disciplinary measures do not apply to the Ombudsperson.

Article 69. The Office of the Ombudsperson

- (a) The Office of the Ombudsperson, created as an oversight body, is an informal mechanism for addressing work-related problems in the General Secretariat, whose purpose is to promote the observance of the rights of Personnel and Other Human Resources.
- (b) Use of the Office of the Ombudsperson is voluntary and not a required step in any grievance process.
- (c) Access to and use of the Office by all members of personnel and other human resources of the General Secretariat shall be encouraged and facilitated by the General Secretariat.
- (d) The Office of the Ombudsperson shall enjoy the functional autonomy needed to perform its functions.
- (e) The Office of the Ombudsperson shall be afforded the necessary protections and guarantees from the General Secretariat for the independent handling of information, in order to safeguard confidentiality in the Office itself and in its record-keeping systems, databases, and communications.
- (f) The Office of the Ombudsperson shall be protected by the General Secretariat from retaliation and/or threats, whether actual or potential, based on any interaction with the Office of the Ombudsperson. Any member of the Staff and Other Human Resources involved in acts of retaliation

may be subject to disciplinary measures, in accordance with the Code of Ethics, and Chapters X, XI, and XII of the Staff Rules.

(g) Recommendations issued by the Office of the Ombudsperson should be taken into account to adopt prompt corrective measures in accordance with the Charter and these General Standards.

Article 69 bis. Guiding Principles.

General Principles

- i. The Ombudsperson shall be empowered to provide assistance in addressing workplace-related problems. The term “problem” should be interpreted in its broadest sense and include professional issues related to conditions of employment, administration of employment benefits, and management practices.
- ii. The Ombudsperson shall have unrestricted access to information in the General Secretariat, in accordance with his/her powers and in conformity with the legal framework of the General Secretariat, and shall be free of any interference that could affect the autonomy, neutrality, and confidentiality of the Office or the independent and impartial performance of his/her functions.
- iii. Requests for information relating to the substantive work of the Office shall take into account the guiding principles of independence, autonomy, neutrality and impartiality, confidentiality and informality. Parties involved are expected to respond promptly and effectively to requests for information.
- iv. The Ombudsperson shall endeavor to hear all parties involved in a matter on which his/her assistance is sought. Notwithstanding the duty of all staff members and other human resources to render full, prompt and good faith cooperation, all interactions with the Ombudsperson will be voluntary. As necessary, the Ombudsperson may refer staff members and other human resources to other appropriate bodies.
- v. The Ombudsperson may not compel any person of the General Secretariat to implement his/her recommendations.

Independence and Autonomy

- vi. The Ombudsperson enjoys functional independence for the fulfillment of his/her mandate. The Office is autonomous from the General Secretariat and from any other organ, agency or entity of the Organization.
- vii. The Office shall have access to all personnel records, with the exception of:
 - a. Personal information. Unless pertinent rules, procedures, and practices allow it, the GS/OAS does not provide access to:
 - i. Medical information and personal communications.

- ii. Information whose disclosure is considered by the GS/OAS to be an invasion of the privacy of staff, independent contractors, their family members, or third parties.
- b. Auditors' reports or investigative reports of the Office of the Inspector General, unless they are requested by the permanent mission of an OAS member state.
- c. Information that could compromise the security of staff and independent contractors and their families.
- d. Information on bidding processes.
- e. Information subject to professional secrecy, including, inter alia, communications effected and/or received by attorneys in the Department of Legal Services and other legal advisors of the GS/OAS.
- f. Information bound by confidentiality agreements.
- g. Commercial or financial information whose disclosure could be harmful to the commercial or financial interests of the GS/OAS or of other parties involved, except when disclosure is requested by the permanent mission of an OAS member state.
- h. Deliberative information, whether internal or exchanged with representatives and officials of member states or third parties, including e-mails, letters, memorandums, reports, and other communications.
- i. Information provided by a member state or a third party on the understanding that it is confidential, unless that member state or that third party expressly grants prior consent to its disclosure.
- j. Information whose disclosure could compromise the security and/or the international and intergovernmental relations of the member states or permanent observers.
- k. Information protected by copyright.
- l. Information on individual petitions and cases, precautionary measures, and any document relating to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and its Executive Secretariat, which are governed by pertinent rules and procedures on the provision of information.
- viii. The Office shall also have access to all individuals within the General Secretariat who can provide it with advice, information, or expert opinions on a particular matter. Requests for information from the Office should be responded to promptly and effectively.
- ix. The Ombudsperson has full discretion as to whether and how to act on the concern of a user, a trend, or an issue identified through direct observation.

Neutrality and impartiality.

- x. The Ombudsperson, as a designated neutral party, should have no personal interest or stake in, nor stand to benefit from, the outcome of an issue.

- xi. The Ombudsperson shall endeavor to consider the legitimate concerns and interests of all persons affected by the matter under consideration.
- xii. The Ombudsperson shall advocate for fairness and shall not advocate for a particular individual.
- xiii. The Ombudsperson, in the exercise of his/her judgment, will identify and discuss with personnel all options available to them, including formal avenues to address their concerns.
- xiv. The Ombudsperson holds no other position within the General Secretariat, nor shall he/she align him/herself with any formal or informal association within the General Secretariat. The Ombudsperson holds no other position outside the General Secretariat that compromises, or could be reasonably perceived as compromising his/her independence and impartiality. If the Ombudsperson has other duties, those duties must not interfere with his/her duties as an Ombudsperson. The Ombudsperson must clearly communicate to users and any other relevant party when he/she is not acting as the Ombudsperson.
- xv. The Ombudsperson must decline involvement in any matter in which he/she determines that he/she may have a conflict of interest.

Confidentiality

xvi. All staff members and other human resources of the Office of the Ombudsperson shall observe strict confidentiality about matters brought to their attention and shall take all reasonable steps to safeguard the confidentiality of privileged information, including the following:

- (a) They shall not reveal, and must not be required to reveal, the identity of any user, nor will they disclose information provided in confidence that could lead to the identification of a user without the prior express authorization of that person, and
- (b) They will adopt specific measures in relation to a matter brought by a user only with the prior express authorization of that user and only to the extent permitted, unless such measures can be taken in a manner that protects the identity of the individual, and then only at the sole discretion of the Ombudsperson;

xvii. The Ombudsperson shall not be compelled to provide information about concerns that have been brought to his/her attention by any official of the General Secretariat or in the context of any other internal or external administrative or judicial proceeding.

xviii. The Ombudsperson does not testify or participate in any formal process inside or outside the General Secretariat regarding a user's contact with the Ombudsperson, even if given permission or requested to do so and must not be required to reveal the identity or identifiable information of any individual contacting the office.

xix. Information or documents obtained or generated by the Office in the exercise of its mandate, including requests for assistance from staff members or other human resources and subsequent communications, are strictly confidential and shall not be sought, obtained, or used for any other purpose.

Informality

xx. The Ombudsperson shall address work-related issues through informal means, such as conciliation, mediation, fact-finding or helping users identify and assess the options available to them. The Ombudsperson does not conduct investigations which could serve as substitute to other formal processes.

xxi. The Ombudsperson supplements, but does not replace, other formal channels or entities within the General Secretariat. The Ombudsperson can collaborate, with the prior consent of users, with other offices and dependencies of the General Secretariat to resolve work-related concerns and problems.

xxii. The Ombudsperson does not make binding decisions, mandate policies, or formally adjudicate issues for the Organization. However, the Ombudsperson may be consulted on matters of internal policy where his/her views and experience may be useful.

xxiii. The Ombudsperson may advise and make suggestions or recommendations, as appropriate, on measures necessary to address problems, taking into account rights, fairness, and existing obligations between the General Secretariat and staff members or other human resources.

xxiv. The Ombudsperson shall not keep records or accept notifications on behalf of the General Secretariat.

Compliance

xxv. The office of the Ombudsperson is expected to obtain and remain in compliance with the Certified Organizational Ombudsman Practitioner (CO-OP®) certification of the International Ombuds Association (IOA).

xxvi. The results of the certification process shall be presented to the Permanent Council, the Audit Committee, and the Secretary General, for review and action as needed.

xxvii. The Ombudsperson is expected to pursue regular training to ensure he/she remains aware of and incorporates best practices.

Article 70. Reporting

(a) The Ombudsperson shall present an annual activities report to the Permanent Council, no later than March 31st each year. This annual report shall be published on the OAS website.

(b) The report shall contain statistical information on the number of issues and their nature. It may incorporate general observations, feedback, and recommendations on aspects of the Ombudsperson's duties and on factors influencing the morale and well-being of staff members and other human resources as observed during the period covered by the report. The Office shall report on case trends and broad systemic issues and make recommendations to improve the internal policies, procedures, systems, and structures of the General Secretariat.

(c) The Permanent Council may, every two years, request an external evaluation by an internationally recognized firm expert in the ombuds profession, as recommended by the Audit Committee, to assess the Office of the Ombudsperson's efficiency, effectiveness, and to identify opportunities for improvement. Results of the assessment shall be presented to the

Permanent Council, the Audit Committee, and the Secretary General, for review and action as needed.

Article 71. Access

~~In carrying his/her functions, the Ombudsperson shall have direct access to the highest level of authority and to all Personnel and Other Human Resources. All Personnel and Other Human Resources, including staff members in managerial positions, are expected to cooperate with the Ombudsperson. The Ombudsperson shall have unrestricted direct access to all information in the General Secretariat, in accordance with the legal framework of the General Secretariat, and shall be free of any interference that could affect the independence and neutrality of his/her functions. All information received by the Ombudsperson shall be used solely for the Ombudsperson functions.~~

Article 72. Qualifications of the Ombudsperson

The Ombudsperson must have the skills, training, and substantial technical experience in multilateral/multinational/multicultural organizations to assist in addressing complex situations and resolving work-related issues and/or grievances. Required skills, training, and experience to fulfill these functions include those related to mediation, conciliation, facilitation, coaching, and training design. Other personal and professional attributes should also include integrity, discretion, and a proven ability in one or more of the following disciplines: alternative dispute resolution, public administration, psychology, human resources management, law, or related fields.

Article 73. Appointment, length of appointment, and removal of the Ombudsperson

A) The Secretary General, in consultation with the Permanent Council, shall appoint the Ombudsperson from a list of three candidates selected according to the following process:

- i. The candidates for Ombudsperson shall be selected in an open competition publicized broadly throughout the member states. Candidates for the Ombudsperson position shall be external to the OAS and not have been employed or have a family member employed by the OAS currently or during the two years prior to the competition.
- ii. The process of selecting the candidates for Ombudsperson shall be conducted by an internationally prestigious company specializing in human resources and executive recruitment, selected by the General Secretariat for this specific purpose, with all relevant stakeholders and the Permanent Council duly apprised.
- iii. The terms of reference for the selection of the company charged with the selection of the candidates for Ombudsperson shall be approved in advance by the Permanent Council.
- iv. The terms of reference for the selection of candidates for Ombudsperson shall be approved in advance by the Permanent Council, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders. These terms of reference shall reflect the requirements provided in Article 72 of these General Standards.
- v. In selecting the candidates, paramount consideration shall be given to technical competence, experience in international organizations, and integrity, with due regard for the principles of rotation and equitable geographical representation that are priorities in the Organization.
- vi. The company chosen shall submit the qualifications of those candidates to the Audit Committee for certification and interview.

- vii. The Audit Committee shall submit to the Secretary General a list of three candidates for the post of Ombudsperson.
 - viii. The Ombudsperson shall serve an initial term of a period of four years, which may be renewed, for one additional period not exceeding four years, except for a transitional period of up to 30 days after the new hired Ombudsperson takes office. A person who has served as Ombudsperson may not work for the General Secretariat, in any capacity after leaving the post.
 - ix. In the event that the Ombudsperson's post becomes vacant, the Secretary General, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders and the Permanent Council, may appoint an Interim Ombudsperson, with the minimum qualifications in accordance with Article 71 of this subchapter, to perform these functions. No more than 12 months shall elapse between the time the post becomes vacant and the time the new Ombudsperson assumes it.
- B) The Ombudsperson may not be terminated without due process and just cause, such as neglect of duties or gross misconduct, or in retaliation for any recommendation made or for any political reason. In order for the Secretary General to terminate the Ombudsperson, or to apply any other disciplinary measure, he/she shall consult with the Permanent Council on his/her decision and inform it of the reasons for it. Before consulting with the Permanent Council, the Secretary General shall offer the Ombudsperson a special hearing to hear his/her statement on the decision he intends to make. The Chair of the Permanent Council shall also be present at that hearing and, for purposes of the consultation, the file on the special hearing shall be made available to the Permanent Council, which shall take such measures of confidentiality as it deems necessary.
- C) The Secretary General shall keep the Staff Association and all relevant stakeholders apprised during the selection, appointment, renewal and/or termination processes. The Permanent Council shall receive comments from the Staff Association and all relevant stakeholders, and take them into consideration prior to exercising its role in these processes.

AG/RES. 2986 (LII-O/22)

ADVANCING HEMISPHERIC SECURITY: A MULTIDIMENSIONAL APPROACH

(Adopted at the first plenary session, held on October 6, 2022)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the “Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly November 2021 – October 2022” ([AG/doc.5765/22 add. 1](#)), in particular the section on the activities of the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CSH);

HAVING SEEN the annual reports presented to the General Assembly at its fifty-second regular session by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) ([CP/doc.5791/22](#)), the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) ([CP/doc.5771/22](#)), and the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB) ([CP/doc.5785/22](#));

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,^{1/} and

RECOGNIZING the important participation and financial contributions of member states, permanent observers, and collaborating partners in advancing the work of the respective committees, entities, and the General Secretariat for enhancing the multidimensional approach to hemispheric security, particularly through their support for the successful implementation of mandates assigned to the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS), and managed by the Executive Secretariat of CICAD, the Executive Secretariat of CICTE, the Department of Public Security (DPS), and the Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTOC), as well as to the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB),

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 ([CP/CSH/INF.566/22](#)); 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 and support; and to instruct the General Secretariat to provide the necessary support to those ends and continue its implementation of those mandates.

1. Second Conference of the States Parties to the CITAAC, April 19, 2022, virtual format; Meeting on special security concerns of the small island and low-lying coastal developing states of

2. To request the General Secretariat, in coordination with the SMS, and the IADB to present to the CSH, during the first quarter of 2023, a list of the mandates for which compliance is still pending, highlighting those that have not been implemented due to a lack of capabilities or resources, as well as a plan for implementing them, which should include the measures to be taken to acquire the required capabilities and resources.

I. Hemispheric multidimensional security outlook and review

A. Declaration on Security in the Americas

3. To instruct the CSH to establish an appropriate mechanism to conclude the discussion on the advisability of reviewing the Declaration on Security in the Americas, taking into account the deliberations on the subject during the previous meetings of the Committee. Also, to request that it report to the General Assembly, at its next regular session, on the decision taken by member states regarding reviewing the declaration and, if applicable, to propose a roadmap for that review.

B. Declaration of Bridgetown: Multidimensional Approach to Hemispheric Security

4. To instruct the CSH to review and report to the General Assembly at its next regular session, on the integration and implementation of the agreements adopted in the Declaration of Bridgetown: The Multidimensional Approach to Hemispheric Security in the programs and activities undertaken under the four strategic pillars of the OAS.

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

A. The Americas as a zone of peace

5. To advance peace and security within the framework of the Committee on Hemispheric Security by promoting democratic governance, the resilience of member states, dialogue, cooperation, and respect for human rights.

B. Disarmament and non-proliferation in the Hemisphere

6. To urge member states to strengthen the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) through consensus at its Review Conference this year, as well as effective implementation of measures related to biosafety and biosecurity, in line with United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and the BWC, in order to strengthen national capacities to implement the Convention and prevent, detect, and respond to deliberate biological threats.

7. To reaffirm the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as the cornerstone of the nuclear nonproliferation regime, underscoring the need for the states parties to the NPT to immediately resume their efforts to strengthen, within a balanced framework, the Treaty's three pillars (nonproliferation, disarmament, and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy). Also, to take note of the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).^{2/}

2. The United States shares the interest in continuing efforts to strengthen all three pillars of the NPT. We all share the common goal of a nuclear-weapon free world, but the United States remains ...

C. The Americas as an antipersonnel-landmine-free zone^{3/}

8. To consider the contributions made by comprehensive antipersonnel mine action in the Hemisphere to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and how it can play a key role in facilitating the triple nexus of humanitarian, development, and peace initiatives.

9. To take into consideration the needs of landmine survivors and affected communities, and to support member states' efforts to ensure their equal participation in society.

10. To urge member states, permanent observers, and collaborating partners to consider increasing their technical and financial assistance to the Governments of Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru to support their efforts to continue with humanitarian demining in their territories, considering the commitment to eliminate mined areas by 2025, to the extent possible, aligned with the objectives and principles of the Ottawa Convention.

11. To request that the General Secretariat, through the Department of Public Security (DPS), strengthen the support to member states in antipersonnel mine removal, antipersonnel mine risk education training, comprehensive assistance and economic reintegration to mine survivors and their families, and recovery of mined areas, considering a gender and ethnic approach, and report to the CSH in the second quarter of 2023 on the status of implementation of the Program for Comprehensive Action against Antipersonnel Mines (AICMA), and, in particular:

- a. on the progress made in implementing the mandate set forth in paragraph 13 of AG/RES. 2970 (LI-O/21), regarding the identification and securing of voluntary financial resources for comprehensive mine action programs to be executed by member states requesting technical assistance and cooperation; and
- b. on the activities carried out by AICMA in support of member states that made such requests.

12. To request that the IADB increase its active participation in meetings, forums, and seminars on humanitarian demining, and continue to provide AICMA missions with technical advisors and/or quality assurance monitors.

III. Strengthening hemispheric security and defense cooperation

A. Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas

13. To support member states in implementing the outcomes of the Fifteenth Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas (XV CDMA) held from July 26 to 29, 2022, in Brasilia and chaired by Brazil, as adopted in the Declaration of Brasilia ([CP/CSH/INF.565/22](#)), through the CSH and the IADB.

14. To offer the Government of Argentina, through the IADB, the necessary support and advice requested from the OAS for the success of the XVI CDMA, which is to be held in 2024.

3. The United States is the largest contributor of humanitarian demining assistance in the world and the Hemisphere. We have contributed over \$4.7 billion for conventional weapons destruction ...

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

15. To request that the CSH convene the tenth meeting of the Forum on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the first half of 2023, and to request that the IADB and the SMS provide the CSH with the necessary technical support for organizing that event.

16. To urge the member states and the donor community to consider providing financial support for the development of a modern electronic platform to manage the CBSMs, and to request the DOITS, DPS, and IADB to continue supporting member states in the use, management, and maintenance of the platform.

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

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

17. To convene the Eighth Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Public Security in the Americas (MISPA-VIII), which will be held in 2023.

18. To convene the Third Meeting of the Subsidiary Technical Working Group on the Prevention of Crime, Violence, and Insecurity, which will be held prior to MISPA-VIII.

19. To encourage member states to consult and make use of the resources prepared by the Subsidiary Technical Working Group on Emergency and Security Systems,^{4/} under the coordination of DPS, and to participate in future hemispheric exercises for the systematization and sharing of experiences regarding emergency assistance and response.

B. Preventing violence and crime

20. To request that the SMS, through the DPS, report to the CSH, during the second quarter of 2023, on the activities it is carrying out to comply with the mandates established in paragraph 25, subparagraphs a, b, and c, of resolution AG/RES. 2970 (LI-O/21), through:

- a. violence and crime prevention projects under the Inter-American Program for the Prevention of Violence and Crime;
- b. the “[OASIS Program](#) – Music for the prevention of violence and strengthening of community networks” of the Department of Public Safety; and
- c. training courses on topics related to the prevention and reduction of violence and crime, especially gender-based violence.

21. To instruct the SMS, through the DPS, to develop and submit for the consideration of the member states a series of regional recommendations to prevent and reduce gender-based violence related to the illicit use of firearms, within the framework of the OASIS Program and the Program of Assistance for Control of Arms and Munition (PACAM).

4. The resources are available in the following link:
<https://portal.educoas.org/es/redes/oadsp/comunidades/experiencias-covid-19-covid-19-experiences?lang=en>.

22. To support continued efforts at the OAS to raise awareness of the Montreux Document and seek additional OAS members states support for it and support OAS efforts to raise awareness of the International Code of Conduct Association (ICoCA) and encourage member states to join it.

C. Information and knowledge with regard to multidimensional security

23. To urge member states' emergency and security sector actors (operators, dispatchers, supervisors, first responders, and other related emergency institutions), crime observatories, and crime analysts to join and participate in their respective Inter-American Communities.

24. To promote the transfer of public information and knowledge on multidimensional security between academic institutions and government actors in the security sector.

25. To request that the SMS, through the DPS, report to the CSH, during the second quarter of 2013, on the progress made in updating the Intentional Homicide Knowledge Platform. Accordingly, to urge member states to complement the Form for the Collection of Information on Initiatives to Prevent and Reduce Homicide in the region.

26. To encourage member states to participate in the data collection cycle of the Questionnaire on Illicit Arms Flows and the Questionnaire for the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, and to request the SMS, through the relevant departments, to formalize a cooperative agreement with UNODC to participate in this process.

D. Advancing police cooperation

27. To hold the third in-person REDPPOL police training course prior to MISPA-VIII.

28. To request that the SMS, through the DPS:

- a. continue strengthening the implementation and certification of quality management in police processes within the framework of the Inter-American Network for Police Development and Professionalization (REDPPOL);
- b. update the REDPPOL Virtual Community, with the support of the police officer recently appointed by the Government of Ecuador to assist the REDPPOL; and
- c. submit a report to the CSH, during the second quarter of 2013, on the activities carried out through REDPPOL.

E. Justice, penitentiary and prison systems

29. To hold Fifth Meeting of Officials Responsible for the Penitentiary and Prison Policies of the OAS Member States prior to MISPA-VIII.

30. To request the SMS, through the DPS, to consolidate a database of good practices implemented in the region to improve prison systems, in order to share information that can contribute to the development of prison strategies in member states.

31. To urge member states to develop prison strategies to provide solutions, as appropriate, for their countries' prison challenges within a framework of full respect for the human rights of persons deprived of their liberty, such as the methodology recently used by the Government of Honduras to develop a Prison Strategy and its Plan of Action, with the support of the DPS.

32. To request that the SMS, through the DPS, continue to support member states, that so request, in their efforts to:

- a. improve the capacity of their prosecutors' offices and judiciaries to investigate and prosecute crimes through infrastructure improvements, technological upgrades, and training;
- b. strengthen the rehabilitation and social reintegration of persons deprived of their liberty in the criminal justice system.

33. To request the Justice Studies Center of the Americas to continue to support member states in the design, implementation, and evaluation of public policies in the areas of justice and prisons, to strengthen the rule of law and increase access to justice, especially for persons in situations of vulnerability, through studies, technical assistance, and training.

F. Promoting cybersecurity

34. To welcome the steps taken by CICTE to operationalize the Confidence-Building and Cooperation Measures in Cyberspace, and to further address shared threats in cyberspace, including malicious cyber activities that have disrupted critical infrastructure and services to citizens and economies in the hemisphere.

35. To take further steps to promote information sharing and technical cross-regional support, including by/with UN organs, on the impact of malicious actors engaging in ransomware and other misuses of ICTs for criminal purposes, with a view to preventing and mitigating their effects.

36. To request that the SMS convene, in 2023, a coordination meeting of the various OAS organs responsible for digital security and protection of information and communication technology (ICT), for the purpose of discussing and aligning the various mandates with a view to improving coordination, efficiency, and effectiveness of actions, programs, and projects and present a consolidated report on the results and findings of the meeting to the General Assembly.

37. To instruct CICTE, CITEL, and the IADB to submit, in the first half of 2023, a report on activities concerning emergency responses against cyber incidents, for consideration by the Committee on Hemispheric Security.

V. Transnational organized crime

A. Combating transnational organized crime

38. To convene the Fourth Meeting of National Authorities on Transnational Organized Crime (RANDOT IV), to be held during the second half of 2023, within the framework of the CSH, in order to analyze the progress made by member states, exchange information, learn about best practices, and develop recommendations that contribute to the implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action

against Transnational Organized Crime. To this end instruct the Permanent Council to establish, through the CSH, a working group to coordinate preparations for RANDOT IV and prepare the statutes as well as the rules of procedures for RANDOT, and request the SMS, through the Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTOC), to provide the assistance and technical support necessary for its implementation.

39. To invite member states and regional and international organizations to consider making voluntary contributions to the Fund against Transnational Organized Crime provided for in the Hemispheric Plan of Action.

40. To include the Group of Experts against Money Laundering (GELAVEX) in the Meeting of National Authorities on Transnational Organized Crime (RANDOT) and, accordingly, invite GELAVEX to keep the forum duly informed about its activities, during the RANDOT meetings and/or during annual meetings of its focal points. To this end, request the DTOC, in its capacity as GELAVEX's technical secretariat, to continue supporting the job of the Group of Experts.

B. Hemispheric cooperation efforts to combat trafficking in persons

41. To request that the General Secretariat, through the DPS and the DTOC, provide the assistance and technical support necessary to the Government of the United States pursuant to its welcome offer to chair the Seventh Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons (RTP VII), to be held during 2023.

42. To invite member states to collaborate with the OAS Human Trafficking Knowledge Platform, the first phase of which was developed with contributions from the Governments of Mexico and Argentina, and to contribute to the Voluntary Contribution Fund of the Inter-American Network for the Prevention of Violence and Crime for the development of the second phase.

43. To urge member states to review and strengthen actions to combat forced labor by prosecuting and punishing traffickers, proactively identifying and protecting victims of forced labor, and preventing fraudulent recruitment practices that facilitate trafficking given that recent global reports have highlighted government responses as lagging behind a continued increase in forced labor around the world.

44. To request that the SMS, through the DPS and DTOC:

- a. report to the CSH, during the second quarter of 2023, on the progress made in the framework of the United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT); and
- b. continue with the development of regulatory and legislative frameworks on human trafficking, in line with international standards, within the resources available.

45. To request that the SMS, through the DPS:

- a. continue to move forward with preparations and testing of the Human Trafficking Knowledge Platform; and

- b. carry on with the process of training multisectoral professionals to strengthen coordinated and integrated responses to prevent human trafficking, and assist its victims and survivors, within the resources available.

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

46. To encourage member states, permanent observers, and international organizations to continue supporting PACAM, currently being implemented by the DPS, through the second phase of the project “Support of Efforts to Prevent and Combat Illicit Proliferation and Trafficking of Small Arms, Light Weapons and Ammunition and Their Impact in the Americas” for the 2022–2025 period, with the financial support of the European Union.

47. To request that the SMS, through the DPS and within the framework of PACAM, which is a voluntary program:

- a. continue to provide technical assistance to those member states to strengthen their abilities to prevent and address the illicit manufacture and trafficking of small arms, light weapons (SALW), and their ammunition, including preventive initiatives to reduce illicit access to them, in accordance with CIFTA and the provisions of the Inter-American Program for the Prevention of Violence and Crime and the Hemispheric Plan of Action to Guide the Design of Public Policies to Prevent and Reduce Intentional Homicide; and
- b. develop and seek funding for initiatives to strengthen institutional capacities of the police forces of OAS member states to trace and investigate the illicit origin of SALW used to commit crimes, in collaboration with police cooperation agencies, such as INTERPOL, as well as with agencies from OAS member states with tracing mechanisms.

VI. Regional and specialized security concerns and challenges

A. Security concerns of member states of the Central American Integration System (SICA)

48. To request the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS):

- a. through CICTE and within the framework of the results of the meeting on security concerns of SICA, held on June 23, 2022, to contribute to the Regional Digital Strategy (ERDI) being implemented by the member countries of the Integration System, specifically in the components of Cybersecurity, Cybercrime and Data Protection, to strengthen the member states' capabilities to identify, detect, and effectively prosecute crimes committed via the use of information and communications technologies in cyberspace; and
- b. to continue supporting the states of the region that so request, in the design and implementation of national policies, strategies, laws, and any other initiative that contributes to strengthening cybersecurity capabilities and critical infrastructure to counter criminal operations in cyberspace.

49. To support the efforts of SICA member states in the fight against transnational organized crime, as prioritized in the regional agenda on risks and threats, approved by the SICA Heads of State and Government in 2020, and to call attention to the negative impact on public security that the actions of groups linked to transnational organized crime in the SICA region have in different degrees and forms and, in that regard, to instruct the CSH to analyze the issue at the next meeting on security concerns of SICA.

50. To request that the SMS, through the DPS and in coordination with SICA and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC), develop a proposal for a Central American Road Map for the Prevention of Illicit Trafficking and Proliferation of Arms and Ammunition, and to encourage Central American countries to actively participate in that process, considering the ESCA framework and the lessons learned from successful experiences in other subregions, such as the CARICOM and the Dominican Republic road map.

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

51. To urge member states and permanent observers to increase cooperation and collaboration efforts to overcome the multidimensional security challenges to and vulnerabilities in advancing social, economic, and environmental/climate resilience in the small-island and low-lying coastal developing states of the Caribbean, as identified at the CSH meeting on the special security concerns of the Caribbean, held on May 26, 2022, with the theme “Countering the Challenges of Trafficking and Transnational Organized Crime and Improving Cybersecurity to Advance the Resilience of the Small-Island and Low-Lying Coastal Developing States of the Caribbean.”

52. To instruct the CSH, in collaboration with the General Secretariat and based on consultation with national authorities and subregional organizations, to continue advancing and promoting opportunities for increased cooperation at all levels so as to support strategic skills acquisition and institutional capacity-building for the small island and low-lying coastal developing states of the Caribbean to counter illegal trafficking and transnational organized crime and improve cybersecurity. The General Secretariat will report on the activities undertaken to advance resilience in member states, at the meeting of the CSH on the special security concerns of small island and low-lying coastal developing states in 2023.

53. To request the General Secretariat, through the SMS, SEDI, and the IADB, with the support of the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR) and in consultation with international and regional disaster management organizations, to prepare and provide to small island and low-lying coastal developing states of the Caribbean that request such assistance, by the third quarter of 2023, cooperation policy lessons-learned and technical assistance guidelines on the use of foreign military and civil defense assets and capabilities in humanitarian assistance and disaster response situations (HADR), as presented by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) at the Joint Meeting of the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), held on June 29, 2022, on “Strengthening the Role of the OAS in Advancing Disaster Resilience in the Hemisphere.”

54. To request that the SMS, in coordination with UNLIREC and CARICOM IMPACS, through the DPS and within the framework of PACAM, continue providing support for the “Road Map

for Implementing the Caribbean Priority Actions on the Illicit Proliferation of Firearms and Ammunition across the Caribbean in a Sustainable Manner by 2030.”

C. Security implications of climate change^{5/}

55. To encourage member states, as well as permanent observers, and the donor community, to provide the necessary financial and technical support for strengthening the General Secretariat’s capacity to assist member states in assessing and addressing the security implications of climate change, based on their expressed concerns regarding the current limitations.

56. To instruct the CSH to establish a working group, which would develop in collaboration with the SMS, SEDI, and the IADB, an action plan and a program management process to support member states that may request technical and advisory assistance, in:

- a. strengthening their adaptation measures to mitigate the security implications of climate change and enhance their climate resilience;
- b. strengthening their security and military capacity to assist with environmental protection, including coastal and forest protection, and biodiversity conservation; and,
- c. studying possible factors and situations in which climate change may exacerbate insecurity.

57. To instruct the General Secretariat to review the report presented to the CSH by the SMS in compliance with the mandates in paragraphs 62 and 64 of AG/RES. 2970 (LI-O/21), in order to:

- a. identify and inform the CSH of its capacity-building requirements to assess and support member states in addressing the security implications of climate change, and,
- b. implement those measures that are achievable within existing resources, in order to strengthen the integrated capacity of the SMS, SEDI, and IADB in assessing and addressing the security implications of climate change in collaboration with member states that may request such technical assistance or advice.

D. Illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing

58. To urge member states to exchange information on illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, in collaboration with competent regional and international organizations, especially the FAO.

VII. Disaster response and critical infrastructure protection

59. To finish developing in 2023 a Model National Strategy on Protection of Critical Infrastructure for all hazards, including natural disasters, which was entrusted to the General Secretariat by resolutions AG/RES. 2925 (XLVIII-O/18) and AG/RES. 2950 (L-O/20).

5. 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 ...

60. To urge member states to implement, as appropriate, the measures contained in the Model National Strategy on Protection of Critical Infrastructure for all hazards, including natural disasters, with a view to strengthening the resiliency of the region's physical and digital critical infrastructure.

61. To request that the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security, through the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), support member states that request assistance in bolstering their national critical infrastructure, including through activities to facilitate implementation of the Model Strategy.

VIII. Inter-American institutions and instruments

A. Inter-American legal instruments

62. To urge OAS member states to actively participate in the 2023 Meeting of the States Parties to the Agreement Concerning Co-Operation in Suppressing Illicit Maritime and Air Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in the Caribbean Area (Treaty of San Jose) as a signatory state or full state party, as appropriate.

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

63. To recognize that illicit trafficking of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials has helped to produce violence and an increase in the power of criminal organizations, with the attendant loss of human life, erosion of the social fabric, and reduction in people's development opportunities, making it a matter of urgency to develop and/or strengthen, as appropriate, hemispheric cooperation mechanisms to prevent, combat, and eradicate these phenomena under the principle of shared responsibility.

64. To encourage signatory states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials, and to strengthen coordination and cooperation mechanisms, in order to consolidate the effective implementation of the Convention.

65. To extend the "2018-2022 Course of Action" for the operation and implementation of the CIFTA until the next meeting of the Conference of States Parties and that the OAS General Secretariat, through the Department against Transnational Organized Crime and the Department of Public Security, provide technical assistance and promote cooperation among member states that require it.

66. To urge member states to share data generated from the collection and analysis of trends related to seized, recovered, or confiscated illicitly trafficked arms and ammunition in order to assist the Hemispheric Study on Illicit Trafficking in Firearms and Ammunition being conducted by the Department of Public Security.

67. 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 OAS General Secretariat,

and to designate or update the Single Point of Contact for Cooperation and Information Exchange, the Central Authority for Legal Assistance, and the Operational Point of Contact for Tracing.

68. To request the CIFTA Technical Secretariat to prepare a report on the status of implementation of the “Arms and Ammunition Inventory System” and the “Regional Communication Mechanism for Illicit Arms Transfers”; in addition to making a technical comparison between the OAS Model Regulations for the Control of the International Movement of Firearms, their Parts and Components, and Ammunition and the guidelines established in the United Nations Modular Small-arms-control Implementation Compendium (MOSAIC).

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

70. To convene the twenty-third regular meeting of the Consultative Committee of the CIFTA in 2023, sufficiently in advance of General Assembly, in accordance with Article XXI of the Convention, and to request the Technical Secretariat of the CIFTA to support its preparation and follow-up. Likewise, that the regular meeting of the Consultative Committee consider the participation of the national authorities responsible for granting authorizations or licenses for the export, import, and transit of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials; and of customs and border authorities and other officials responsible for implementing the Convention.

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

71. To welcome and endorse the Recommendations of the Second Conference of the States Parties to the CITAAC, held on April 19, 2022, and chaired by the Government of Canada (document CITAAC/CEP-II/doc.8/22 rev. 2).

72. To convene, in 2023, the First Meeting of the CITAAC Consultative Committee, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the States Parties to the CITAAC (CITAAC/CEP-II/doc. 5/22 rev. 2) and the Rules of Procedure of the CITAAC Consultative Committee (CITAAC/CEP-II/doc. 4/22 rev. 2), approved by the Second Conference of the States Parties to the CITAAC, and to request that the General Secretariat allocate the necessary funds for this meeting and for the holding of the preparatory meetings.

73. To request that the SMS, through the DPS, provide the necessary support for preparations for the First Meeting of the CITAAC Consultative Committee.

Inter-American Convention against Terrorism

74. To thank the Government of Peru for chairing and leading the work of the Meeting of Consultation of the States Party to the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism (“the Convention”), held virtually on September 12, 2022, and to endorse the Declaration and recommendations of the meeting, which calls on member states to, among other things, reaffirm their commitment to the principles of the Convention and to convene another Meeting of Consultation of the States Party in 2027.

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

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 Charter of the Organization of American States)

Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE)

76. To reiterate its strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, regardless of who the perpetrators are, where these acts are committed, and for what purpose.

77. To reaffirm its commitment to the work of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (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 and finance the implementation of its 2022-2023 work plan, based on voluntary contributions from states.

78. To endorse the modified Rules of Procedure of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, as contained in document X.2.22 CICTE/doc.7 rev. 1, approved by CICTE during its twenty-second regular session.

79. To request that the CICTE Secretariat, in line with its approved annual work plan and subject to the availability of financial resources, continue to support member states that so request, with technical, legislative, and/or awareness-raising assistance to strengthen:

- a. The security and resilience of the regional and global supply chain from physical and cyber threats, including measures to bolster land, sea, and airport security, such as interdiction capacities, public-private sector cooperation, and inter-agency coordination.
- b. The protection of international civil aviation from acts of illicit interference, including possible terrorist acts, in close collaboration with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO);
- c. Institutional capacity, as well as national, regional and international cooperation, to protect vulnerable targets and crowded spaces, including tourist destinations and major events, from possible terrorist threats and other security risks;
- d. Efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism that can lead to terrorism, with a particular focus on capacity building and awareness-raising activities for security, diplomatic, and consular officials;
- e. The identification and investigation of terrorist groups operating in the region, where applicable and in accordance with national laws, including through the Inter-American Network on Counter terrorism;
- f. Resilience to the growing threat that malicious cyber activities pose to the critical infrastructure/essential services of the region; and hemispheric

cooperation and coordination to prevent and mitigate those threats, including through the CSIRTAmericas network;

- g. A gender and youth perspective in all technical assistance and capacity-building activities.

80. To convene, with the technical support of the CICTE Secretariat, and subject to available financial and human resources:

- a. a meeting in 2023 of customs, law enforcement, and other border management authorities of the region, including representatives of health and agriculture agencies, in order to foster greater cooperation and dialogue on measures to strengthen supply chain security at ports of entry, including land, air, and seaports, in collaboration with other partners working in the field, among them the World Customs Organization;
- b. the Fourth Meeting of CICTE's Working Group on Cooperation and Confidence-Building Measures in Cyberspace during the second half of 2022 in order to discuss, among other things, new and agreed-upon cyber CBMs and to strengthen regional cooperation, transparency, predictability, and stability in cyberspace;
- c. the twenty-third regular session of CICTE in the first half of 2023 or sufficiently in advance of that year's regular session of the General Assembly.

81. To recognize the commitment made by the Heads of State of the Americas during the Ninth Summit of the Americas "Regional Agenda for Digital Transformation, Section C-Cybersecurity" and to instruct SMS, through the CICTE Secretariat, to continue supporting member states in their cybersecurity capacity-building efforts so as to develop the regional workforce needed to achieve those Summit mandates.

82. To request that SMS, through the CICTE Secretariat, continue to support member states in developing and/or revising cybersecurity strategies and/or programs, and to continue to foster the exchange of information, experiences, and good practices, as well as to continue supporting cybersecurity capacity building. In that regard, synergies should be fostered with other multilateral cybersecurity processes, which include the analysis of existing and potential threats; international law; standards, rules, and principles of responsible behavior of states; confidence-building measures; capacity building; and gender perspective.

Inter-American Defense Board (IADB)

83. To encourage the relevant organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS to strengthen their ties with the IADB, as an entity of the OAS, governed by the principles of civilian oversight and the subordination of military institutions to civilian authority, with a view to strengthening the role of the inter-American system in advancing hemispheric security.

84. To request that the IADB present the CSH with the results of Project 140, "IADB 2032: Transformation to the next decade," to enable an assessment of the feasibility of implementing its recommendations.

85. To encourage the IADB to continue to interact and strengthen the relationship with the Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas (CDMA) and related and subregional mechanisms.

86. To request that, to the extent of its capabilities, the IADB support implementation of the following activities referred to the OAS by the CDMA in the Brasilia Declaration by:

- a. Collecting, sharing, and disseminating among OAS member states lessons learned in the areas of humanitarian assistance and migration flows;
- b. Keeping each OAS member state's databases of the points of contact for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HA/DR) up to date;
- c. Continuing to develop the Mechanism for Cooperation in the Event of Disasters (MECODE), in order to improve response and coordination procedures among the Hemisphere's countries and mechanisms for dealing with natural and man-made disasters and, to that end, organize an annual table-top exercise;
- d. Making a presentation on the topic of integrated deterrence – air, land, sea, and cyber space - at a meeting of the Committee on Hemispheric Security, to be convened in the first half of 2023, in order to contribute to an analysis of this concept and to address the implications this could have for member states; and
- e. Continuing to compile the CDMA's historical memory and update its website.

87. To instruct the IADB, in coordination with other relevant organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS, to continue to provide technical advice and training for the implementation of General Assembly mandates regarding confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs), taking into account a gender perspective; humanitarian demining; management of stockpiles of firearms, ammunition, and explosives; land, maritime, air, and space security and protection; and cyberdefense. Accordingly, to request that it continue to provide technical support to the SMS in the administration, management, and collection of information from member states to feed into the OAS's Inter-American CSBM Database.

88. To request the IADB, in coordination with other relevant organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS, to continue strengthening the mechanisms of hemispheric cooperation in cyber defense, human rights, international humanitarian law, and the implementation of the Women, Peace, and Security agenda, as well as its role in and possibilities for mitigating and addressing emerging threats.

89. To congratulate the Inter-American Defense College (IADC) on its sixtieth anniversary, on the consolidation of the master's program in hemispheric defense and security studies, and on the upcoming implementation of a doctoral program, as a result of which new research and academic outreach capabilities are being developed. In addition, to encourage it to establish permanent distance training and education programs.

90. To encourage member states, permanent observers, and other partners to consider making voluntary financial contributions to the IADB's Inter-American Defense Fund and the IADC's Voluntary Education Fund. In addition, to invite member states to consider commissioning human resources to support the smooth functioning of the Board's organs and the achievement of its objectives.

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)

91. To thank the Governmental Expert Group (GEG) of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) for drafting the thematic national reports on the area of “Measures of Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support” of the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2021-2025 throughout 2021, and recognize the participation of member states in that first year of the eighth round of evaluation of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), as well as encourage their participation in the evaluation of the thematic area “Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their Causes and Consequences” during 2022.

92. To encourage member states to promote, implement, and strengthen demand reduction and public health measures, in accordance with results obtained from the eighth round of the MEM, with particular attention to measures aimed at reducing the stigma associated with people who use drugs, and to develop and implement relevant quality-assurance mechanisms in line with international standards.

93. To urge member states to develop or update national drug strategies and, where appropriate, their corresponding plans of action, to promote balanced, multidisciplinary, and scientific evidence-based approaches, with full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and in accordance with international drug conventions and commitments, and which incorporate a gender perspective that also takes into consideration development and public health and public safety concerns.

94. To encourage countries to develop and/or strengthen treatment and prevention systems, with properly trained professionals and specialists, so as to ensure quality care in line with applicable international standards, as well as to promote research based on scientific evidence and monitoring and evaluation of treatment and prevention program outcomes.

95. To encourage member states to promote comprehensive alternative development programs to reduce illicit crop cultivation that also mitigates and reduces the impact of illicit crops and drug production on the environment while taking into consideration the well-being and development of affected at-risk populations.

96. To encourage member states to develop mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating alternatives to incarceration for minor and non-violent drug-related offenses, in collaboration with academic and research institutions and civil society, taking into consideration persons in vulnerable situations and the gender perspective.

97. To encourage member states to strengthen efforts to address and counter the proliferation of new psychoactive substances (NPS) and illicit synthetic drugs, in particular methamphetamine and synthetic opioids that may pose serious risks to public health and safety, to promote increased information sharing and analysis through early warning systems, including the International Narcotics Control Board and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime platforms, to disseminate information that provides a timely and effective response, and to promote training for multidisciplinary and interagency technical teams to effectively generate and share such information.

98. To urge member states to continue supporting efforts to counter illicit drug trafficking by air, taking into consideration the increasing use of light aircraft, private jets, and drones, as well as the issue of clandestine landing strips and the resulting damage caused to the environment, and to encourage active participation in the CICAD Working Group on Aerial Drug Trafficking Control.

99. To urge member states to intensify efforts to counter maritime and riverine illicit drug trafficking by strengthening the control and vigilance of all control and interdiction related activities carried out in the maritime and riverine domain, in accordance with international conventions, and to encourage active participation in the CICAD Groups of Experts on Maritime Narcotrafficking.

100. To accept with thanks the offer of the Government of the Republic of Paraguay to organize the seventy-second regular session of CICAD, which will take place at the end of 2022.

II. FOLLOW-UP AND REPORTING

101. To request the Permanent Council 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.

102. To invite member states, permanent observers, and collaborating partners to continue supporting the design, implementation, and evaluation of programs and projects on hemispheric security topics.

III. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS^{6/}

Sequence	Topic	Estimated date	Name	Place
1	MISPA	2023	Eighth Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Public Security in the Americas (MISPA-VIII)	TBD
2	Trafficking in Persons	2023	Seventh Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons (RTP VII)	Washington, D.C.
3	CITAAC	2023	First Meeting of the CITAAC Consultative Committee	TBD
4	CIFTA	2023	Twenty-third regular meeting of the CIFTA Consultative Committee	TBD
5	CSBMs	2023	Tenth Forum on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures	Washington, D.C.
6	MISPA	2023	Third Meeting of the Subsidiary Technical Group on the	TBD

6. Provisional list of meetings.

Sequence	Topic	Estimated date	Name	Place
			Prevention of Crime, Violence, and Insecurity	
7	Justice, penitentiary, and prison systems	2023	Fifth Meeting of Officials Responsible for the Penitentiary and Prison Policies of the OAS Member States	TBD
8	TOC	Second half of 2023	IV Meeting of National Authorities on Transnational Organized Crime (RANDOT IV)	TBD
9	CICTE	Second half of 2023	Fourth Meeting of the CICTE Working Group on Cooperation and Confidence-Building Measures in Cyberspace	TBD

FOOTNOTES

1. ... the Caribbean, May 26, 2022, virtual format; Meeting on security concerns of member states of the Central American Integration System (SICA), June 23, 2022, virtual format; Seventy-first regular session of CICAD, June 28, 2022, virtual format; Twenty-second regular session of CICTE, July 27, 2022, virtual format; Twenty-second regular meeting of the Consultative Committee of the CIFTA, September 8, 2022, virtual format; Meeting of Consultation of States Parties to the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, September 12, 2022, virtual format.

2. ... firmly opposed to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, or TPNW. This treaty is not an “effective measure” for disarmament as set forth in Article VI of the NPT.

3. ... (which includes humanitarian demining) since 1993. The United States will continue to support OAS efforts to eliminate the humanitarian threat of all remaining landmines and declare countries “mine-impact-free.” In June 2022, the United States announced that it would align its activities outside the Korean Peninsula with key requirements of the Ottawa Convention. This means the United States will:

- Not develop, produce, or acquire APL;
- Not export or transfer APL, except when necessary for activities related to mine detection or removal, and for the purpose of destruction;
- Not use APL outside of the Korean Peninsula;
- Not assist, encourage, or induce anyone, outside of the context of the Korean Peninsula, to engage in any activity that would be prohibited by the Ottawa Convention; and
- Undertake to destroy all APL stockpiles not required for the defense of the Republic of Korea.

5. ... 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.

AG/RES. 2987 (LII-O/22)

THE KEY ROLE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES IN ADVANCING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS/INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES
THROUGH THE INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION

(Adopted at the first plenary session, held on October 6, 2022)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

Resolution 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,” adopted on November 11, 2021; and,

Resolution AG/RES. 2971 (LI-O/21), “Program-Budget of the Organization for 2022,” adopted on November 11, 2021, as regards the mandates relating to CITELE;

NOTING resolution CITELE/RES. 80 (VII-18), “Strengthening CITELE within the OAS,” adopted by the Seventh Regular Meeting of the Assembly of CITELE, in which CITELE invites the OAS General Assembly to renew its commitment to the financial sustainability of CITELE; and

CONSIDERING:

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

That CITELE is the specialized agency of the OAS for 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 initiative 2030 ICT Alliance for the Americas, calls for greater investment in broadband infrastructure, the promotion of broadband access in the interest of social inclusion, and the Rural Women’s Alliance – Empowering Rural Women Through ICTs;

That, reflecting its unique membership-based role and its ability to bring together academia, the private sector, the technical community, and government, 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 Inter-American Proposals;

That, according to the ITU, to date one-third of the region’s population does not have 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 the debate

of and reaching agreement 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 round tables and forums coordinated by the Secretariat of CITELE, made a positive contribution to the responses of OAS member states to better address the inequalities arising from COVID-19 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 regarding telecommunications during and after the COVID-19 pandemic;

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

That CITELE has undertaken actions in coordination with the ITU, CTU, and Regional Telecommunication Technical Commission (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, it is necessary to guarantee the financial sustainability of CITELE in order to ensure that it is equipped with the tools required to continue with its work and to implement its 2022–2026 Strategic Plan in line with the Organization’s Comprehensive Strategic Plan,

RESOLVES:

1. To encourage member states 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 Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITELE).

2. To encourage member states to implement activities in their countries and in the region in order to advance the strengthening of telecommunications/information and communication technologies as key drivers of sustainable development, and to invite them to participate in the various activities organized by CITELE.

3. To reaffirm to the other OAS bodies that CITELE is the Organization’s entity whose mission is to facilitate and promote the integrated, sustainable development of telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) for all pertinent purposes.

4. To request that, in the draft program-budget for 2023 for consideration by the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs and adoption by the General Assembly, the OAS 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 Assembly of CITELE, and with Resolution AG/RES. 2971 (LI-O/21), “Program-Budget of the Organization for 2022,” adopted at the fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly, so that the Commission can continue fulfilling its goals and mission and optimize its operation.

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

6. To adopt the amendments to the CITELE Statutes, approved by means of resolution CITELE/RES. 92 (VIII-22), at the Eighth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITELE), contained in Annex 1 to this resolution

7. To take note of the amendments to the CITELE Regulations, approved through resolution CITELE/RES. 92 (VIII-22), at the Eighth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITELE), contained in Annex 2 to this resolution.

REFORM OF THE STATUTE
OF THE INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION^{1/}

Article 14
Membership

The Permanent Executive Committee (COM/CITEL) is the executive organ of CITEL. It is composed of representatives of thirteen Member States elected at the CITEL Assembly, who shall serve until the next Regular Meeting of the Assembly.

One of the members, the Chair, shall be the representative of the member state hosting the meeting of the CITEL Assembly in which the election takes place. The Vice-Chair shall be the representative of the member state in whose territory the next Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly will be held. In the election of the remaining eleven member states, the principles of rotation and of equitable geographic representation shall be observed, insofar as possible. The candidacies for membership of the CITEL Permanent Executive Committee must be presented by the OAS member states at least 30 days before the opening of the CITEL Assembly.

1. CITEL RES. 92 (VIII-22)

REFORM OF THE REGULATIONS
OF THE INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION^{1/}

ARTICLE 12
Order of Precedence

At the informal heads of delegation prior to the opening session of the Assembly, an order of precedence for the delegations shall be established. This order of precedence shall be used for the delegations' location in the meeting room, in the voting process and in the use of the floor whenever the delegations are requested to give their opinions on some subject-matter.

ARTICLE 69
Duties of the Chair of a PCC

The Chair of a PCC shall:

[...]

- e. Ensure that the Working Groups, Ad Hoc Groups, and Rapporteurships established, as well as the coordination tasks assigned, operate in accordance with the working procedures that govern PCC activities, as provided in Article 85.

[...]

ARTICLE 71
Working Groups, Ad Hoc Groups and Rapporteurships

1. Each PCC may establish working groups and ad hoc groups in accordance with Article 85. Those groups shall submit reports of their activities to the corresponding PCC.

[...]

ARTICLE 74
Participation of Associate Members

[...]

2. Associate members of a PCC may fully participate in all the activities of that PCC with voice but without vote. They may submit technical documents and receive documents from the Committee they belong to, as provided in Article 24 of the Regulations. An associate member of any PCC shall be entitled to participate in the work of any joint working group of the PCC to which that associate member belongs, without being requested the payment of additional fees. The active associate members, as provided in Article 75.4 of the Regulations, can be nominated as spokespersons, rapporteurs, or coordinators.

1. CITEL RES. 92 (VIII-22).

[...]

ARTICLE 75
Associate Membership Fee

[...]

4. Associate members shall pay their annual contribution in advance. The due date for the payment of the annual membership fee is January 1 of the corresponding year; however, for a new associate member, the due date during the first year of membership is thirty days after that Member receives notice of its acceptance as an associate member. Associate members who pay their membership fees within sixty days after the due date shall be deemed active associate members. Those who do not pay within this time without informing the Executive Secretary on the reasons for such delay shall be deemed passive associate members, and shall have their membership privileges suspended by the Executive Secretary until such time as their accounts are paid up to date. Passive associate members cannot attend CITEL meetings. If the Executive Secretary is satisfied with the justification of the delayed payment of fees by a Member, he may extend the deadline for payment up until June 30 of the corresponding year.

[...]

ARTICLE 78
Decisions

1. In the absence of consensus in the deliberations of the PCCs, draft resolutions shall be adopted in accordance with the Regulations on voting established in Article 86 of these Regulations. In order to approve a resolution, decision or recommendation by vote or consensus, the PCC meeting must have a quorum of one third of the Member States of CITEL.

[...]

AG/RES. 2988 (LII-O/22)

ADVANCING HEMISPHERIC INITIATIVES ON
INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT: PROMOTING RESILIENCE

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on October 7, 2022)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

REITERATING the importance of fostering integral development including building resilience, as part of the essential pillars 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, the Social Charter of the Americas, and the Inter-American Business Charter, as well as OAS mandates and the initiatives emanating from the Summits of the Americas;

CONSIDERING the resolution on “Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development: Promoting Resilience” [AG/RES. 2967 (LI-O/21)] adopted in 2021 that extended the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development (PIDS) until 2023 and mandated commencing its revision for approval of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) in 2023, in order to strengthen the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG);

RECALLING the commitments made by the Heads of State and Government of the Americas on June 9, 2022, at the Ninth Summit of the Americas, particularly those contained in the documents “Action Plan on Health and Resilience in the Americas” (CA-IX/doc.1/22), “Regional Agenda for Digital Transformation” (CA-IX/doc.2/22), “Accelerating the Clean, Sustainable, Renewable, and Just Energy Transition” (CA-IX/doc.3/22), and “Our Sustainable Green Future” (CA-IX/doc.4/22);

RECOGNIZING the process carried out for the generation of consensus on subjects, needs, and concerns that affect the region on issues of educational continuity, recovery, and post-pandemic educational repair; teacher training articulated among the countries of the region; use of new technologies in education; the interrelationship of education, employment, and development in the countries;

RECOGNIZING ALSO the need to promote spaces for discussion and support on issues such as the reactivation of the education sector post-pandemic, the safe return to face-to-face classes, the recovery of learning, innovation and the digital educational agenda, educational inclusion for children and adolescents who are members of groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or are in vulnerable situations, and those in a situation of human mobility, among others;

CONSIDERING the regrettable loss of human lives, the pandemic has caused historic economic difficulties with high levels of unemployment and economic inactivity, considerable loss of income, and increases in informality, inequality, including gender inequality and precariousness. In addition, it has revealed shortcomings, structural weaknesses, and large gaps within our societies;

AWARE of the progress made on moving forward with building a more resilient, inclusive, sustainable, and human-centered future of work for the Americas, with decent work for all, including

full, productive and freely chosen employment, considering the health, social, and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;

AWARE ALSO that science and innovation-driven sectors and technologies have the potential to create opportunities aligned with the jobs of the future, to accelerate progress, address climate change, reduce poverty and inequality, including gender inequality, in the region and to contribute to greater economic autonomy, including for all women and girls, young people and members of groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against and/or are in vulnerable situations, and that the acceleration of the digital economy and the reshaping of global value chains have emphasized the need for member states to address the skills gap and their workforce readiness to reap the benefits of the science and innovation-driven economy;

BEARING IN MIND that some of the most serious consequences of the pandemic have been the increase in poverty, extreme poverty, and the deepening of inequalities, jeopardizing the important progress that the region had achieved in recent decades and seriously compromising the countries' capacity to guarantee social development and achieve the Sustainable Development Objectives contained in the 2030 Agenda;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the health crisis and the emergency measures adopted during the COVID-19 pandemic represent an unprecedented opportunity for the governments of the region to review, expand and innovate their social protection policies and promote regional cooperation to move towards more comprehensive, inclusive, and adaptable systems that allow them to cope with the severe consequences of COVID-19, but also to be better prepared to face future crises; and

EMBRACING the outcomes of the meetings of ministers and high-level authorities within the framework of the 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 (MSMEs),

RESOLVES:

1. To thank the governments of the following member states that hosted and chaired meetings of ministers and high-level authorities within the framework of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) and sectoral processes, held since the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly, for their hospitality, leadership, and commitment:

- Antigua and Barbuda for chairing the IX Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE), held in virtual format on November 18 and 19, 2021
- Jamaica, for chairing the VI Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Science and Technology, held virtually on December 7 and 8, 2021
- Uruguay, for hosting the XXII Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Inter-American Committee of Ports (CECIP), held virtually on March 15, 2022
- United States, for the XIV Americas Competitiveness Exchange, held in the State of Louisiana, from March 26 to April 1, 2022

- Mexico, for hosting the Second Edition of the Prospecta Americas Seminar on Foresight and Transformative Technologies in the Americas, held in hybrid format, in coordination with the State of Hidalgo, on May 18 and 19, 2022
- Argentina, for chairing the First Special Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE), held virtually on February 16, 2022
- Panama, for chairing the V Meeting of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), held in hybrid format February 10-11, 2022.

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, mindful that they may need to be rescheduled in view of the current global pandemic, and to urge the authorities of all member states to take part in those meetings:

- Guatemala, for the IX Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities, in Antigua Guatemala, Guatemala, October 27-28, 2022
- Ecuador, for the XV Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE), November 13-17, 2022
- Dominican Republic: V Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities of Social Development, Santo Domingo, November 17-18, 2022
- United States, for the XVI Americas Competitiveness Exchange 2023
- Honduras: XIII Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) and XXIII Regular Meeting of the Executive Board of CIP (CECIP) in Roatán, Honduras, in June 2023
- Colombia: XXII Inter-American Conference of Minister of Labor (IACML), in 2024
- Ecuador: XXVI 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 endorse and encourage member states to support the commitments of the Declaration of Jamaica "Harnessing the Power of Transformative Science and Technologies to Drive our Communities Forward" (CIDI/REMCYT-VI/DEC. 1/21) adopted at the VI Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Science and Technology, held virtually on December 7 and 8, 2021.

4. To urge member states to support the Americas Youth Academy on Transformative Science and Technologies, launched at the Sixth Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Science and Technology, building on existing resources and partner offerings, to provide online training, dynamic learning, remote training labs, mentoring and hands-on experiences to equip young people with the necessary skills and credentials to obtain the jobs of the future and skills in transformative technologies; and encourage member states to support this initiative with offers of cooperation and partnership opportunities to serve up to 10,000 young people by 2024, with a focus on women, youth, rural and indigenous communities, individuals within traditionally underrepresented groups, or populations in vulnerable situations.

5. Recognizing that pursuing gender equity and equality is central to achieving fairer and more inclusive and prosperous societies for all women while respecting and appreciating 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 to make access to the care economy more inclusive and thereby contribute to development opportunities for women, adolescents, girls, and their communities.

6. To thank the Governments of Mexico and Colombia for launching the first Prospecta Americas centers of excellence on blockchain in the State of Hidalgo, Mexico, and on robotics and artificial intelligence in Barranquilla (Universidad Simon Bolivar), Colombia, and to invite additional member states, with the support of SEDI, to work with local institutions, research universities and centers, private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other partners to support the OAS Regional Network of Centers of Excellence to map trends and capabilities in the Americas to address strategic development challenges and find solutions to everyday problems through shared expertise and regional cooperation on transformative technologies.

7. To urge member states, with the support of SEDI, to continue their efforts to foster entrepreneurship in the creative sector, developing an enabling environment, implementing asset mappings, and other actions, to use digital technologies and innovative approaches to provide entrepreneurs and their communities with business and innovation skills, mentoring capabilities and a diverse support network of stakeholders to enhance their opportunities to generate sustainable income and expand their local and international markets.

8. To instruct SEDI to develop in the online MSME Clearinghouse, as part of the Women's Economic Empowerment Program, a learning space of growth and encouragement during the 2022-2024 period allowing women access to free learning resources specifically designed for female-led MSMEs, on business management, resiliency, digital skills, and best practices in the use of digital technology to increase women's knowledge and capacity to effectively function in the digital economy and build sustainable livelihoods.

9. To urge SEDI to continue to support the implementation of activities during the 2022-2024 period for the strengthening of small business development center (SBDC) networks in the hemisphere to assist MSMEs in leveraging opportunities within and among regional and international supply chains for digital skills and technology upgrading, market expansion, and access to finance.

10. To instruct SEDI, in its capacity as Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC) and following the provisions of the CIC Work Plan, as well as the mandates adopted at the Ninth Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities, to continue to support the promotion of actions and initiatives for the development and strengthening of culture in the Americas, through the potential role of technology, creativity, and innovation. Also, to encourage the member states' highest authorities for culture to actively participate in the upcoming culture ministerial in 2022 and the new triennial cycle.

11. To urge member states to engage in the Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) program during the 2022-2024 period as a mechanism to promote inclusive economic development

plans and strategies to leverage new opportunities to improve economic resilience, competitiveness, and internationalization, in order to adequately respond to the needs of local economies.

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”

12. To instruct SEDI to review the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development (PIDS) 2016-2021 [\[AG/RES. 2882 \(XLVI-O/16\)\]](#) taking into consideration the commitments made by the Heads of State and Government of the Americas at the IX Summit of the Americas, held from June 8-10, 2022, in Los Angeles, California, and the progress made towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals established in Agenda 2030.

13. To instruct SEDI to convene a meeting of the Inter-American Committee for Sustainable Development (CIDS) in the second quarter of 2023 to present a revised PIDS for the period of 2024-2030 for the consideration of that Committee and subsequent approval of CIDI in the last quarter of 2023.

14. To urge member states to promote gender-responsive multi-hazard and climate risk reduction strategies, which give consideration to cascade and compound disasters, and conduct risk assessments capable of identifying and mitigating the effects of biological, natural, technological, climate, and unintentional man-made hazards, drawing from the lessons learned from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and disasters of natural origin, such as climate change and weather-related, volcanic, seismic-related, and other events.

15. To urge member states to develop or strengthen inter-institutional collaboration mechanisms and agreements, consistent with domestic laws and policies and with international obligations, as appropriate, for the sustainable management of ecosystems and integrated water resources management (IWRM) for the conservation and restoration of land, forest and biodiversity, resilience to climate change and protection of water sources, through joint planning and management.

16. To invite member states and permanent observers to make voluntary contributions of financial resources and technical cooperation to SEDI and its Department of Sustainable Development (DSD) for continuation of the programs and projects in IWRM and sustainable management of ecosystems, partnering with international cooperation agencies.

17. To urge member states and permanent observers to support the efforts of SEDI and its DSD in the promotion of multilateral cooperation to increase the use of all forms and types of renewable energy in the countries of the Hemisphere, forging synergies between the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) and the Renewable Energy in Latin America and the Caribbean (RELAC) Initiative, and collaboration with related programs such as those of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), and the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI).

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

19. To instruct SEDI, subject to available resources, to support the implementation of climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies in all states – particularly in developing countries and with consideration for the particular vulnerabilities of small island developing states –by enhancing opportunities for training to strengthen adaptation capacities and climate resilience across the Hemisphere, through cooperation among member states and the Joint Summit Working Group institutions.

20. To instruct SEDI to support the convening of fora, subject to available resources, for dialogue with multilateral development banks and other key regional financing entities, including the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank, the Development Bank of Latin America, and the Central Bank for Economic Integration, on efforts to improve the mobilization of climate financing to increase the implementation of all forms of renewable energy and reduce climate vulnerability in countries of the Americas.

21. To urge member states, with assistance from SEDI, to implement actions toward the prevention, reduction, and elimination of plastic pollution in the sea, to reduce plastic pollution by promoting sustainable consumption and production, as well as environmentally-sound practices such as circular economy and waste management solutions, and supporting strong stakeholder engagement, including from populations in situations of vulnerability.

22. To instruct SEDI to continue to support member states efforts to enhance and promote delivery of climate information services, decision-making support tools, and early warning systems to improve understanding and response to climate impacts and minimize loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change across sectors and different scales.

23. To entrust SEDI with promoting cooperation with the Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) both to promote alliances, capacity building, as well as to achieve coordination of education, employment, and technological development that addresses sustainable development, considering environmental and socioeconomic aspects in the region.

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

24. To instruct SEDI, as Technical Secretariat of the CIE, to continue to support member states in presenting the proposal for the Inter-American Educational Agenda 2022-2027 (CIDI/CIE/E-I/doc.3/22 rev. 1), the preliminary draft Hemispheric Declaration on Education “Towards Building a New Educational Hemispheric Pact in Contexts of Change” (CIDI/doc.356/22), and the preliminary draft Plan of Action (CIDI/doc.357/22), within the XI Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education framework to be held in November 2022.

25. To instruct SEDI to support the ministries of education in the implementation of the methodology for development of the second phase of the Inter-American Educational Agenda (AEI), contained in document CIDI/CIE/RES. 1/21, which would contribute to progressive building of consensus on public policies and national programs with the potential to become hemispheric actions.

26. To instruct SEDI to continue promoting virtual meetings of the CIE Authorities and their working groups with the authorities of the ministries of education of the region, to advance the definition of concrete actions for their implementation in the Work Plan of the CIE 2022-2025, according to the thematic lines agreed upon in the proposal for the Inter-American Educational Agenda 2022-2027.

27. To instruct SEDI, on the occasion of the start of celebrations for the 20th anniversary of the CIE, to begin to compile the material necessary to produce the publication “Education at times of change: 20 years of contributions from the Inter-American Committee on Education in the region, 2003-2023.”

28. To instruct SEDI to continue supporting, in all the official languages of the OAS, the Inter-American Teacher Education Network (ITEN) and its goals to identify best practices in teaching that meet the needs of the 21st century, contribute to teacher professional development policy frameworks, and promote innovation by providing a platform for networking and knowledge exchange amongst teachers and educational institutions in the region, particularly as it relates to digital transformation of teaching and learning. Likewise, to instruct SEDI and ITEN to share the links to the different education ministry-related national initiatives that have publicized teaching and learning material developed for educators, using the common platform.

29. To instruct SEDI, consistent 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, and in consultation with the member states, to promote spaces for intersectoral dialogue, including the health, nutrition, labor, environmental and economic sectors, in particular, activities related to lifelong learning, labor, and productive reskilling, as well as for development of the skills of the future (technical and socio-emotional).

30. To instruct SEDI to present a proposal to improve efficiency and effectiveness in administration and to strengthen the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs. Entrust SEDI to continue establishing strategic alliances with academic institutions, the private sector, and civil society organizations, in order to support member states in achieving their integral development goals, including through contribution to the development of relevant and technical and technological training skills to access and remain in employment in the post-COVID-19 context. SEDI is specifically tasked with developing a program to help member states strengthen and reassess higher education at the technical and technological level as a strategy for inclusion of disadvantaged segments of the population in the member states' higher education systems.

31. To instruct SEDI to continue its efforts in pursuing funds for emergency scholarships to help international students from Latin American and Caribbean countries, who are enrolled in universities in the United States. Said emergency scholarships supplement the interest-free loans offered by the Rowe Fund to help international students from Latin American and Caribbean countries enrolled in universities complete their studies in the United States.

32. To instruct SEDI to continue the expansion of the strategic alliances of the Educational Portal of the Americas with other areas of the OAS, academic institutions, and the private sector; and seek to have it operate 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 using distance education tools.

33. To instruct SEDI to coordinate any efforts that may be necessary to ensure that the Educational Portal of the Americas is accessible on the Internet, in order to make training courses accessible to people from OAS member countries.

34. To instruct SEDI to promote and expand the OAS Consortium of Universities beyond the OAS Academic Scholarship Program including national/state universities, technical and vocational institutions, and educational institutions in the Americas. This expansion should consider the need to prioritize diversity, impact, and potential number of students benefitting from each new alliance, according to available resources and member states' expressed interest and development and labor needs.

35. To request that SEDI encourage the OAS Consortium of Universities to continue initiatives to provide member states with support in order to develop and strengthen strategies for higher education institutions to expand their activities internationally.

36. To instruct SEDI to support member states with the development of language exchange and immersion programs among member states.

37. To urge SEDI to pursue additional funding to complement its resources to assist member states in the development of language programs, including but not limited to cooperation with OAS member states and observer member states. To encourage member states and observer states to provide human, financial, and technical resources to support the development of language exchange and immersion programs.

38. To endorse the Resolution of Colonia del Sacramento (CECIP/RES.1/22) approved during the Twenty-Second Meeting of the Executive Board of the CIP (CECIP) held virtually in March 15, 2022 authorizing the necessary modifications to the CIP Rules of Procedure to change the CIP regular meetings from a biennial to a triennial calendar and which will be presented at the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of CIP in Honduras in June 2023 for subsequent approval by CIDI.

39. To instruct the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) to continue working – in line with the Plan of Action of Buenos Aires 2021-2023 and in collaboration with the members states, associate members, and strategic partners – on offering professional development and capacity-building opportunities offered in all four languages of the OAS, whenever possible, for officials in the port sector of the Americas, thereby contributing to the strengthening of existing partnerships in the sector.

40. To instruct the CIP Secretariat to continue the implementation of the following projects:

- CIP Improved Disaster Risk Management in Caribbean Ports, financed by the United States and Italy, 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 human-made disasters and maritime emergencies, as well as encourage member states to take advantage of this initiative;

- Establishment of a Barbados Port Community System (PCS) to conduct a logistics and international supply chain-related assessment and producing an implementation roadmap with a set of legal, operational, and financial recommendations, among others, for the development and implementation of the national PCS;
- Feasibility study for the establishment of an electronic single window for international commerce in Belize, which will include the analysis of functions and procedures of the national and international stakeholders involved in the supply chain and global trade, with the objective of making procedures more cost- and time efficient.

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

41. To encourage member states to continue supporting the implementation of the commitments of 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 Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML) held virtually on September 22, 23, and 24, 2021.

42. To instruct SEDI to support follow-up of 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](#)), as well as the Work Plan 2022-2024 of the IACML (CIDI/CIMT/RPA/doc. 36/22 rev. 1), and to continue providing technical advice to the IACML and its working groups.

43. To instruct SEDI to support member states, through the Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL), in enhancing coordination between education and employment; ensuring a better understanding of the future of work and the new forms of employment; strengthening institutionalized social dialogue to bring about more just, equitable, and resilient societies; protecting occupational safety and health as well as nondiscriminatory remuneration, continuing to mainstream gender in labor and employment policies as a means to achieve gender equality in the labor market; improving compliance with labor laws and effective application of fundamental principles and rights at work; strengthening and modernizing ministries of labor; as well as facilitating and promoting the transition from the informal to the formal economy, in line with the IACML Work Plan 2022-2024.

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”

44. To acknowledge the importance of safe, orderly, humane, and regular migration, and the creation of evidence-based public policies, from a regional and hemispheric standpoint, strengthening mechanisms for gathering disaggregated and up-to-date information about migrant populations, in order to address structural causes of migration and their implications, with a view to preventing and reducing the risks of irregular migration and those associated with forced displacements in order to promote and strengthen regular pathways.

45. To urge all member states, consistent with pertinent obligations under international human rights law, to strengthen their public policies for countering discrimination, racism, xenophobia, and any form of intolerance, in order to promote the socioeconomic integration, inclusion, and the empowerment of migrants in communities of origin, transit, destination, and return in all areas of society.

46. Likewise, to urge all member states to strengthen their public policies, regional cooperation mechanisms, and regional consultative processes for preventing and combating the crimes of trafficking in persons, migrant smuggling, in particular against all women and girls, and including the prosecution of such crimes by providing appropriate protection and offering assistance to victims of human trafficking, while ensuring their policies are victim-centered, including a gender perspective.

47. To recognize the need to provide people in the context of human mobility with access to health services, disease prevention, vaccination, social services, education, and employment, for them to be fully included in host countries regardless of their immigration status, in keeping with applicable domestic law and international obligations.

48. To urge member states to ensure that accompanied and unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents or those separated from their families receive specialized assistance and protection in any situation that affects them. To encourage the countries of the region to implement, as necessary, cooperation agreements and protocols on protection, assistance, and care, for accompanied and unaccompanied children and adolescents or those separated from their families in the context of mobility, safeguarding the best interests of the child as a primary consideration,^{1/} while respecting and protecting their rights, including family reunification, and taking into account the applicable obligations of countries under international human rights law.

49. To urge member states to take into account, with a comprehensive focus on human rights, the rights of migrants, refugees, stateless persons, and members of their families, when formulating and applying policy responses to deal with health emergency scenarios as happened with the COVID-19 pandemic, taking into consideration the particular impacts on all women and girls, children and adolescents, and groups in situations of vulnerability, based on the principles of equality and nondiscrimination, pursuant to each state's domestic law and international obligations.

50. To encourage international cooperation initiatives at all stages of the migration process in support of migrants in countries of origin, transit, destination, and return, as well as asylum seekers, refugees, and stateless persons and to facilitate, as appropriate, the provision of humanitarian and development assistance, and their complete socioeconomic integration and inclusion, in keeping with applicable domestic and international law.

51. To promote and support, through cooperation policies and shared responsibility^{2/}, the strengthening and development of the capacities of member states in the area of migration and protection, especially for small island developing states, taking into account socio-economic integration goals and applying a human rights and sustainable development approach.

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1. 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...
 2. The United States supports and makes commitments for strengthening capacities, but does not have a blanket *shared responsibility* for developing other states' capacities. More broadly, ...

52. To recognize the challenges of human mobility caused by the effects of natural disasters, environmental degradation, and biodiversity loss triggered or exacerbated by 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* and *Climate Change 2022 - Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability*; as well as the impact of natural disasters and the effects of climate change, environmental degradation, and biodiversity loss on migration and forced displacement of people in the context of human mobility, particularly for all women and girls, and members of groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or in vulnerable situations. To recognize the need to address the structural causes that increase disaster risk, focusing on mitigation and prevention actions and provision of humanitarian assistance, protection, and solutions to those who are displaced. Along these lines, reaffirm the validity and importance of advancing the implementation of Declaration AG/DEC. 88 (XLVI-O/16) “Declaration on Climate Change, Food Security, and Migration in the Americas,” as approved by the General Assembly on June 14, 2016.

53. To promote international cooperation initiatives on matters of migration and protection to support countries affected by disasters of natural and/or human induced origins, as well as to those receiving large inflows of migrants and refugees.

54. To recognize the important positive contribution made by migrants and refugees to inclusive growth and sustainable development in countries of origin, transit, destination, and return.

55. To acknowledge the initiatives arising at the multilateral level for dialogue, information sharing, and cooperation on migration and international protection and to take note of those initiatives in which a number of OAS member states participate, such as the declarations, programs of action, and objectives agreed upon in areas such as the International Conference on Population and Development (1994); the Global Forum on Migration and Development (2007), the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (2018), the Global Compact on Refugees (2018), and the Los Angeles Declaration on Migration and Protection (2022), in which states have recognized the need to address the causes of migration including irregular by promoting political, economic, and security conditions, among others. Likewise, instruct the OAS General Secretariat, through the Department of Social Inclusion of its Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (DSI/SARE), to coordinate and collaborate with other regional and international institutions engaged in this area.

56. To recognize the work of existing regional mechanisms and consultative processes such as the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM), the Central American Commission of Migration Directors (OCAM), and the Ibero-American Network of Migratory Authorities (RIAM), the South American Conference on Migration (CSM), as well as the Specialized Forum on Migration of Mercosur (FEM), the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), the Caribbean Migration Consultations (CMC), the Quito Process, the Andean Community (CAN), the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS), and other regional bodies that work on the issues, and instruct the OAS General Secretariat, through SARE/DSI, to promote a space for dialogue involving these regional mechanisms, through an annual session within the framework of the regular meetings of the Committee on Migration Issues (CAM), with the objective of helping to improve the governance of migration and international protection in the Americas, taking a comprehensive approach.

57. To encourage member states, consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its goals, to promote faster, safer, and cheaper remittance transfers, with the aim of lowering, by 2030, average transaction costs to less than 3% of the amount transferred, developing policy and regulatory environments conducive to competition, regulation, and innovation in the remittances market, offering programs and instruments that are gender responsive, the ultimate aim being to improve the financial inclusion of migrants and refugees and their families.

58. To reaffirm the importance of continuing to strengthen and foster dialogue, information exchange, and regional and bilateral cooperation on migration and protection matters and, as appropriate, in confronting migration related challenges in the Hemisphere – especially in the Permanent Council and CIDI and the latter’s subsidiary bodies, including CAM – in accordance with the terms of 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,” adopted by the Permanent Council on December 15, 2016.

59. To note the importance of responsibility sharing and fostering coordinated responses within the context of human mobility with multilateral organizations such as the United Nations system, multilateral development banks, international financial institutions, and relevant non-governmental actors, such as civil society, diaspora-led organizations, and the private sector, among others.

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

60. To instruct the CIP Secretariat to continue the promotion and establishment of strategic alliances, especially with the private sector, to contribute to the economic, social, and environmentally sustainable development of the port-maritime sector in the Americas through specific activities such as seminars, courses, evaluation surveys, technical assistance, and projects for the member states.

61. To request the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD), with the support of the cooperation authorities and in accordance with article 9 of the Statutes the IACD, to consolidate a proposal to strengthen the cooperation management structure in the framework of the IACD, including tools for planning, resource mobilization, partnerships, execution, monitoring, and evaluation.

62. To entrust the Management Board of the IACD with the task of promoting full alignment of sectoral cooperation priorities with the OAS ministerial processes.

63. To instruct the Management Board of the IACD, with the support of the SEDI and in consultation with the cooperation authorities, to prepare normative proposals aimed at strengthening the IACD, for submission and consideration of the CIDI and subsequent presentation to the General Assembly.

64. To transfer the responsibility of the oversight and management of such programs and activities for technical cooperation projects from the Committee on Partnership for Development Policies to the IACD, in order to ensure better governance of cooperation programs, projects, and activities.

65. To amend the Statutes of the IACD to include in Article 3, “Functions,” and in Article 9, “Functions of the Management Board,” the additional function of promoting private sector participation in accordance with the proposal made by Working Group No. 2 of the IACD Management Board under objective No. 3 of its work plan: “Promote the participation of the IACD in multilateral organizations, platforms, and venues that promote private sector engagement in international cooperation.” The IACD Statute is to be amended as follows:

- Chapter II, Article 3.3: The development and establishment of cooperative relations with permanent observers, other states, national and international organizations, and the private sector, regarding partnership for development activities.
- Chapter III, Article 9.12: Approve, within the framework of policies established by CIDI and for the purposes of enhancing resources, guidelines for the IACD to foster cooperative relations with permanent observers, other states, national and international organizations, the private sector, and other entities and persons.

66. To instruct the Management Board of the IACD to explore potential funding mechanisms for the Development Cooperation Fund, beyond voluntary funds, including but not limited to the possibility of a dedicated 501c.3 vehicle for private sector contributions, and report on related proposals and recommendations to the CIDI by the second quarter of 2023.

67. To instruct the Management Board of the IACD to analyze the impact of the ICR and Cost Recovery System Methodology on the DCF and make recommendations on any related reforms by the second quarter of 2023 for the consideration of the CIDI and relevant competent authorities of the OAS.

68. To entrust the IACD in coordination with the cooperation authorities to strengthen ties with other global, regional, subregional and international cooperation organizations. Additionally, to take advantage of the existing cooperation offers and resources to develop a pilot work plan to establish coordination with diverse mechanisms such as the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) – particularly with its Affiliated Programs, Initiatives, and Projects (PIPA) and with the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR) and other mechanisms in which the member states of the inter-American system participate. Likewise, with the cooperation authorities, establish guidelines to regulate relations with other global, regional, and subregional organizations related to development cooperation.

69. Instruct the IACD to present more concise and specific internal reports, improving the communication channels and instruments and visibility of the cooperation actions between the member states, aimed at the general public and OAS external partners, to achieve a better positioning of the Organization at an international level. Additionally, the IACD is urged to request support from the cooperation authorities with designing innovative and effective communication tools and renewing existing ones, by creating a specialized group on communications issues.

70. Request the IACD to carry out a promotional and outreach campaign for the CooperaNet platform, in order to strengthen this tool as an effective identification model and match supply and demand for cooperation opportunities from the member states.

71. To instruct the IACD Management Board to authorize the use of the Professional Development Scholarship Program (PDSP) to develop a language proficiency training and certification program in the four languages of the OAS, which will be accessible to citizens of all member states and make any necessary adjustments to the Manual of Procedures of the Scholarships and Training Programs in order to facilitate this mandate.

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

72. To reaffirm the significance of the adoption for the first time at the inter-American level, in the field of social development, of the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019 "Overcoming Multidimensional Poverty and Bridging Social Equity Gaps: Towards an Inter-American Agenda for Social Development" ([CIDI/REMEDES/doc.6/19 rev. 3](#)) as a roadmap that defines concrete lines of action for advancing the promotion of social development in the region; and to urge member states to continue to participate actively in the working groups that have been formed and that will continue to implement activities within the framework of the Plan of Action to be approved at the Fifth Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Social Development, with the support of the Department of Social Inclusion (DSI) of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (SARE).

73. To instruct the DSI/SARE to continue supporting the implementation of concrete actions defined by the Inter-American Committee on Social Development (CIDES) and by the working groups established for the 2022-2025 period, aimed at promoting coordinated work among government institutions responsible for social development in the Americas, which should be oriented towards universal social protection and health systems, with a comprehensive approach, prioritizing attention to groups in vulnerable situations.

74. To instruct the DSI/SARE, following the provisions of the Declaration and the Plan of Action to be adopted at the Fifth Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Social Development, to continue to support member states in the implementation of actions to improve the capacities of the institutions responsible for social policy, through the exchange of knowledge, the strengthening of political and technical dialogue, and horizontal cooperation.

75. To encourage member states to continue strengthening their social protection systems towards universal coverage in line with the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to take into account the needs of low-income households and members of groups that have been historically marginalized and discriminated against, and/or are in vulnerable situations, as well as all women and girls that have been particularly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, including key initiatives for these populations such as the periodic updating of the registries of beneficiaries of social and statistics generation programs for the multidimensional measurement of poverty as appropriate, to achieve social inclusion consistent with the new reality.

76. To encourage member states to continue supporting the DSI/SARE initiatives aimed at strengthening the governance of social policies to improve the technical and management capacities of those who design and implement these policies, and to expand the mechanisms for the participation of beneficiaries of social programs and civil society in all phases of social policies.

77. To invite member states to support and strengthen the work of the Inter-American Social Protection Network (IASPN), the new authorities that are elected, and the DSI/SARE as the

technical secretariat to this important hemispheric mechanism for cooperation in the field of social development to reinforce the institutions and agencies in charge of social policies in member states, through the voluntary exchange of knowledge, lessons learned and experiences, technical support, mutual learning, and technical cooperation among countries, on mutually agreed terms.

78. To instruct the DSI/SARE, in coordination with the Inter-American Committee on Social Development (CIDES) and in collaboration with SEDI and other relevant Secretariats, and with strategic partners such as the World Food Program (WFP), Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN), and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), among others, 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 under the Framework of the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019,” and the mandates linked to the theme of the Plan of Action to be approved at the Fifth Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Social Development.

79. To urge member states, permanent observers, international, regional, and subregional organizations and the private sector to consider making voluntary contributions, in so far as they are able, to the “Fund for the implementation of the Guatemala Action Plan 2019,” hereinafter “Social Development Voluntary Fund” of DSI/SARE to support execution of the activities and priorities envisaged in the Action Plans and in the Declarations approved by the Meetings of Ministers and High Authorities of Social Development (REMDES).

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

80. 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 Organization's regular fund, 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	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
1. Tourism		III Meeting of CITUR	XXVI Ministerial of Tourism (Ecuador)		IV Meeting of CITUR
2. Ports	XXII Meeting of the CIP Executive Board (virtual meeting, 15 March)	XIII CIP Meeting and XXIII CIP Executive Board Meeting (Roatan, Honduras, June)	XXIV Meeting of the CIP Executive Board (host to be determined)	XIV CIP Meeting and XXV Meeting of the CIP Executive (host to be determined)	XXVI Meeting of the CIP Executive Board (CECIP) (host to be determined)
3. Education	XI Ministerial of Education		X Meeting of CIE	XII Ministerial of Education	

	<i>(virtual meeting, 10-11 November)</i>			<i>(host to be determined)</i>	
4. Cooperation			IV Ministerial of Cooperation <i>(host to be determined)</i>		
5. Social Development	V Ministerial of Social Development <i>(Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 17-18 November)</i>		VI Meeting of CIDES	VI Ministerial of Social Development <i>(host to be determined)</i>	
6. Culture	IX Ministerial of Culture, <i>27-28 October (Antigua Guatemala, Guatemala)</i>		VII Meeting of CIC	X Ministerial of Culture <i>(host to be determined)</i>	
7. Sustainable Development		VI Meeting of CIDS and IV Ministerial of Sustainable Development <i>(host and dates to be determined)</i>		VII Meeting of CIDS	V Ministerial of Sustainable Development <i>(host to be determined)</i>
8. Science & Technology		X Meeting of COMCYT	VII Ministerial of Science and Technology <i>(host to be determined)</i>		
9. Labor		Meeting of the IACML Working Groups	XXII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML) <i>(Colombia)</i>		Meeting of the IACML Working Groups
<i>Other meetings* (for reference only)</i>	Prospecta Americas II regional seminar <i>(State of Hidalgo, Mexico, May 18-19)</i> Prospecta Americas III regional seminar <i>(Colombia)</i> XIV and XV Americas Competitiveness Exchanges <i>(United States and Ecuador)</i>	XVI and XVII Americas Competitiveness Exchanges <i>(hosts to be determined)</i>	VIII Inter-American Dialogue of High Authorities of MSMEs <i>(host to be determined)</i> XII Americas Competitiveness Forum <i>(host to be determined)</i> XVIII and XIX Americas Competitiveness Exchanges <i>(hosts to be determined)</i>	XX and XXI Americas Competitiveness Exchanges <i>(hosts to be determined)</i>	

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

81. To request CIDI to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

82. 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.

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

84. 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. ...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 adjudicator.

2. ..., states do have a shared responsibility for responding to refugees in the region, but that responsibility does not equate to responsibility for building other states’ capacity.

AG/RES. 2989 (LII-O/22)

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on October 7, 2022)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

REAFFIRMING the norms and general principles of international law and those contained in the Charter of the Organization of American States;

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 “[t]o promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention”;

RECALLING resolution AG/RES. 2975 (LI-O/21), and all previous resolutions adopted on this subject,

HAVING SEEN the “Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly December 2021-October 2022” (AG/doc.5765/22 [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. Strengthening cadastre and property registry in the Americas

CONSIDERING the section “Strengthening cadastre and property registry in the Americas” in resolutions AG/RES. 2927 (XLVIII-O/18), AG/RES. 2931 (XLIX-O/19), AG/RES. 2958 (L-O/20), and AG/RES. 2975 (LI-O/21) “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, among others, to be addressed in diminished local economies; and the provision of public administration services to citizens, including cadastre and property registry;

TAKING NOTE of the 2021 activity report of the Inter-American Network on Cadastre and Property Registry (RICRP) delivered at its Seventh Conference and Assembly held in-person on November 4, 2021, and at the virtual meeting of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs on May 12, 2022; and

THANKING the Government of the Dominican Republic for its organization of the Seventh Conference and Assembly of the RICRP in 2021, in collaboration with the World Bank, the Inter-

American Development Bank, and the General Secretariat, as well as the Dominican Republic—as Chair—and Chile, Ecuador, Honduras, Jamaica, and México, as representatives on the Executive Committee of the RICRP for 2022,

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 in the wake of 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 cadastre and property registry data management, property formalization, and implementation of cadastre and registry management technologies.

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, in conjunction with the effort to set up a training program on cadastre and property registry matters, and the ongoing maintenance and updating of cadastre and land registry information in the region.

3. To urge member states to observe the recommendations resulting from the RICRP's inter-American guides on property formalization and best practices in the digitalization of cadastre and property registry procedures and services, and the Department for Effective Public Management to support the exchange of experience in such matters, particularly regarding the implementation of observatories and the publication of open cadastral and registry data.

4. To urge cadastre and registry institutions in member states to participate in the development of initiatives to meet the objectives set forth in this resolution, through the sharing of experiences to strengthen cadastre and registry management as part of digital transformation and in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic with a view to economic and social recovery, 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).

5. To renew the invitation to all OAS member states to attend the Eighth Annual Conference and Assembly of the RICRP, to be held in person in Cancún, Mexico, from November 14 to 18, 2022, with the support of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico and the Real Estate Registry of the Dominican Republic as RICRP Chair.

ii. Technical cooperation and electoral observation missions

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 its appreciation of 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;

RECALLING the “Electoral Good Practices Guide for Strengthening Electoral Processes” and the “Guide to Organizing Elections during a Pandemic,” published by the General Secretariat;

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; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that, at the Ninth Summit of the Americas, the heads of state and government adopted the “Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance,” which acknowledges the importance of electoral observation missions conducted based on the principles of objectivity, impartiality, transparency, independence, and respect for sovereignty, and with access to information; -respecting the procedures established in the rules and regulations of the inter-American system, including the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and without compromising the independence of the missions, with states ensuring the security of electoral observers so that they may carry out their functions independently and safely,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the General Secretariat, while informing member states, to continue updating and improving, as necessary, the “Electoral Good Practices Guide for Strengthening Electoral Processes” with input from member states and their electoral bodies and authorities.

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 distributing that document to member states.

3. To instruct the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO) to formally report to the member states, prior to the fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly, on the status of the process of updating the “Manual for OAS Electoral Observation Missions,” taking into account recognized international standards on the subject, as well as the valuable experience and good practices of the electoral authorities of the member states, and communicating to them the results of this process, so that they may formulate their recommendations and suggestions for the consideration of 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 with fundraising activities so as to ensure the financial sustainability of electoral observation missions, and to continue strengthening, in that context, efforts towards rationality, transparency, austerity, and accountability.

6. To instruct the General Secretariat to provide to any member state that so requests, and once electoral observation missions are concluded, additional information available on the electoral observation missions deployed in its territory in accordance with the regulations of the inter-American system, including the Inter-American Democratic Charter.

7. To urge member states to adopt the necessary measures to ensure the security of election observers, so that they may carry out their functions independently and safely.

iii. 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 of the Eighth and Ninth Summits, held in Peru and the United States, respectively – 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, combat, and move forward with the eradication of 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 MESICIC Committee of Experts—with the support of the Department of Legal Cooperation as Technical Secretariat of that Mechanism—in continuing the work of the review process within the framework of the sixth round for Argentina, Honduras, Panama, Chile, and El Salvador amid the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with 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, which has been illustrated in 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, providing technical support and legal advice to the Conference of States Parties and the MESICIC Committee of Experts 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 and improving 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 their respective spheres of 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 recognize the progress made by the MESICIC in implementing the mandates emanating from the Summits of the Americas, in particular the adoption of indicators to prevent, detect, and stamp out impunity for acts of corruption, related to the results of their investigation, prosecution, and punishment under criminal law, and increased activities to promote synergies with other international anti-corruption mechanisms, such as those of the United Nations, the Council of Europe Group of States against Corruption, the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group, and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

9. 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 Summits of the Americas and, through the Chair of the Committee of Experts, present a report to the Permanent Council on progress made with that implementation, prior to the fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly.

10. To establish that the preparations for the Fifth Meeting of the Conference of States Parties to the MESICIC, scheduled for 2023, including the definition of its date, draft agenda, and draft calendar, shall take place in accordance with the provisions of Articles 6 to 10 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of States Parties to the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (SG/MESICIC/doc.58/04 rev. 7).

11. 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.

12. 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.

iv. Open, digital, inclusive, and transparent government

REAFFIRMING the commitment contained in the Action Plan on Democratic Governance and the Regional Agenda for Digital Transformation, particularly as regards the commitment concerning transparency and combating corruption and to digital and open government, respectively;

RECOGNIZING the substantial value of regional cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, such as the Network of e-Government Leaders of Latin America and the Caribbean (GEALC Network) and noting the outcomes of the XIV Annual Meeting of the GEALC Network as represented in the commitment on “Digital Transformation Beyond Borders”; and

TAKING NOTE, likewise, of the “Guide for implementation of the Inter-American Open Data Program (PIDA)” to prevent and combat corruption through open data,

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, in order to ensure the full, equal, effective, and meaningful participation and equal opportunities for all persons.

2. To urge the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management and, as necessary, in collaboration with other stakeholders such as the Inter-American Development Bank, to continue strengthening the GEALC Network with an open state vision, promoting coordination in all branches and levels of government among its working groups and public institutions and generating further opportunities for exchanges of experiences as well as channels for regional dialogue and cooperation on open government and e-governance, with a view to implementing and promoting e-government best practices and promoting policies and the use of digital technologies to fight discrimination and inequality in the Americas, promote transparency, central digital services for citizens, and streamlining of procedures.

3. To urge the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management, to continue promoting and supporting capacity building, education, and technical training and policy implementation activities on open government, open data, and digital government with a view to facilitating access to thematic issues relevant to strengthening democratic institutions and fulfilling the respective domestic agendas.

4. To encourage member states to promote the linkage between the commitments adopted at the Summit of the Americas and those framed in national open government action plans under the Open Government Partnership, with a view to fostering collaboration and dialogue with civil society, the academic community and the business sector, and other public and private actors, on the basis for

an ethical and responsible use of ICTs, with full respect for human rights, gender perspective, attention to the full exercise for digital citizenship of indigenous populations and other minorities, respect for the environment and accessibility for people with the disabilities, actively striving for the broadest possible social inclusion in fulfilling those commitments; and strengthen synergies between regional and global forums.

5. To urge the OAS General Secretariat to continue providing, through the Department for Effective Public Management, advisory services, support, technical assistance, or management of funds to member states that so request in implementing the Inter-American Open Data Program (PIDA), approved under resolution AG/RES. 2391 (XLIX-O/19) – the purpose of which program is to strengthen open information policies and enhance the capacity of governments and the citizenry to prevent and combat corruption using open data.

6. To urge the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management, to assist member states in developing e-governance, open data, and artificial intelligence policies and to promote the advancement of a regional agenda in this area.

7. To urge member states to actively participate in the GEALC Network, especially in its working groups, and to attend the VII e-Government Ministerial Meeting of Latin America and the Caribbean and the XVI Annual Meeting of the GEALC Network, scheduled to be held in Lima, Peru, from November 10 to 11, 2022.

v. 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 at the progress made, with support from the Department of Legal Cooperation of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs in its capacity as technical secretariat to the Meetings of Ministers of Justice or Other Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA), in implementing some of the mandates contained in the “Conclusions and Recommendations of REMJA XI” (REMJA- XI/doc.2/21 rev. 1), in particular the holding of the Tenth Meeting of the Working Group on Cyber-Crime and the holding of the regional training workshops for judges and prosecutors on cyber-crime; as well as to request the Department of Legal Cooperation, in its capacity as technical secretariat to the REMJA, to implement as soon as possible Article 5 of chapter 6 of the recommendations and conclusions of REMJA XI and create a 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, and to continue executing the other mandates entrusted to it, in accordance with the funds allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

2. 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.

3. 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.

vi. 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;

EMPHASIZING the role played by judicial facilitators as an appropriate vehicle for bringing peace and harmony to the population and for promoting the right of 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 in 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 its educational actions and of its activities.

2. To request the General Secretariat, in collaboration with the IPJF, to continue conducting performance evaluation studies of the national judicial facilitator services in countries participating in the Program, in order to identify which of the mechanisms implemented have produced the best results and greatest benefits for the communities, so as to be able to share best practices, lessons learned, and technological capacities and thus support efforts to facilitate the identification of needs, priority issues, direct benefits to communities, and coordination with national standards.

3. To urge the General Secretariat, together with the PIFJ, to help states identify new functions for judicial facilitators and to identify opportunities for community mediation to have a more positive impact on access to justice for communities, as well as to promote equal access to justice and apply components of restorative justice to benefit communities.

4. To request the member states of the Program and all other states so desiring, to support the holding of the Regional Meeting of Judicial Facilitator Services and the Equity Conciliators Program, to be held in October in Asunción, Paraguay.

5. To invite OAS member states that have not yet done so to join the Inter-American Program of Judicial Facilitators.

6. To encourage the General Secretariat and the member states to support raising voluntary contributions and the search for new strategic partners to finance projects to support the work being done by judicial facilitators in the countries.

vii. Follow-up on the Inter-American Democratic Charter

COMMITTED to representative democracy as one of our region's most valued accomplishments, as well to guaranteeing the rule of law and mindful that the peaceful transfer of power by constitutional means is the product of a continuous and irreversible commitment to democratic institutions and principles of which states in the region accept no interruptions or backsliding;

RECALLING that the preamble of the OAS Charter 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 non-intervention;

REAFFIRMING that the Inter-American Democratic Charter [AG/RES.1 (XXVIII-E/01)], adopted by the member states in 2001, recognizes that the peoples of the Americas have a right to democracy and their governments have an obligation to promote and defend it, and that democracy and economic and social development based on justice and equity are interdependent and mutually reinforcing;

MINDFUL that poverty, illiteracy, and low levels of human development are factors that have an adverse impact on the consolidation of democracy and that the promotion and observance of economic, social, and cultural rights are inherently linked to integral development, equitable economic growth, and the consolidation of democracy in the states of the Hemisphere;

REITERATING that the promotion and protection of human rights is a basic prerequisite for the existence of a democratic society, as well as the importance of the continuous development and strengthening of the inter-American human rights system for the consolidation of democracy in our region;

EMPHASIZING our commitment to achieving greater social inclusion in order to improve the living standards of our peoples and strengthen democratic governance in the Americas, fostering public confidence in democratic institutions – in particular the legitimacy of electoral processes – and full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

MINDFUL that the elimination of all forms of discrimination and intolerance based on gender or ethnic, racial, cultural, religious, and/or immigration status, among other grounds – which to a large

extent affect—populations traditionally excluded, in vulnerable situations, and/or historically discriminated against – contributes to the strengthening of democratic governance;

PRIORITIZING the right and responsibility of all citizens to participate fully in decisions relating to their own development, which is also a necessary condition for the full and effective exercise of democracy;

COMMITTED to the full, meaningful, effective, and equitable participation of all women in the political structures of our countries, especially those with decision-making authority, in order to achieve effective and lasting solutions; 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 validity of the Inter-American Democratic Charter as an instrument for the promotion and defense of the values and principles of representative democracy in the region and, therefore, the obligation of OAS member states to promote and defend democracy, within the principle of non-intervention and respect for the sovereignty of states, as essential for the social, political, and economic development of the peoples of the Americas.

2. To strengthen regional coordination and cooperation to promote and defend democracy in the region as essential for the social, political, and economic development of the peoples of the Americas and, in that context, to prioritize sovereign initiatives in each of our states aimed at achieving full and effective participation for citizens in democratic life.

3. To continue promoting all women's political participation, including as elected leaders, technical experts in elections, engaged civil society leaders, and informed voters.

4. To continue to promote the strengthening of democratic institutions, values, practices and governance, the fight against corruption, consolidation of the rule of law, 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.

5. To instruct the Permanent Council to promote, in broad consultation with member states on recommendations for panelists, the holding of a special meeting on the implementation of all aspects of the Inter-American Democratic Charter and its challenges, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third regular session on the outcomes of that meeting.

viii. Consumer protection in the Americas

CONSIDERING the importance of sustainable consumption and development in a suitable environment, protection of life, health, and physical safety in consumption, and the protection of the economic interests of consumers through fair, non-discriminatory, and non-abusive treatment by suppliers of goods and services;

BEARING IN MIND that COVID-19 continues to have an impact 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

RECOGNIZING the guidelines developed by the OAS Consumer Safety and Health Network (CSHN) for consumer protection in the area of product safety in the post-pandemic context,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the OAS Consumer Safety and Health Network (CSHN) to prepare a report describing the measures that have been adopted to protect the health and safety of consumers in the period 2021-2022.

2. To invite states that are not members of the CSHN to join 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.

ix. Promotion of inter-American parliamentary engagement

BEARING IN MIND Article 3 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states 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”;

RECALLING its resolution AG/RES.1599 (XXVIII-O/98), which instructed the OAS General Secretariat to facilitate parliamentary dialogue, culminating in a meeting of national legislators, held in 1998 in the Dominican Republic;

RECALLING ALSO its resolution AG/RES. 1673 (XXIX-O/99) regarding the creation of a Parliamentary Network of the Americas, resulting in a meeting of chairs of foreign relations committees of national parliaments and congresses of OAS member states, held at OAS headquarters on March 29 and 30, 2000;

RECOGNIZING the essential role that legislators play in the exercise of representative democracy;

EMPHASIZING the importance of regional inter-parliamentary forums, such as ParlAmericas, PARLATINO, PARLANDINO, PARLACEN, and PARLASUR, as forums for hemispheric dialogue;

TAKING NOTE ALSO of the enactment of domestic laws in certain member states, which seek to strengthen inter-parliamentary dialogue;^{1/} and

BEARING IN MIND mandates contained in the political commitment "Inter American Action Plan on Democratic Governance" arising from the Ninth Summit of the Americas (CA-IX/doc.5/22),

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1. To include the "Organization of American States Legislative Engagement Act of 2020" (Public Law 116-343) by the United States, which seeks to strengthen the participation of elected...

including the pledge by governments to foster “parliamentarian engagement as an integral part of the Summits process through ParlAmericas, the interparliamentary organization of the Hemisphere, and other parliamentary organizations,”

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm the importance of inter-parliamentary dialogue as a platform for cooperation in sharing experiences on legislative matters, particularly for the promotion and defense of the principles of representative democracy in the region;

2. To encourage member states to consider options for enhanced hemispheric inter-parliamentary cooperation;

3. To instruct the Permanent Council, working through the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) and the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (CISC), to promote the holding of a special meeting with parliamentarians through ParlAmericas and other regional parliamentary organizations to share best practices and recommendations with the member states, with a particular focus on the gender perspective, in order to enhance inter-American parliamentary dialogue, the results of which will be reported to the General Assembly at its fifty-third regular session.

x. Effective public management strengthening and innovation in the Americas

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

UNDERSTANDING that the validity of democratic governance and institutions is based on transparent, sustainable, and inclusive governmental management for the entire population of our states, and that this includes protection and promotion of all human rights;

REAFFIRMING the commitments made in the Lima Commitment “Democratic Governance against Corruption,” adopted at the Eighth Summit of the Americas held in April 2018, especially those relating to strengthening democratic institutions, promotion of policies on integrity and transparency, and public procurement;

REAFFIRMING ALSO the commitments contained in the Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance adopted at the Ninth Summit of the Americas, held in Los Angeles, United States of America, in June 2022, in particular with regard to the transparency and anti-corruption efforts;

RECOGNIZING the substantial value of regional cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, such as the Inter-American Network on Government Procurement (INGP), and taking note of the declaration of “Public Procurement as a strategic area for the generation of greater public value and better access to citizens’ rights,” of the INGP’s Sixteenth Annual Conference; and

RECOGNIZING ALSO the importance of pursuing the activities of the Department for Effective Public Management, where appropriate, in coordination with the Inter-American Commission of Women, in light of the promotion and protection of all women's rights and gender equity and equality,

RESOLVES:

1. 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 the member states that so request, through training and education programs designed to strengthen public management innovation, establishing partnerships with universities and centers of higher education in the region in order to provide the necessary trained human resources at different levels of government.

2. To instruct the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management, to continue supporting the efforts of member states that so request to implement the open-government principles of transparency, accountability, collaboration, and citizen participation in the region.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue to support the efforts of member states to strengthen national and local public administration institutions through training and education programs, including through exchanges of experience in organization, process-based management, and improvement of public services through the Inter-American Cooperation Mechanism for Effective Public Management (MECIGEP).

4. To request the General Secretariat, through the Department for Effective Public Management as technical secretariat of the Inter-American Network on Government Procurement (INGP), to continue to promote the necessary actions, in accordance with the recommendations of the INGP, in order to strengthen public procurement as a strategic area for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and fulfilling the 2030 Agenda, in the light of national circumstances and capabilities.

5. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue supporting the efforts of member states in strengthening the institutional and technical capabilities of public procurement officials in the design and implementation of public policies, as well as in the use of technological and data analytical instruments and tools to prevent corruption and effectively manage public procurement with greater integrity, transparency, efficiency, and innovation.

6. To urge the member states to promote public innovation as 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 among public servants.

7. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue implementing the Inter-American Award for Innovation in Effective Public Management as a mechanism for recognizing, encouraging, organizing, and promoting the public management innovations that have been made in the region, with the aim of fostering and contributing to a culture of greater transparency, effectiveness, inclusion, and appropriate incorporation of mechanisms for citizen participation in public administration of the Americas.

xi. Deepen the relationship between inclusive democratic governance and sustainable development

REAFFIRMING the commitments contained in the Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance adopted at the Ninth Summit of the Americas, held in Los Angeles, United States of America, in June 2022;

BEARING IN MIND that the fight against poverty, and especially the elimination of extreme poverty, is essential to the promotion and consolidation of democracy and constitutes a common and shared responsibility of the American states;

RECALLING that the exercise of democracy promotes the preservation and good stewardship of the environment and that it is essential that the states of the Hemisphere implement policies and strategies to protect the environment, including application of various treaties and conventions, to achieve sustainable development for the benefit of future generations; and

EMPHASIZING the urgent need to deepen the relationship between inclusive democratic governance and sustainable development as a necessary condition for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states to intensify hemispheric cooperation to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

2. To encourage member states to pursue the implementation of expanded hemispheric cooperation and investment programs to promote sustainable development as a key pillar and objective of democratic governance.

3. To promote the development of policies and programs to expand opportunities for economic and social empowerment and advancement for all peoples of the Hemisphere.

4. To promote policies and programs that address the structural causes of poverty and inequality and foster strengthened cooperation and the exchange of experiences and best practices in that regard.

5. To promote the creation of employment and decent work, as well as entrepreneurship, particularly among young people, and to expand opportunities for ongoing training and occupational retraining.

6. To promote the strengthening of supply chains, the facilitation of investments in the Americas, and increased trade integration.

7. To recognize the need to promote the economic autonomy of women by creating conditions for them to access the labor market and participate in wealth and employment generation in the region.

8. To instruct the Permanent Council to promote, in broad consultation with member states for recommendations for panelists, the holding of a special meeting on the importance of deepening the relationship between inclusive democratic governance and sustainable development, with special emphasis on the issues identified in the commitments adopted on democracy and sustainable development at the Ninth Summit of the Americas, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third regular session on the results of that meeting.

FOOTNOTES

1. ...national legislators in the work of the OAS and catalyze the formation of a parliamentary assembly.

AG/RES. 2990 (LII-O/22)

INTERNATIONAL LAW

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on October 7, 2022)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING resolution AG/RES. 2974 (LI-O/21) and all previous resolutions adopted on this topic; and

HAVING SEEN the “Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly,” in particular the section on the activities of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) (AG/doc.5765/22 [add. 1](#)),

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 to promote and raise awareness about international law among member states, in collaboration with agencies and organizations engaged in this area;

BEARING IN MIND the special meeting held by the Permanent Council by mandate of the General Assembly on July 20, 2022, to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law to enable member states to identify the activities of the Program that they regard as priorities in terms of addressing their particular needs and interests, and taking note also of the statements of the member states at that meeting,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its appreciation to the Department of International Law for its efforts in promoting and disseminating 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; to commend the Permanent Council on the outcomes of the special meeting of July 20, 2022, to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Program; and to instruct it to hold similar meetings every two years so that member states can continue to have a space to discuss activities that they regard as priorities within the framework of the Program.

2. 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, in which regard the success of the training carried out to date in Chile, Ecuador, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Uruguay are to be highlighted; 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.

ii. Private international law

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the rich exchange of ideas and the outcomes of the special meeting held by the CAJP on July 14, 2022, where strategies for the Organization to resume its activities in the area of codification and progressive development of private international law were discussed;

TAKING NOTE of the document “Private International Law in the Americas: Achieving Transnational Justice for Individuals” (document [CP/CAJP-3667/22](#)) prepared by the OAS Department of International Law by mandate of the General Assembly on the occasion of the special meeting of the CAJP, as well as of the specific proposals contained therein;

RECOGNIZING the importance of the role of private international law in sustainable development, in particular for achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the CAJP to hold another special meeting to continue discussing strategies for the Organization to continue and to strengthen its activities in the area of codification and progressive development of private international law, as well as to evaluate the concrete proposals contained in document CP/CAJP-3667/22 prepared by the Department of International Law and those that the member states may decide to put forward.

2. To request the Department of International Law, for the purpose of strengthening the study of private international law, to continue, in coordination with the permanent missions of member states, to promote greater dissemination of this subject among public officials of member states, including the judiciary, and other actors, in collaboration with private international law associations, universities, and specialized institutions that work in this area, through events and activities to promote greater knowledge of the inter-American and universal conventions on the subject, as well as soft-law

instruments on private international law and to request member states to collaborate to the best of their ability on this initiative by identifying actors within their respective countries that could best benefit from it, and to inform the Department of International Law accordingly.

3. To welcome the project on the establishment of a jurisprudence database on the application of inter-American conventions on private international law for the purpose of promoting harmonization in the interpretation and application of inter-American instruments proposed by the Department of International Law at the special meeting of the CAJP of June 14, 2022, and to encourage member states to designate points of contact to provide, to the best of their ability, relevant information for the Department to implement said project.

4. To request the Department of International Law to continue organizing joint meetings annually 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 learn about the specific needs of member states as regards codification and progressive development of private international law in the region and to promote new developments in this area and, in that connection, to request that member states continue to promote participation from those specialized areas in such meetings.

5. To renew the request to 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.

6. To instruct the Department of International Law, while trying to avoid overlap, to continue working in cooperation with other international agencies such as the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH), 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.

7. To encourage member states to join the actions identified in document CP/CAJP-3667/22, with a view to ensuring a more active participation in future activities for the progressive development of private international law in the region, and to encourage them to join efforts in other multilateral forums in order to strengthen the Hemisphere's position in the negotiation of new instruments.

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/CAJP-3683/22](#) of July 22, 2022; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that during its one hundredth regular session, held in Lima, Peru, in May 2021, the Inter-American Juridical Committee adopted the "Declaration of the Inter-American

Juridical Committee on International Law on the Occasion of its Hundredth Regular Session” [CJI/DEC. 02 (C-O/22)],

RESOLVES:

1. To highlight the importance of the latest contributions of the Inter-American Juridical Committee (CJI) to international law 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 request the CJI to continue developing its agenda, and to renew the invitation for member states to comment in a timely manner and to the extent they can, on requests for information from the CJI to facilitate the preparation of the reports contained in that agenda.

3. To request the CJI to continue considering 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.

4. 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.

5. 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 member states’ opinions on how the work of the CJI is progressing.

iv. 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 adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization; and

RECALLING the report “International Law Applicable to Cyberspace” (document CJI/doc.671/22 rev. 2) that the Inter-American Juridical Committee presented at its 101st regular session in August 2022, in which it provided an update on the main developments in the law applicable to cyberspace at the international level,

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 efforts to support member states and offer them assistance in their efforts to implement the framework adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 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 forum and/or course for public officials from member states that so request.

v. Use of international law for strengthening the OAS

TAKING NOTE of the results of the meeting of the CAJP to reflect collectively on the international law on which the inter-American system is founded, as the normative framework that governs the work of the Organization of American States, which were forwarded to the Inter-American Juridical Committee for consideration; and

RECALLING that the principles of the OAS Charter establish that “[i]nternational law is the standard of conduct of States in their reciprocal relations,”

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Inter-American Juridical Committee to include in its agenda the topic related to the principles of international law on which the inter-American system is based, so that its members may analyze their codification and progressive development of this topic at the regional level.

2. To request the Permanent Council to hold a special meeting to promote an exchange of experiences among member states on the principles of international law on which the inter-American system is founded.

vi. International legal framework for arms and ammunition companies

RECALLING the report “Conscious and Effective Regulation of Business in the Area of Human Rights” (document CJI/doc.522/17 rev. 2) adopted by the Inter-American Juridical Committee at its 90th session held in March 2017;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT resolution AG/RES. 2840 (XLIV-O/14), “Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Business,” adopted by the General Assembly at its second plenary session on June 4, 2014, and which resolves to continue promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, in order to achieve greater awareness of the benefits of their implementation;

RECOGNIZING that arms and ammunition manufacturers, distributors, and sellers, by defining the capabilities of weapons, their adaptability, portability, and assembly, as well as commercial practices for their sale, play an important role in the prevention of armed violence and human rights violations and should seek to act with due diligence; and

UNDERSCORING the role of civil society and other social actors in defending people adversely affected by human rights violations, especially of the right to life,

RESOLVES:

1. To recognize the importance of continuing discussions on the responsibility of arms companies to respect human rights; and, therefore, to invite member states to consider the matter in the appropriate bodies.

2. To request the Inter-American Juridical Committee to include in its work agenda the issue of corporate responsibility of manufacturers and sellers of weapons in the area of human rights, in order to re-launch activities to develop this topic at the regional level.

3. To request that the Department of International Law, in order to strengthen the study of human rights and business that manufacture and sell weapons, promote the widest dissemination and reflection on this subject, in collaboration with international law institutions, universities, and specialized institutions.

4. To request the Permanent Council to hold a special meeting to foster an exchange of experiences in the promotion and protection of human rights and the role of arms companies in this area.

5. To request the Department of International Law to organize joint meetings with the areas specializing in human rights and business, with the aim of promoting new developments in that area.

vii. The Law of the Sea

A. Sea-level rise in relation to international law

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT OAS General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 2818 (XLIV-O/14), “Climate Change in the Context of Sustainable Development in the Hemisphere,” adopted by the General Assembly at its regular session on June 4, 2014;

CONSIDERING that, according to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, this phenomenon is likely to accelerate in the future, causing the planet's sea level to rise, permanently inundating low-lying coastal areas and islands;

EMPHASIZING that, in the framework of its seventieth session in 2018, the United Nations International Law Commission decided to include the topic “Sea-level rise in relation to international law” in its long-term program of work and that the General Assembly of the United Nations took note of that fact in its resolution 73/265 of December 22, 2018;

CONSIDERING that discussions must continue on the consequences of sea-level rise and its potential legal implications and that these discussions must respect the rights of coastal states over their respective maritime spaces.

HIGHLIGHTING the steps taken by states, such as land reclamation or island fortification, to respond or adapt to the possible consequences of sea-level rise;

CONSIDERING that small island developing states are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change; and

TAKING NOTE OF the recent discussions in the United Nations International Law Commission on sea level rise in relation to international law,

RESOLVES:

1. To request that the General Secretariat, through the Department of International Law, organize a seminar for member states, staff of the Organization, and the general public to raise awareness of the possible legal implications of sea-level rise caused by climate change.

2. To instruct the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs to hold, prior to the fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly, a special meeting to consider the particular challenges facing the region in relation to the consequences of sea-level rise and its potential legal implications and examine the response or adaptation measures that member states of the Organization have implemented; and to instruct the Department of International Law subsequently to prepare a report on the main outcomes of that meeting to be presented to the Inter-American Juridical Committee (CJI).

B. Conservation and sustainable use of the oceans

RECOGNIZING that problems concerning the oceans, including that the increasing effects of climate change are closely interrelated and must be addressed holistically;

RECALLING resolution 72/249, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 24, 2017, by which it convened an intergovernmental conference to consider the elements and draft the text of an international instrument on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction;

EMPHASIZING the work that has been carried out in the framework of the five sessions of the Intergovernmental Conference, on an international legally-binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction;

CONSIDERING, likewise, that the Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Conference had its first working days from August 15 to 26, 2022, and was suspended in order to complete at a later date the negotiations on an internationally-binding instrument within the framework of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction;

CONSIDERING declaration AG/DEC. 104 (LI-O/21), "Renewed Commitment to Sustainable Development in the Americas Post COVID-19," adopted by the OAS General Assembly on November 12, 2021, during its fifty-first regular session, recognizing the need to advance towards a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach to achieve the goals established in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states to continue to participate actively in the negotiations on a new legally-binding international instrument on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, with the aim that this would constitute a framework to strengthen hemispheric and international coordination and cooperation for the governance of the oceans with a view to ensuring the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity, through the establishment of area-based management mechanisms, including marine protected areas, access to and use of marine genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of their benefits, the conduct of environmental impact assessments, and capacity building and marine technology transfer for the benefit of humanity as a whole.

2. To urge member states to join efforts to conclude the negotiations during the Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Conference and adopt a text promoting universality in order to achieve the objectives of conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond national jurisdiction.

viii. Promotion of and respect for international humanitarian law^{1/}

RECOGNIZING that many states may have robust programs for the effective implementation of international humanitarian law by their armed forces;

DISMAYED that in various parts of the world violations of international humanitarian law persist, causing suffering for persons affected by armed conflict, particularly the civilian population, as well as for those affected by the challenges posed by current humanitarian consequences in the context of armed conflicts;

UNDERSCORING that 2022 marks the forty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and inviting states to consider ratifying relevant treaties on international humanitarian law;

RECALLING that the obligation, under any circumstances, to respect and ensure respect for international humanitarian law, applies to all States Parties to the four universally-recognized Geneva Conventions of 1949 and to the States Parties to one or more of the three protocols additional thereto;

REAFFIRMING, to that end, the need to strengthen international humanitarian law by promoting its universal acceptance, its broadest possible dissemination, and the adoption of national measures for its effective application, including through adjustments to domestic law and, as appropriate, the imposition of penalties on those who commit gross violations of international humanitarian law, as recalled in Resolution 1 (33IC/19/R1) “Bringing IHL home: A road map for better national implementation of international humanitarian law,” adopted at the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (“Resolution 1”);

RECOGNIZING the work done by states to implement Resolution 1 through different actions, including organization of and participation in regional conferences such as the Regional Consultation

1. The United States’ position is that neither customary international law nor the Geneva Convention of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto imposes an obligation on states to respect and ensure ...

of Latin American States: International Humanitarian Law and Cyber Operations During Armed Conflicts, co-organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico and the ICRC on November 9 and 10, 2021, and the subregional meeting entitled “Voluntary reports on national implementation of international humanitarian law: Sharing practical experiences and perspectives” held on March 22, 2022;

HIGHLIGHTING the drafting or commitment to drafting of voluntary reports by several states of the Americas on the implementation of international humanitarian law in their countries; and

EMPHASIZING the mandate and role of the International Committee of the Red Cross as a neutral, impartial, and independent institution working to protect and assist victims of armed conflicts and other situations of violence, as well as in promoting respect for international humanitarian law, as conferred by the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and by the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states and the parties engaged in armed conflict to honor and fulfill their obligations under international humanitarian law.

2. To invite member states to consider ratifying or acceding to the treaties on international humanitarian law, including those on prohibition or restriction of the use of certain weapons, and, as applicable, take the legislative steps needed to prevent conduct prohibited under those and other treaties, especially as regards the destruction of weapons, clean-up of areas contaminated with explosive remnants of war, proper care for persons affected by armed conflict, control over the arms trade, and the ban on certain arms such as nuclear weapons.

3. To exhort member states to consider integrating international humanitarian law into the doctrine, procedures, training, equipment, control mechanisms, and education of their armed and security forces.

4. To urge member states to contribute actively to follow-up on the resolutions adopted at the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held in Geneva, Switzerland, from December 9 to 12, 2019, in particular, Resolution 1 (33IC/19/R1) “Bringing IHL home: A road map for better national implementation of international humanitarian law,” which recommends measures for a more effective implementation of IHL at the national level, as well as voluntary pledges, for those states that have made them in the framework of that international forum.

5. To invite states to share examples of and exchange good practices of national implementation measures taken in accordance with IHL obligations, as well as other measures that may go beyond state’s IHL obligations, including by making use of existing tools and national committees and similar entities on IHL, where they exist.

6. To invite member states to consider accepting the competence of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission to investigate claims as authorized by Article 90 of the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol 1).

7. To invite member states to develop their position on the manner in which international humanitarian law protects against the effects of cyber operations, in particular, in relation to the preservation of civil infrastructure from significant disruptions and to the protection of civil data.

8. To invite member states to continue to support the work of national committees, commissions, or other institutional mechanisms responsible for the dissemination and implementation of international humanitarian law and related agencies that advise and assist national authorities in the implementation, development, and dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law; and to encourage member states that have not yet done so to consider establishing such an entity and to promote cooperation with related agencies at the international, regional, and transregional levels, in particular by exchanging information and good practices.

9. To encourage member states to follow up on the recommendations of the Declaration of the Regional Meeting of National Committees on International Humanitarian Law and Other Similar Entities of the Americas, held in Quito from February 2 to 5, 2021, with Ecuador as sponsor.

10. To express satisfaction with the cooperation between the OAS and the ICRC in promoting respect for international humanitarian law and the principles that govern that law, to urge the General Secretariat to continue to strengthen such cooperation, and to instruct the Permanent Council to hold a special meeting in the first half of 2023 on topics of current interest in international humanitarian law, including the applicability of this regulation to the issue of new technologies of warfare such as lethal autonomous weapons and cyber operations, explosive weapons in densely populated areas, and the protection of the natural environment during armed conflict.

11. To request that the General Secretariat, through the Department of International Law and in coordination with the ICRC, organize within the framework of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs a course for member states, staff of the Organization, and the general public, in order to promote knowledge of and respect for international humanitarian law and related regional instruments, including measures for their effective implementation.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... respect for all of international humanitarian law in all circumstances, but rather that states parties to the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols have an obligation to respect and ensure respect for those Conventions and the Additional Protocols to which they are party.

AG/RES. 2991 (LII-O/22)

PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS^{1/2/3/4/5/6/}

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on October 7, 2022)

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. 2976 (LI-O/21) and all previous declarations and resolutions adopted on this subject;

HAVING SEEN the “Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly, December 2021 - October 2022” (AG/doc.5765/22 [add. 1](#)), in particular the section on the activities of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP);

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,

Understanding intersectionality as the interconnection that includes multiple and aggravating forms of discrimination, exclusion, and inequality; and

Reaffirming the commitment of member states to the eradication of all forms of violence, discrimination and intolerance, and recognizing the importance of mainstreaming the principle of equality and non-discrimination in advancing the full, equal, effective, and meaningful participation of all women and members of groups in situations of vulnerability and/or historically discriminated against in the creation of public policy.

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1. The Republic of Panama reiterates its unswerving commitment to protecting and guaranteeing the fundamental rights of all persons – rights that are universal, inalienable, indefeasible, and indivisible;...
 2. The Dominican Republic recognizes that the purpose of the State is to protect the rights of individuals and that its actions are based on respect for human dignity, which is sacred, innate, and...
 3. The Republic of El Salvador reaffirms its firm commitment to the fulfillment of its human rights obligations and commitments at both the inter-American and universal levels. El Salvador...
 4. Guatemala and Paraguay reaffirm that language related to the expressions “women and girls in all their diversity,” “women in all their diversity”, and the like does not represent consensus...
 5. The Government of Guyana disassociates from elements in this document, including the term 'women in all their diversity,' that are contrary to our national laws, policies and priorities...
 6. Trinidad and Tobago is unable to join consensus on this Resolution where references are made to the American Convention on Human Rights as well as its Additional Protocol in the Area of...

i. Eradication of statelessness in the Americas

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the universal nature of the right of all persons 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 effects 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 8 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 advances,

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 2014 Brazil Plan of Action.

2. To invite member states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as appropriate, the international conventions on statelessness and to adopt or amend their domestic laws, as required, in order to establish fair and efficient procedures to determine statelessness and grant facilities for stateless persons to be naturalized in a manner consistent with the domestic law of each country and 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 cases of statelessness, in particular with respect to 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 human rights commitments and obligations, especially in situations resulting from arbitrary denial and deprivation of nationality.

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 urge member states to take the necessary steps to create the social, economic, and political conditions for human rights defenders to be free to go about their work and to incorporate a comprehensive protection perspective, including differentiated and collective protections, and intersectionality understood as the interconnection that includes multiple and aggravating forms of discrimination, exclusion, and inequality into the protection of human rights defenders including communicators 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.

2. 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.

3. To encourage member states to adopt, together and in coordination with civil society, public policies to recognize the work of human rights defenders and their importance in building inclusive and democratic societies.

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, and harassment.

5. To recognize the work done locally, nationally, and regionally by human rights defenders, including those individuals that face particular risks such as women human rights defenders, and to recognize their valuable contribution to the promotion, respect for, and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Americas.

6. To urge member states to continue working to prevent situations that obstruct or hinder the work of human rights defenders, including those individuals that face particular risks such as women human rights defenders, and the protection of human rights, both domestically and before the different international forums, in the understanding that protecting human rights defenders and supporting their work is a fundamental part of states' strategies to defend and guarantee human rights,

of the work of international bodies collectively, and of the activities of certain NGOs and civil society as a whole.

iii. Rights of children and adolescents

CONSIDERING the population pyramid of the Americas, a high percentage of which comprises children and adolescents, and the existing gaps in ensuring that they can fully exercise their rights – an aspect that has become more pronounced in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and its related effects;

REAFFIRMING the comprehensive and multidimensional nature of children’s rights 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 this purpose, suitably staffed, sufficiently equipped, 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;

UNDERSCORING the commitment of member states to preventing, punishing, restitution of rights and eradicating exploitation, trafficking, and all other forms of abuse and violence against children and adolescents in all areas of their lives, as a hemispheric priority, which has been the focus of an Inter-American Children’s Institute regional study involving broad participation from a variety of stakeholders engaged with the problem that was brought to light through the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs pursuant to resolutions AG/RES. 2961 (L-O/20) and AG/RES. 2976 (LI-O/21); and

BEARING IN MIND that children and adolescents, by reason of their age, should receive, in addition to protection in general as human beings, special protection and care in a family environment, and that the severe lack of goods and services, which is harmful for any human being, is especially dangerous and detrimental in their case as it prevents them from exercising their rights, completely developing their potential as full members of society, and exposes them to conditions conducive to greater violence,

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 ensure the full enjoyment of rights through access to quality services that promote integral development, with special attention to groups historically excluded and and/or in vulnerable situations, including groups of children and adolescents in migration situations and fleeing their countries in search of international protection.

2. To encourage member states to strengthen their collaboration on defending the rights of children and adolescents, with particular attention to the response to the effects brought about by the COVID-19 health crisis, and on priority issues such as early childhood, and the right to special protection and assistance when deprived of their family environment, integral development in adolescence, rights in the context of migration and to live in a violence-free environment; as well as the need to insist on strengthening promotion and access to enjoyment 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 in accordance with their age and maturity.

3. To continue the actions undertaken with respect to challenges such as international abduction of children and adolescents; elimination of violence, trafficking, and exploitation, including sexual exploitation, particularly of Indigenous young women and girls; access to justice; prevention of pregnancy of 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 domestic laws 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.

4. To recognize the enormous value of Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) activities – especially human resource training activities – to policies to protect the rights of children and adolescents, carried out through the Inter-American Training Program (IATP); 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.

5. To express appreciation for the hemispheric study on prevention, eradication, and punishment of abuse and all forms of violence against children and adolescents submitted by the IIN, and take note of the conclusions and recommendations arising therefrom and consider instructing the IIN to proceed with implementing them within existing resources.

iv. Mental health and deprivation of liberty. The work of autonomous official public defenders

EMPHASIZING that the General Assembly took note of the Principles and Guidelines on Public Defense in the Americas, unanimously approved by the Inter-American Juridical Committee through resolution CJI/RES. 226 (LXXXIX-O/16);

NOTING that the Brasilia Regulations Regarding Access to Justice for Vulnerable People, approved by the XIV Ibero-American Judicial Summit, held from March 4 to 6, 2008, understand deprivation of liberty as confinement which has been ordered by a public authority, whether for the investigation of a crime, for serving a criminal sentence, for mental illness, or for any other reason, and that the Regulations also consider that people with physical or mental conditions can be considered vulnerable people;

RECALLING, in the same vein, that the Principles and Best Practices on the Protection of Persons Deprived of Liberty in the Americas adopted by the IACHR define deprivation of liberty as any form of detention, imprisonment, institutionalization, or custody of a person in a public or private institution, in which the person is not permitted to leave at will, ordered by or under the *de facto* control of a judicial, administrative, or any other authority, for reasons of humanitarian assistance, treatment, guardianship, or protection, or because of crimes or legal offenses, and that the definition states that it includes not only those who have been prosecuted or convicted, but also persons under the custody and responsibility of certain institutions, such as persons in psychiatric hospitals and other facilities for persons with physical, mental, or sensory disabilities; institutions for children and older persons, centers for migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless and undocumented persons, and any other similar institution the purpose of which is to deprive persons of their liberty; and

RECALLING ALSO the commitments made in the Inter-American Convention on 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, including those in the Program of Action regarding the effective exercise of their legal capacity, and for them to have access to justice on an equal basis with others, guaranteeing the provision of reasonable accommodations for that purpose,

RESOLVES:

1. To underscore the vital importance of the qualitative and timely *pro bono* legal aid service provided by official public defender offices in the Americas within the scope of their authority in guaranteeing access to justice for everyone, including for users of mental health services; as well as for the recognition and guarantee of the legal and material conditions for the enjoyment of their personal autonomy in addition to full participation and the least degree of restriction in the exercise of their legal capacity.

2. To encourage official public defender's offices in the Americas to provide specialized, effective, and urgent treatment to mental health service users, providing support and substantive, procedural, and gender- and age-appropriate accommodations that may be needed, especially accessible to children and adolescents and those who are deprived of their liberty, in order to facilitate the prompt review of the measure that orders their internment or detention, as well as its continuation over time.

3. To urge official public defenders to ensure full respect for the rights and other applicable legal protections of individuals subjected to a mental health detention, as it involves the deprivation of liberty of a person in a vulnerable situation, and, in particular, to urge states to ensure the intervention of the public defenders from the very beginning of the detention and the processing of such interventions within a reasonable period of time, as well as promoting the use of deprivation of liberty in any form as a measure of last resort.

4. Without prejudice to the responsibility to respect, protect, and promote the human rights of all people, including those who are in vulnerable situations, in the case of institutionalized children and adolescents, seek to encourage defenders to ensure that any intervention and decision in their regard respect, when applicable, the principles of progressive autonomy, self-determination, and supported decision making, reinforcing due process protections as a special protection measure for this group in a particularly vulnerable situation.

5. To encourage member states to regulate mechanisms for monitoring and supervising institutions where persons using mental health services are housed, as well as penitentiary centers, ensuring proper evaluation and care to protect the physical safety, emotional, and mental well-being, and development of all persons deprived of their liberty, implementing the necessary regulatory modifications and adjustments consistent with the commitments emanating from international human rights instruments, as applicable.

6. To request the Permanent Council to instruct the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) to include in its work plan prior to the fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly the following item of this resolution, in order to promote the exchange of experiences and

best practices: "Mental health and deprivation of liberty. The work of the autonomous official public defender." To hold an eleventh special meeting of the CAJP on good practices aimed at ensuring access to justice for mental health service users by each official public defender institution in the region in the first quarter of 2023, to be attended by member states and their respective official public defender institutions that provide legal aid, members of the American Association of Public Defender Offices (AIDEF), experts from the academic community, civil society, including women's organizations, and international organizations. AIDEF will guarantee the attendance of its members.

v. Principles on Effective Interviewing for Investigations and Information Gathering or "Méndez Principles"^{7/}

EMPHASIZING the importance of due process of law and its fundamental principles and guarantees in the effective protection of the human rights of persons deprived of their liberty; and

ACKNOWLEDGING with interest the development of the "Principles on Effective Interviews for Investigations and Information Gathering" or "Méndez Principles," which aim to provide practical guidance for states to strengthen preventive measures against torture and other forms of ill-treatment during the investigation process, in particular during interrogations and interviews, and which have been endorsed by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

RESOLVES:

1. To encourage member states to consider incorporating into their legislation, as appropriate, regulations, training techniques, procedures, and national practices the "Principles on Effective Interviewing for Investigations and Information Gathering," also known as the "Méndez Principles," which constitute an essential tool for the protection of human rights and the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment; and to consider establishing training modules on these Principles, for public authority officers who conduct interrogations or interviews to get confessions.

vi. Freedom of expression and journalism in the Americas

BEARING IN MIND Article 13 of the American Convention on Human Rights, Article 4 of the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, Article 4 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and the 2000 Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR);

UNDERSCORING the fundamental role played by the right to freedom of investigation, opinion and expression, and dissemination of thought by any means in the promotion and protection of human rights and the strengthening of democratic societies;

NOTING that independent, free, pluralistic, and diverse media are essential in a democratic society and that their absence undermines free and open debate on matters of public interest and access to information;

7. The United States of America does not believe the "Mendez Principles" are ready for adoption by public authority officers as these principles and the accompanying guidance have yet to be reviewed...

EMPHASIZING the concern for the adverse effects that concentration of media ownership could have on the strengthening of democracy and the full exercise of citizens' right to seek, receive, and impart information; and

HIGHLIGHTING the work of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression in carrying out activities to protect and promote the right to freedom of thought and of expression in the Americas,^{8/}

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states to continue developing legal guarantees for the free practice of journalism, with a gender perspective, including the incorporation of protection measures and the strengthening of technical capacity.

2. To encourage member states, Internet intermediaries, civil society organizations, and other interested parties to proactively promote and support digital literacy and inclusion, facilitate access to information and ideas, and reduce the digital divide in the region.

3. To encourage the member states to actively promote the representation of women in journalism and in the media.

4. To request the CAJP, within existing resources, to hold a special meeting in consultation with the states, to collectively reflect, share lessons learned, and exchange best practices on the right to freedom of expression and journalism in the Americas, and to present the results of that meeting to the Permanent Council prior to the fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly.

vii. "The Power of Inclusion and the Benefits of Diversity"

RECALLING that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent, and inter-related and that everyone is entitled to enjoy these rights without any distinction, consistent with the principle of equality and non-discrimination;

RECALLING that all the states of the Americas, through the 2014 Declaration of Asunción: "Development with Social Inclusion," have articulated the imperative to promote fair, equitable, and inclusive societies;

RECOGNIZING the contribution of sectoral and ministerial meetings of the OAS towards achieving greater inclusion in the region;

NOTING that inclusion is a pervasive and cross-cutting theme in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its pledge that "no one will be left behind," and in particular, the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies, including SDGs 5, 10, and 16 in which gender equality, social, economic and political inclusion, access to justice for all persons, and building of effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions are promoted;

8. The Republic of El Salvador reaffirms its commitment to the right to freedom of expression, which helps to strengthen democratic societies and consolidate the rule of law. For El Salvador, all ...

NOTING WITH ALARM that there continue to be reports from across the region regarding acts and expressions of hate and exclusion, including, but not limited to, antisemitism, Islamophobia, xenophobia, homophobia, transphobia, violence, racism, and discrimination;

RECOGNIZING the efforts of bodies, organizations, and entities of the OAS to counter discrimination, intolerance, violent extremism, and other forms of hate in the region, which are rapidly increasing, and that states have a responsibility to combat;

REAFFIRMING that the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all persons are the foundation of freedom, justice, security, and peace, and that social inclusion is an essential element in 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 28, 2022, the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs 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 inclusion and diversity,

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 an essential element 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 in civic and political life, for all persons, involving such elements as: transparent, 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 and accessible civic spaces; free and uncensored media, both offline and online; and digital inclusion – from internet connectivity to digital literacy – required for informed and engaged democratic citizens.
5. To strive towards greater economic inclusion, comprising the full and meaningful participation of all persons, including all women in economic life which involves such elements as: equitable access to quality education and training; facilitating accessibility to public infrastructure, services and equipment, and decent work; labor protections; pay equity; financial inclusion; programs

of social protection, eradicating poverty, inclusive growth policies; more equitable taxation; inclusive trade policies; as well as inclusive and development-oriented multilateral cooperation.

6. To request the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs to organize, within existing resources and in coordination with the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity, SEDI, and the Subcommittee on Partnership for Development Policies a special meeting where member states may engage in dialogue with experts, share lessons learned, and exchange good practices to advance the goals of this resolution, with a special focus on aspects identified in the preceding operative paragraph 5, and that the Committee present the results of that meeting to the Permanent Council prior to the fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly.

viii. Strengthening the Follow-up Mechanism for Implementation of the Protocol of San Salvador

HIGHLIGHTING the ratifications, by member states, of 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 said Protocol, and that the corresponding standards were established by resolution AG/RES. 2074 (XXXV-O/05) and subsequent resolutions; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the contributions of the Office of the Special Rapporteur on Economic, Social, Cultural, and Environmental Rights, in terms of its membership on and chairmanship of the Working Group on the Protocol of San Salvador (WGPSS), and appreciating the importance of its work, reports, and recommendations on ESCR issues,

RESOLVES:

1. To encourage the states parties to take into consideration the observations for developing their public policies, in order to promote economic, social, and cultural rights, and urge them to share best practices in this area and consider existing innovative proposals for implementing the recommendations concerning the Protocol of San Salvador.

2. To applaud Chile on its recent ratification and to invite member states that are not yet party to consider, as applicable, signing, ratifying, or acceding to the aforementioned Protocol.

ix. “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, and displaced and stateless persons for Latin America and the Caribbean;

HIGHLIGHTING 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;

HIGHLIGHTING FURTHER the achievements attained through the adoption of the 1984 Cartagena Declaration on Refugees, the San José Declaration on Refugees and Displaced Persons of 1994 and the Mexico Declaration and Action Plan to Strengthen the International Protection of Refugees in Latin America of 2004, the Declaration of Brasilia on the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons in the Americas of 2019, as well as the important inclusive and constructive dialogue of the Cartagena +30 process;

RECOGNIZING the need to maintain forums for regional dialogue so as to be able to address, in a concerted manner, in the spirit of solidarity and shared responsibility, due protection for asylum seekers in the Americas; and the convenience of evaluating conditions to strengthen information exchange systems;

RECALLING its resolutions AG/RES. 2928 (XLVIII-O/18), AG/RES. 2941 (XLIX-O/19), AG/RES. 2961 (L-O/20), and AG/RES. 2976 (LI-O/21) regarding the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS), 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 AS WELL that, during the Ninth Summit of the Americas, held in Los Angeles, California, in June 2022, the seven states parties to the MIRPS signed the “Los Angeles Declaration on Migration and Protection,” in which they reiterated their willingness to strengthen regional and hemispheric efforts to create the conditions for safe, orderly, humane, and regular migration, and to strengthen the necessary frameworks for protection and international cooperation; and

RECOGNIZING that the displacement crises unfolding in the region demand that all countries take concrete steps to ensure respect, protection, and promotion of the human rights of all persons including asylum-seekers and refugees, regardless of their immigration status,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states to continue implementing the programs and thematic pillars of the Brazil Plan of Action and, where applicable, the pillars of the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS) national action plans, with the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Asylum Capacity Support Group, as applicable, and 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.

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 issuance 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, or equivalent bodies, the 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 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, including long-term with the support, *inter alia*, of international actors, the private sector, and financial entities; to support the adoption of protection measures, including gender perspective ones; and to promote inclusion in national systems and the search for lasting solutions for persons in need of international protection.

6. To reiterate to member states the importance of placing a priority on addressing the issue of migrant and refugee children and adolescents, granting them special treatment and proper safeguarding, while protecting their rights and best interest, as they experience disproportionate vulnerability in migration processes.

7. To recognize the constant efforts made by the States that belong to the MIRPS, to respond and attend to the needs of asylum seekers, refugees, returnees with protection needs, and displaced persons, supported by its joint Technical Secretariat, comprised of the OAS General Secretariat through the Department of Social Inclusion of the SARE and UNHCR.

8. To encourage MIRPS member states to continue promoting cooperation mechanisms and to share the good practices they have been pursuing to find lasting solutions for people needing international protection, in the Working Groups: Strengthening Asylum Systems; Internal Displacement; Local Governance; and Employment and Livelihoods.

9. To encourage the MIRPS member states to continue with efforts to increase public investment made by each of the countries in caring for forcibly displaced persons. In this way, to raise the visibility of national efforts to provide protection and seek regional solutions with support from other stakeholders – international or national, public or private – in these efforts.

10. To highlight also the contributions provided by the MIRPS Support Platform in mobilizing possible financial and technical assistance. In this sense, to recognize that the “Solidarity Event” held on September 21, 2022, and organized by Canada and the United States, was a very positive effort that should be replicated.

11. To thank the Kingdom of Spain for the first contribution to the MIRPS Fund and to urge member states, permanent observers, and other donors to make voluntary contributions to the MIRPS Fund, or other financial, technical, or in-kind assistance in order to support the objectives of increasing and strengthening its activities and regional cooperation mechanisms for implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees.

12. To encourage countries to maintain and promote cooperation mechanisms designed to share best practices that they have been pursuing.

13. Recognize the constant efforts carried out by the states that make up the Quito Process, and urge member states and donors to contribute to the United Nations’ Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan to help support the response to needs arising from the situation of asylum seekers and migrants in the region under the criteria of solidarity and shared responsibility.

14. To intensify efforts to promote solutions that together can work as useful, practical, and realistic tools that have a positive impact on the lives of individuals needing international protection and those forcibly displaced, taking into account current scenarios that include economic impacts and the effects of natural disasters and climate change and health emergencies.

x. Human rights of older persons

MINDFUL of the urgent need to identify and include the post-pandemic recovery needs and meaningful participation of older persons – who 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, and to enjoy the very highest level of physical, mental, and social well-being without discrimination of any kind, as established in the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons, to which eight member states are parties,

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate Colombia on depositing the instrument of accession to the Inter-American Convention on the Protection of the Human Rights of Older Persons and 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, which will allow progress in implementing the Convention to be monitored, in accordance with its authority.

2. To encourage states to make the necessary effort to protect the human rights of older persons, ensuring that they receive preferential care and support that is targeted and differentiated based on their needs, thereby protecting their wellbeing and promoting their autonomy and independence and universal, equitable, and timely access to primary care-based quality comprehensive health services, especially those serving older persons in vulnerable situations, as well as to urge states to prioritize the needs of older persons when designing post-pandemic recovery programs and policies.

xi. Program of Action for the Decade of the Americas for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities 2016-2026 (PAD) 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 (CIADDIS) and the Program of Action for the Decade of the Americas for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities (PAD), 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 many persons with disabilities have pre-existing conditions that make them more susceptible to contracting COVID-19 and experiencing more severe symptoms upon 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, such as 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 focused on – and 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, in keeping with the respective domestic laws; 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 them 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, in keeping with the preceding paragraph, to take note of the compendium “Attention to Persons with Disabilities in the Americas in the Framework of the COVID-19 Pandemic,” published by the Department of Social Inclusion of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity, which is a compilation of best practices and initiatives implemented in 13 countries of the Americas to better serve persons with disabilities during the pandemic.

3. To encourage OAS 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; and to encourage member states that are party to the CIADDIS to implement the recommendations put forward by Committee for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (CEDDIS) in its evaluations, by sphere of activity, and to consider making voluntary contributions to the Specific Fund to support the operations of the Committee and its Secretariat and to the Specific Fund for the Mixed Working Group for Monitoring and Follow-up on Implementation of the Program of Action for the Decade of the Americas for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities 2016-2026.

4. To take note of the CEDDIS publication entitled “Guide for the Establishment of Support for the Exercise of the Legal Capacity of Persons with Disabilities,” developed based on the principles and guidelines of the CIADDIS and of the United Nations International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, aimed at promoting the full and effective exercise by persons with disabilities of their will and citizenship on an equal basis with other persons, and to request the member states to disseminate it as widely as possible in order to assist with implementing it in the public and private spheres.

5. To highlight the work of the Organization of American States (OAS) Group of Friends of Persons with Disabilities and to encourage other countries to join its work.

6. To instruct the Department of Social Inclusion, in its capacity as technical secretariat to CEDDIS and to the area that promotes programs for social inclusion of persons with disabilities, to continue 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 members of this group and their full participation, with collaboration from persons with disabilities and other actors.

7. 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, through activities that contribute to the full recognition, visibility, exercise, and enjoyment of their rights.

xii. Promotion of the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Related Forms of Intolerance and the fight against all forms of discrimination^{9/}

RECOGNIZING the importance of ratifying the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Related Forms of Intolerance,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Permanent Council to organize within existing resources a follow-up meeting aimed at gathering input from member states for countering intolerance and discrimination in the region.

9. The State of Guatemala declares that its relations with other States are governed by international principles, rules and practices, with the purpose of contributing to the maintenance...

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.

xiii. Protecting human rights in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and future epidemic or pandemic emergencies

RECALLING IACHR resolutions 1/2020 "Pandemic and Human Rights in the Americas," 4/2020 "Human Rights of Persons with COVID-19," and 1/2021 "COVID-19 Vaccines and Inter-American Human Rights Obligations," 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 COVID-19 pandemic has shown us the differentiated and intersectional adverse effects caused by international health emergencies, during which preexisting gaps are exacerbated in the enjoyment of human rights by all sectors of the population, in particular people and members of populations in situations of special vulnerability and/or historically subjected to discrimination,

RESOLVES:

1. To include the human rights and gender perspective approaches according to the respective international human rights obligations in preventive, treatment, and response measures to promote effective enjoyment of rights and the preservation of health, including preventive measures and access to vaccines, treatments, and diagnostic measures, in keeping with the principle of prior, free, and informed consent, 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 for all, including persons with COVID-19 or any other epidemic or pandemic pathogen, 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 and diagnostic measures, other health technologies, quality goods, services, information, and knowledge developed for preventive, curative, palliative, or rehabilitative care of people with COVID-19 or during other epidemic or pandemic emergencies.

4. To provide and disseminate adequate and sufficient information on safe and effective vaccines and treatments, as well guarantee access to timely, complete, understandable, clear, non-

technical, reliable, and culturally appropriate information that takes into account the particularities and specific needs of the individual, with respect both to the various forms of transmission of the pathogen and to the prevention of contagion and the availability of prophylactic methods, be they vaccines or medical treatments; the aforementioned, while protecting the right to-enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications.

xiv. Follow-up on the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and on the Plan of Action of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2022-2026)^{10/}

BEARING IN MIND the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the extension of the Plan of Action on the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2017-2021) for a further period (2022-2026) in order to ensure due follow-up and implementation, given the obstacles brought on by the COVID19 pandemic; 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”; as well as resolution 74/135 adopted on December 18, 2019, by the United Nations General Assembly, proclaiming 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

APPLAUDING 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 (2022-2026), and 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 (2022-2026).

3. To urge the member states to continue promoting spaces for dialogue in order to explore possible instances to guarantee the effective implementation the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

4. 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 (2022-2026).

10. 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 further...

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.

6. To promote the highest possible level of protection for the rights of Indigenous peoples in the region, with special focus on Indigenous women and girls, LGBTI persons, and members of other groups that have historically suffered exclusion, discrimination, and/or situations of vulnerability 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 responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and to future epidemics or pandemics would be inclusive with a gender perspective and with a human rights approach, respecting and protecting 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 violent and organized-crime actions that could worsen their vulnerability, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic or during other epidemics or pandemic emergencies.

xv. Universal civil registry and the right to identity^{11/}

CONSIDERING that the recognition of people's identity facilitates the exercise of the right to a name, nationality, civil and birth registration, family relations, and legal 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 all members 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, including fellow nationals residing abroad, regardless of their migration status, to identity documents by implementing effective and interoperable civil registration, identification, and vital statistics systems, including simplified and nondiscriminatory procedures that are accessible to

11. The United States notes that the title, preambular paragraph, and the first operative paragraph of this section reference "rights" that do not exist in customary international law or in any international...

everyone, while respecting 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.

xvi. Human rights and the environment ^{12/13/14/}

CONSIDERING United Nations General Assembly resolution 76/300, which recognizes the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment as a human right, and further calls upon states, international organizations, businesses, and other relevant stakeholders to adopt policies, enhance international cooperation, bolster capacity building, and continue to share best practices in order to intensify efforts to ensure a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment for everyone;

BEARING IN MIND that on March 4, 2022, the IACHR together with its Special Rapporteur on Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights (SRESCER) published their Resolution 3/21, entitled “Climate Emergency: Scope of Inter-American Human Rights Obligations,” which recognizes climate change as a human rights emergency, representing one of the greatest threats to the full enjoyment of human rights for present and future generations and to the health of ecosystems and of all species living in the Hemisphere;

TAKING NOTE of the holding of the first Conference of the Parties to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement), which was held at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) headquarters from April 20 to 22, 2022; and

CONSIDERING the member states' longstanding concern over situations that prevent or impede the work of human rights defenders at the national and regional levels in the Americas [OAS resolution AG/RES. 1671 (XXIX-O/99)]; and the duty of states to respect, protect, and guarantee the human rights of all persons, including the right to defend and promote human rights; 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, accountability, reparation, and non-recurrence in response to human rights violations, or exercise other activities to promote human rights, [resolution AG/RES. 2908 (XLVII-O/17)],

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states to promote a human right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment, and to increase international cooperation, strengthen capacity-building, and continue to share good practices that would contribute to a healthy environment, including in the context of taking steps towards achieving the relevant objectives and goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. To instruct the Permanent Council to include the issue of access to information, public participation, and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean at one of its

12. “Human Rights and the environment” of resolution AG/RES. 2991 (LII-O/22), which considers United Nations General Assembly resolution 76/300 on a right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable...

13. See footnote 9.

14. The Republic of El Salvador recognizes that climate change and environmental degradation are among the most pressing threats to the future of humanity. El Salvador reaffirms its firm intention...

regular meetings and to invite the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), its Special Rapporteurship on Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights, and the Working Group to Examine the Periodic Reports of the States Parties to the Protocol of San Salvador to give a status report on this issue in Latin American and the Caribbean.

3. Recognizing the entry into force of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement), on April 22, 2021; the States Parties to the Escazú Agreement once again invite states of Latin America and the Caribbean, which have not yet done so, to consider ratifying or adhering, as the case may be, to this Agreement.

xvii. Strengthening the Mechanism to Follow up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (MESECVI) ^{15/16/17/18/19/}

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 Statute of the Mechanism to Follow up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (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, adolescents, and girls in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic,

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 the Mechanism to generate, within available resources and pursuant to the competencies of the bodies comprising it, relevant data and information disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, sex, age, and other important categories on the extent and impact of the multiple forms of sexual and gender-based violence and discrimination from an intersectional perspective, in order to achieve gender equality and full access and enjoyment of human rights for all women, adolescents, and girls in all their diversity.

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15. The Republic of Paraguay expresses its reservation with respect to the use of certain terms in sections xvii. and xviii. of this resolution, as well as in other resolutions and declarations...
 16. The Government of Saint Lucia supports all efforts aimed at the prevention, punishment and eradication of violence against women. Saint Lucia is committed to its obligations...
 17. 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...
 18. Guatemala promotes, defends, and protects at the same level and without discrimination, the human rights of all persons recognized in the international treaties, in accordance with their text,...
 19. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not join consensus on the approval of this section of the resolution as some of the terms used are not defined in the domestic laws of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines...

2. To urge the MESECVI to analyze implementation of the recommendations of the Third Multilateral Evaluation Round and to continue encouraging the participation of the states parties in the Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round of the MESECVI, with a view to providing data and information pertaining to the indicators transmitted by the Committee of Experts.

3. To recommend that the MESECVI conduct, within available resources, a review of up-to-date data and develop a strategy to address the effects of the COVID-9 pandemic on gender-based violence, including but not limited to physical, psychological, sexual, economic, and cyber violence, trafficking of women and girls, symbolic violence, and child and adolescent pregnancy, as well as obstacles to universal access to sexual and reproductive health services, and access to justice for women, adolescents, and girls.

4. To recommend that the MESECVI continue pursuing actions to address the agreement adopted at the Eighth Conference of States Parties to the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI-VIII/doc.134/20 rev. 2), whereby the Technical Secretariat was requested to promote the crafting of a draft joint declaration of the states parties for the eradication of gender stereotypes in public spaces that result in symbolic violence and gender-based political violence.

xviii. Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women for the promotion of gender equality and equity and the rights of women ^{20/21/22/23/24/}

RECALLING section xii of resolution AG/RES. 2976 (LI-O/21) and taking note of the Declaration of Panama “Building Bridges for a New Social and Economic Pact Led by Women,” 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 2022-2025 Strategic Plan;

RECOGNIZING that, in parallel to the COVID-19 pandemic, the region faces multiple and interrelated crises such as economic, political, social and environmental crises, which have exacerbated pre-existing gaps, revealing a differentiated impact that is based on gender stereotypes and socioeconomic situations and which needs to be addressed using a comprehensive, gender, life-course intercultural and intersectional approach that covers the interconnection of multiple forms of discrimination, exclusion, and inequality;

RECOGNIZING ALSO that the realization of the rights of women in all their diversity and gender equality, both in law and in practice, demands the removal of all obstacles to improve access to sexual and reproductive health services and education for women and the promotion of prevention, care, and the eradication of violence against all women, adolescents, and girls, as well as the allocation

20. See footnote 17.

21. See footnote 15.

22. The Government of Saint Lucia supports all efforts aimed at the promotion of gender equity and equality, and the human rights of all women and girls, as well as the elimination of...

23. See footnote 18.

24. See footnote 19.

of human and financial resources at the regional, national, and local levels in order for policies, plans, and standards to be effectively implemented;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER the persistent and increasing resistance and structural difficulties observed in the Hemisphere in advancing gender equality and full recognition and for the autonomy human rights of all women in all their diversity; and

TAKING NOTE of the Annual Report of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM/doc.5800/22),

RESOLVES:

1. To recognize the need to work to eliminate the multiple and sexual- and gender-based violence, as well as to recognize intersectionality and full and effective participation and equal opportunity of leadership for women and girls in all their diversity, promoting equal redistribution of care, mental health, sexual and reproductive health services, and to recognize the unpaid domestic work historically assigned to women.

2. To support the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) in its efforts to build regional tools for states to identify and close the existing gaps that hinder the full exercise of human rights of women in all their diversity, recognizing historical systemic inequalities and multiple and intersectional forms of discrimination, in order to enhance the contribution and human talent of women in the political and productive-economic world on an equal footing and without discrimination.

3. To urge the CIM, consistent with the new pillars of work mandated by the Assembly of Delegates on strengthening a gender approach and the participation and leadership of women in all their diversity in decision making around climate change, and their contributions to crisis management and conflict prevention and resolution, to strengthen its work on: (i) eradication of violence against women; (ii) universal access to sexual and reproductive health services; (iii) women's economic rights; (iv) recognition, reduction and redistribution of domestic and care work among co-responsible actors, as well as remuneration and recognition of care workers; (v) leadership of women and young people especially those belonging to traditionally excluded groups and those who live under threat as a result of their defense of the environment; and (vi) gender mainstreaming in all OAS organizations and bodies, through the generation of knowledge, dialogue and training, as essential elements for advancing the promotion of gender equality.

4. To request the CIM to strengthen 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 the equal participation of women in decision-making positions in the Organization.

5. To request the CIM to include within its mandate to strengthen 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), racial, ethnic, and equitable geographical representation of women, and to inform of its efforts in its annual report to the General Assembly.

6. To urge the CIM to deepen intersectoral mainstreaming of a gender perspective through strategic partnerships with key actors, such as academia, youth-led organizations, the private

sector, and civil society organizations, including women's rights organizations, in order to create synergies that favor gender equality and the shared responsibility of the various sectors in the protection, promotion, and respect for the human rights of women in all their diversity.

7. To urge the CIM to make every effort to ensure that programs and courses offered are simultaneously available in at least two official languages of the OAS, including English, and that all documents and publications of the CIM equitably reflect content that is inclusive of all regions of the Americas.

8. To request the Executive Secretariat of the CIM, subject to available resources, to coordinate periodic meetings with the permanent missions to the OAS, including subregional meetings aimed at establishing a space for dialogue to exchange information with the Commission on activities to achieve and promote gender equality and the human rights of women and girls in the countries of the region.

9. To support the CIM in the activities to commemorate its ninety-fifth anniversary as an opportunity to renew support and political commitment to the vision and work of the Commission, as well as to make voluntary contributions, when possible.

xix. Human rights and prevention of discrimination and violence against LGBTI persons
25/26/27/28/29/

RECOGNIZING the efforts made by member states through their national policies and legislations in the fight against violence and discrimination against all members of groups in vulnerable situations, in accordance with their international human rights obligations, and commitments, and within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the development plans 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 so called "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, and in particular 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 the public and private spheres, and also recognizing the situation of vulnerability of human rights defenders of LGBTI persons;

CONSIDERING with special concern that violence against children including adolescents manifests itself both in the public and private arenas, for various reasons, as a consequence of

25. The Republic of Paraguay reiterates its commitment to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international conventions it has signed on the subject,...

26. See footnote 23.

27. 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. The...

28. See footnote 19.

29. 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...

discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and/or expression and sexual characteristics, and considering the importance of reducing the stigma and discrimination against young people children, and adolescents;

CONSIDERING that although the economic crisis stemming from the COVID19 pandemic and other factors have affected all people, these factors affect members of specific groups such as LGBTI persons differently, who may require the adoption of specific measures, as appropriate;

NOTING that the specific human rights violations and abuses commonly suffered by intersex persons may involve 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 the genitals; lack of access to medical information and medical history; delays in birth registration; denial of services or health insurance, among others;

TAKING NOTE of the work and contributions of the IACHR, in particular the reports by the Office of the Rapporteur for the Rights of LGBTI Persons and the Office of the Special Rapporteur on Economic, Social, Cultural, and Economic Rights (OSRESCER) on “Violence against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Intersex Persons in the Americas,” of November 2015, and “Progress and challenges towards the recognition of the rights of LGBTI persons in the Americas,” of December 2018, and the “Report on Trans and Gender Diverse Persons and Their Economic, Social, Cultural, and Environmental Rights,” of November 2020; as well as the work of the 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;

REAFFIRMING the importance of States complying with their obligations regarding international human rights law and human rights principles as universal, inalienable, indivisible, and interdependent; and

REAFFIRMING the authority of member states to implement national policies in accordance with the principles established by their respective national constitutions in keeping with universally-recognized international human rights law,

RESOLVES:

1. To condemn, in accordance with international law, including the American Convention on Human Rights when applicable, violations and abuses of human rights, discrimination, speeches and manifestations of hatred, incitement to and acts of violence motivated by prejudice against persons because of their sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, and their sexual characteristics in the Hemisphere, as well as medical discrimination and degrading medical practices.

2. To urge member states to continue strengthening their legislation, institutions, and public policies to eliminate the barriers faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and intersex persons (LGBTI) persons in the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as to adopt measures focused on preventing, investigating, providing accountability for, punishing, and eradicating violence and discrimination against persons based on their sexual orientation, their gender identity and/or expression, and their 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 LGBTI persons' full enjoyment of all human rights, including equality before the law, as well as to generate, when appropriate, institutional mechanisms to support their families, considering the economic crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic and other factors, guaranteeing access, without any discrimination, to the labor market and to equitable, timely, and quality health services.

4. To urge member states to adopt measures to include LGBTI persons in economic development and guarantee their equal access to the labor market, as a priority task in the context of the economic crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic and other factors, and in recovery measures.

5. To encourage member states to take the appropriate legislative, administrative, and judicial measures to ban so-called "conversion therapies" and any practice or intervention aimed at changing or suppressing a person's sexual orientation gender identity and/or expression, and their sexual characteristics.

6. 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.

7. To encourage member states to consider discussing, in accordance with their respective national legal system, the possible adoption and implementation of legislation and/or public policies to legally recognize the self-perceived and freely manifested gender identity of persons, through administrative or other procedures that ensure confidentiality.

8. To instruct the Permanent Council to organize, with existing resources and in coordination with the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity and civil society, a special meeting on "Human rights and prevention of discrimination and violence against LGBTI persons in the Americas" with special attention to access to the labor market in the context of the economic crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic and other factors and in recovery measures.

9. To request from the IACHR, subject to the availability of resources, a follow-up report on the 2015 "Violence against LGBTI persons" report, and in collaboration with other bodies and agencies, such as the Pan American Health Organization, to also report about medical discrimination and degrading medical practices, especially in relation to intersex persons, as well as a report on the practice of so-called "conversion therapies" in the region.

xx. "Promotion and protection of human rights online" ^{30/}

RECALLING the Regional Agenda for Digital Transformation adopted at the Ninth Summit of the Americas, whereby the states pledge to promote respect for human rights, including freedom of expression, as well as digital literacy, privacy of personal data, and the dissemination and secure, responsible, and lawful development and use of emerging and digital technologies, in line with international standards, to address the challenges of content moderation and to fight against disinformation;

30. See footnote 23.

RECALLING ALSO the Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance, adopted at the Ninth Summit of the Americas, whereby the states commit to increasing efforts to ensure inclusion and diversity in all aspects of governance, including through facilitating access to public information and the Internet for all individuals, in order to enhance effective citizen participation, and reducing digital divides;

NOTING the Joint Declaration on Freedom of Expression and Elections in the Digital Age, adopted by the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Representative on Freedom of the Media, and the OAS Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression of 30 April 2020;

RECALLING that the obligation and the primary duty to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms lies with the state, and that business enterprises have a responsibility to respect human rights as set out in the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights; and

CONSIDERING the importance of government engagement with all stakeholders and rights holders, including civil society, the private sector, the technical community, and academia, in promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms online,

RESOLVES:

1. To affirm that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, including the right to be free from arbitrary or unlawful interference with one's privacy, freedom of expression, which is applicable without regard to borders or media of one's choice, in accordance with Articles 12 and 19 of the Universal Declaration Human Rights and with Articles 17 and 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to affirm the importance of data protection;

2. To condemn all human rights violations and abuses committed against persons for exercising their human rights and fundamental freedoms on the Internet, and calls upon all states to ensure accountability and effective remedies in this regard, including gender-sensitive responses that take into account the particular forms of online threats faced by all women and girls, in accordance with their international obligations;

3. To call upon all states to accelerate efforts to bridge digital divides, to promote universal and affordable internet access to enhance the use of information and communications technology in order to promote the full enjoyment of human rights for all, including by fostering an enabling online environment that is safe and conducive to engagement by all persons all; promoting digital, media, and information literacy; and ensuring equal opportunities and access to technology, particularly for Indigenous peoples, Afro-descendant communities, women, adolescents and girls, older adults, persons with disabilities, and other historically marginalized groups, as well as groups in vulnerable situations;

4. To call upon all states to develop technical and civic digital skills, creating conditions and offering tools for critical engagement with information online and the ability to discern consciously between reliable and manipulative information.

5. To call upon all stakeholders and rights holders to counter the dissemination of false information, including disinformation, both online and offline, and to strengthen the quality and the

integrity of information that is disseminated, as appropriate and in accordance with the legislation of each state and its obligations under international law.

6. To encourage all states to promote transparency and accountability in the management, publication, and the use of open data and digital technologies, including the responsible and ethical development and use of artificial intelligence systems and other transformative technologies, while protecting individual privacy and personal data and promoting equity and respect for human rights and digital inclusion.

7. To encourage all states to take necessary and appropriate measures to promote free, open interoperable, reliable and secure access to the Internet and, in a manner that complies with their international human rights obligations, address disinformation and advocacy of hatred constituting incitement to discrimination, hostility, or violence, in order to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights;

8. To condemn measures which, in violation of international human rights law, prevent or disrupt an individual's ability to seek, receive, or impart information online, including partial or full Internet shutdowns and online censorship, to call upon all states to refrain from and to cease such measures, and also to call upon states to ensure that all domestic laws, policies, and practices are consistent with their international human rights obligations with regard to freedom of opinion and expression, privacy as well as association, and peaceful assembly online.

9. To request that the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) prepare – within existing resources and taking into account the contributions of multiple stakeholders and rights holders, such as states, the private sector, academia, civil society and the technical community – an inter-American report on international standards, challenges, and best practices on accessibility and digital inclusion, which includes a literacy component for digital civic skills and content moderation online in order to ensure and promote the free and equal access to, use, and appropriation of the Internet and new information and communication technologies by all people, in accordance with international obligations and norms.

10. To stress the importance of countering hate speech on the Internet, incitement to and apology for discrimination or violence, including against groups historically discriminated against and marginalized, among them LGBTI persons and ethnic or religious minorities, through the promotion of tolerance, education, and dialogue.

xxi. Situation of people of African descent in the Hemisphere and racism^{31/}

CONSIDERING United Nations General Assembly 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 OAS General Assembly 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

31. See footnote 9.

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 marked 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 perspectives and the dimension of intersectionality into 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 increased 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; to advance respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, 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 request the member states to hold informal meetings to discuss the need to move forward with the preparation of a draft inter-American declaration on the right of people of African descent to recognition, justice, and development.^{32/}

5. 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.

xxii. Observations and recommendations on the 2021 annual reports of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Inter-American Court of Human Rights

RECOGNIZING the work of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to support the observance, protection, and promotion of human rights

32. While the United States supports the advancement of the human rights of members of marginalized racial and ethnic communities, including people of African descent, it understands...

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 human rights protection system.

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 of the Organization 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.

xxiii. Persons who have disappeared and assistance to members of their family

REAFFIRMING the responsibility of the member states to continue efforts to prevent the disappearance of people, discover the fate and whereabouts of those who are missing, and alleviate the suffering, anxiety, and uncertainty experienced by the families of persons missing to comprehensively address their various needs and satisfy their rights to the truth, justice, and, as appropriate, reparation for the harm caused,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the member states to continue to progressively adopt, in a manner consistent with their applicable obligations in the areas of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and taking into account existing jurisprudence on the subject, measures, including laws, protocols, guidelines, and other national provisions of a legal and institutional nature, in order to:

- a. respect the family unit, preventing insofar as possible, the separation of family members and facilitating contact with them, as well as their reunification, especially in situations where vulnerable persons, such as minors, are affected;
- b. prevent and investigate the disappearance of all persons, with particular attention to members of vulnerable groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or in a situation of vulnerability;
- c. promote the creation of a national information office in peacetime and, pursuant to the Third and Fourth Geneva Conventions of 1949, activate their application at the start of an international armed conflict and/or in cases of occupation, gather information on protected persons, living or dead, in the power of one of the parties and transmit it to the other party and families through the International Committee of the Red Cross Central Tracing Agency,^{33/}

33. The United States understands actions called upon in this paragraph to include only those to the extent they fulfill a State Party's obligations under the Geneva conventions of 1949.

- d. take up the cases of missing migrants, as well as children and adolescents that are missing, with a view to searching for them, ensuring that their families are included in the search process; locate them, reestablish contact between family members; reunite them, if possible, with their families, or, in the event they are deceased, identify them and return their remains to their families with dignity; and promote national coordination and regional cooperation in technical, judicial, and consular assistance;
- e. determine the whereabouts and fate of missing persons with the goal of providing a prompt response to their family members, considering the possibility of setting up mechanisms or entities, of primarily a humanitarian nature and purpose, endowed with the necessary resources and capacity to gather, centralize, and transmit relevant data to facilitate a comprehensive, wide-scale investigation and, in the case of the death of the missing person, give priority to the humanitarian objectives of recovering, identifying, returning, and disposing of the human remains with dignity, while at the same time complying with obligations or commitments, as applicable, to investigate, prosecute, and punish those responsible for forced disappearances and any other criminal conduct that has resulted in people's disappearance;
- f. urgently meet the multidimensional needs of families, including their psychological, social, legal, and material needs, as regards access to information about the possible causes of the disappearance of their loved ones – in particular, the need to know the truth about what happened to them; conduct a search, recover their remains in the event of their death, and return them; and resolve legal and administrative problems through comprehensive and affordable domestic legal procedures that recognize the legal status of the missing persons; and provide psychological, legal, psychosocial, and economic support when necessary;
- g. adopt the necessary measures to preserve traceability and ensure that the remains of the deceased, whether identified, unidentified, or as yet unclaimed, are treated with dignity in accordance with applicable law and professional ethical guidelines, and retain post-mortem information about them to preserve the possibility of identifying them and restoring their remains to their respective families at a later date in order to issue the corresponding death certificates;
- h. adopt the necessary measures to locate, respect, and protect places where the human remains of missing persons may be found, including places where unidentified or unclaimed remains have been buried, with a view to their recovery, identification, and return with dignity;
- i. guarantee the active participation and representation of victims and their family members at the relevant proceedings, their access to justice and to mechanisms that ensure them full, fair, prompt, and effective reparations as well as to ensure arrangements for the protection of victims and witnesses in

criminal courts and in other justice mechanisms, when their safety and well-being are in danger as a result of their reporting the crime of forced disappearance and other offenses that result in the disappearance of persons;

- j. strengthen technical skills involved in the search, recovery, and analysis of human remains and associated evidence, as well as the use of various forensic sciences;
- k. strengthen the forensic system and the mechanisms or entities that deal with missing persons, endowing them with the necessary resources (infrastructure, equipment, trained specialists) to implement standards and protocols for the recovery, custody, and identification of cadavers with dignity, and provide their families with answers;
- l. promote training and capacity building for those in charge of providing psychosocial support, cultural support, and psychological care during the process of searching for persons who have disappeared and assistance to their family members;
- m. guarantee proper management of information, including the personal data of missing persons, their families, and missing persons found alive, as well as information on unidentified remains, by setting up information management systems to gather, protect, and manage data in keeping with national and international legal standards and provisions to support the search for and identification of persons who have disappeared; and
- n. promote, as necessary, standardized procedures within forensic systems and mechanisms or entities that deal with missing persons to coordinate and manage the records of unidentified and unclaimed deceased persons, compare the information on missing persons with that of deceased persons, and produce a scientific identification report for the authorities and family members.

2. To urge the member states to ensure the implementation of legislation and other applicable measures in this area, with a humanitarian and transitional justice approach.

3. To encourage the member states to ratify or accede to the Inter-American Convention on Forced Disappearance of Persons and the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance and implement them in their domestic legal system; recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances; share experiences and best practices; strengthen international cooperation and exchanges of information; and support the participation and technical assistance of international and national institutions with recognized experience in the search for and identification of disappeared persons; invite the member states to continue working with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and cooperating with the International Committee of the Red Cross, facilitating their work and taking up their technical recommendations, with a view to consolidating the measures adopted by the member states to prevent and address the consequences of disappearances and family separation, search for disappeared persons, treat human remains with dignity, and assist family members.

4. To encourage the member states to promote national adoption of measures related to the provisions of resolution AG/RES. 2134 (XXXV-O/05), “Persons Who Have Disappeared and Assistance to Members of their Family,” and subsequent General Assembly resolutions on the subject, and provide information in that regard; and to instruct the CAJP to take the necessary steps to circulate this information prior to the fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly.

xxiv. Human rights and people living with a rare disease and their families

CONSIDERING the need to raise public awareness about rare diseases that increasingly affect the lives, health, well-being, and development of the people who suffer from them, many of whom are children, as well as their families;

RECOGNIZING that individuals living with a rare disease may develop one or more disabilities and face various kinds of barriers that affect their development, the exercise and enjoyment of their rights, and their full and meaningful participation and inclusion in society; and

BEARING IN MIND the “Declaration of the Organization of American States Group of Friends of Persons with Disabilities on the occasion of World Rare Disease Day,” which was read aloud during the regular meeting of the Permanent Council on March 2, 2022 and, likewise, resolution 76/132 “Addressing the Challenges of Persons Living with a Rare Disease and their Families,” adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 16, 2021,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states to effectively implement and enforce public policies and domestic laws to address the situation faced by people with rare diseases and their families, in order to contribute to their well-being and to the protection and enjoyment of their human rights, in keeping with the commitments undertaken in the American Convention on Human Rights, the Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities, and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, among others;

2. To encourage member states in consultation with civil society to effectively implement and enforce public policies and strategies aimed at providing inclusive opportunities while removing barriers of all kinds faced by people living with these health conditions especially women, young women, and girls.

3. To entrust the Department of Social Inclusion of the Secretariat of Access to Rights and Equity with providing support for observance of the international day for people with rare diseases by organizing an activity to raise awareness about the issue using a human rights and gender-based perspective.

xxv. Strengthening protection and promotion of the right to freedom of conscience and religion or belief

RECALLING Section xviii of resolution AG/RES. 2941 (XLIX-O/2019), adopted during the forty-ninth regular session of the General Assembly in June 2019; AG/RES. 2961 (L-O/20), adopted during the fiftieth regular session of the General Assembly in October 2020; and AG/RES. 2976 (LI-O/21), adopted during the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly in October 2021;

RECALLING ALSO that states have the primary responsibility to respect, guarantee, and protect all human rights, including the right to freedom of conscience and religion or belief for all, including persons belonging to religious minority groups or holding no faith, and that states should respect the plurality of faiths, religions, beliefs, and the diversity of perspectives within religious communities, considering the principle of equality and non-discrimination for all;

WELCOMING the special meetings of the CAJP of February 20, 2020, and August 4, 2022, in which member states shared lessons learned and exchanged good practices to advance the goals of resolutions AG/RES. 2941 (XLIX-O/19) and AG/RES 2961 (L-O/20);

REITERATING WITH CONCERN that there continue to be acts of discrimination, intolerance and violence, based on religion or belief, against individuals and communities, including against persons belonging to religious minority groups in different regions of the world;

NOTING that Article 12 of the American Convention on Human Rights provides: “Everyone has the right to freedom of conscience and of religion. This right includes freedom to maintain or to change one’s religion or beliefs, and freedom to profess or disseminate one’s religion or beliefs, either individually or together with others, in public or in private”;

RECALLING that Article 12 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples recognizes: “the right to maintain, protect, and have access in privacy to their religious and cultural sites”;

RECOGNIZING that deliberate destruction of, or otherwise harmful actions against, places of worship and religious and cultural sites impede individuals’ abilities to worship and undermine the right to freedom of conscience and religion or belief; and

REAFFIRMING that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent, and interrelated and that freedom of conscience and religion or belief and including that freedom of expression are interdependent, interrelated, and mutually-reinforcing,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to present before the Permanent Council its study on the right to freedom of conscience and religion or belief, once completed.

2. To encourage member states to strengthen or to develop inclusive mechanisms to protect and promote freedom of conscience and religion or belief.

3. To urge member states to end discrimination based on religion or belief, or non-belief, including against persons belonging to religious, ethnic, and racial minority groups.

4. To call upon member states to protect the ability to worship and other expressions of faith, as well as all places of worship and religious and cultural sites, so as to allow individuals to peacefully and safely practice their faith and observe religious traditions and beliefs individually or in community with others, and to encourage states to develop and present reports on best practices to

ensure the protection of places of worship and other sacred spaces, to include the religious and cultural sites of Indigenous peoples.

5. To encourage member states to organize and participate in global, regional, and subregional conferences and events that commemorate or promote respect for the right to freedom of conscience and religion or belief and to share any conclusions and best practices discussed during those events.

xxvi. Gender parity and balanced geographic and legal-system representation on the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights

CONSIDERING the importance of consolidating gender parity, equitable geographic distribution, and representation of the different legal systems on the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, ensuring full and equitable access for all, including women and people in vulnerable situations, in keeping with the principles of impartiality, independence, and non-discrimination so that they can continue to carry out their mandates effectively;

UNDERSCORING that a balanced integration of gender and an equitable geographic distribution, as well as a balanced representation of different legal systems on the IACHR and the Court, will strengthen the work and impact of these organs and result in sound treatment of the topics and problems in the region, in the areas of prevention, promotion, protection, and guarantee of human rights, with special attention to issues of gender equality and non-discrimination;

RECOGNIZING the multiple forms of discrimination and violence against women, adolescents and girls 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;

TAKING NOTE of the ongoing discussions in the Human Rights Council of the United Nations that led to the adoption of resolution 41/6 of July 2019 and the drafting of the report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee on gender balance in human rights bodies, which includes useful recommendations for overcoming gender and representation imbalance in international bodies; and

RECOGNIZING the significant progress made in the last election cycle, in which the decision of the member states to nominate and vote for a representative number of women for the available positions led to the achievement of gender parity for the first time in the history of both the IACHR and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights;

RESOLVES:

1. To encourage member states, when nominating and selecting judges of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and commissioners of the IACHR, to consolidate balanced gender representation and equitable regional geographic representation and an appropriate balance of population groups, particularly those in situations of vulnerability, and legal systems of the Hemisphere, while guaranteeing the requirements of independence, impartiality, and recognized competence in the field of human rights.

2. To reiterate that it is the responsibility of member states to create conditions and promote opportunities for the nomination and/or appointment of women candidates to the IACHR and Inter-American Court of Human Rights, as well as to widely publicize available positions, with the purpose of maintaining gender parity while always ensuring compliance with the requirements of independence, impartiality, high moral authority, and recognized competence in human rights matters.

3. To encourage member states to take measures at a national level to progressively advance in mainstreaming and systematizing, including preparing procedures and guidelines of the criteria for gender equality and population-group representation in the nomination and selection processes for candidates to the organs of the inter-American human rights system, while always ensuring compliance with the requirements of independence, impartiality, high moral authority, and recognized competence in human rights matters.

4. To urge member states likewise to continue adopting measures that follow the recommendations of the OAS General Assembly aimed at bringing candidate-selection processes and the selection process in the OAS in line with international standards and successful experiences in other similar bodies.

5. To instruct the CAJP to continue to deepen its work on this topic, including in its 2022-2023 work program, by holding a follow-up meeting for member states, experts, and civil society – including women’s organizations – to share best practices in the nomination and selection of candidates to the organs of the inter-American human rights system, including information on existing national procedures and policies, as well as best practices of other human rights bodies, with a view to producing a report with recommendations aimed at promoting at the IACHR and the Court gender parity, gender equality and non-discrimination, and balance among the different regions and legal systems of the Hemisphere, to be presented during the fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly, and request the Inter-American Commission of Women to prepare – based on that meeting and including all opinions and participation – a report with recommendations to be presented at the 53rd General Assembly, including information on procedures, domestic policies, and existing best practices.

6. To instruct the Permanent Council to invite the candidates nominated by member states for the position of judge on the Court or commissioner on the IACHR to deliver a public presentation to the Permanent Council prior to their election, to the extent possible, to describe in greater depth what their vision, proposals, and initiatives would be if elected. Such presentations, where possible, should be made at the same meeting of the Permanent Council and be disseminated as widely as possible.

FOOTNOTES

1. ...observing the principles of equality and non-discrimination, extolling human dignity, and promoting social justice and general well-being. We recognize forums for multilateral political dialogue as ideal vehicles for advancing the development of standards for protection of the human rights of all persons; and that such progressive development should be adopted by national authorities through the legitimate channels of each sovereign state.

2. ...inviolable. We advocate an incremental expansion of the means that allow all people to improve themselves in an egalitarian, equitable, and progressive manner, within a framework of individual freedom and social justice, compatible with public order, general welfare, and the rights of all. Our State is organized for the real and effective protection of the inherent rights of individuals and our aspiration is that this be an ideal shared by all in the international community. We understand that this incremental process must be the result of a sovereign decision by legitimate authorities acting within the framework of their competencies, to materialize freedom, equality, the rule of law, justice, solidarity, fraternal coexistence, social welfare, ecological balance, progress, and peace.

3. ...establishes a reservation to any interpretation or application of the terms contained in this resolution that, by their nature and scope, conflicts with constitutional principles and its internal system of laws. The same applies to those that, in the legal sphere, are not in accordance with public policies aimed at favoring the great majorities, or that would tend to modify language agreed upon in international treaties ratified by the country.

El Salvador ratifies its commitment to the full application of the constitutional principle of equality and non-discrimination of persons and compliance with the obligations under that principle that apply to its national legislation.

It also reaffirms its responsibility to continue working in a coordinated manner to transform sociocultural patterns that generate violence, inequality, and discrimination in all areas.

4. ...language within the OAS and should not be interpreted as an acceptance thereof.

5. ...and states that it would not be in a position to implement any provision contained in this document that is at variance with its national laws, policies and priorities.

6. ... Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Protocol of San Salvador), the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Convention against All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance, the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination and Related forms of Intolerance. Trinidad and Tobago denounced the American Convention on Human Rights on May 26, 1998, which came into effect on May 26, 1999. Consequently, Trinidad and Tobago is no longer bound by the Convention and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights ceased to have legal jurisdiction. Further, Trinidad and Tobago is not a signatory to the Protocol of San Salvador nor the aforementioned Conventions.

Moreover, Trinidad and Tobago is also unable to join consensus on any text that refers to 'women and girls in all their diversity,' 'sexual orientation,' and 'LGBTI persons' due to a conflict with existing domestic legislation. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago remains firmly 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.

... having responsibility for such activity, including Attorneys General, Ministries of Justice, and other government agencies responsible for policing, nor have the relevant law enforcement bodies of the OAS had an opportunity to review and comment.

7. having responsibility for such activity, including Attorneys General, Ministries of Justice, and other government agencies responsible for policing, nor have the relevant law enforcement bodies of the OAS had an opportunity to review and comment.

8. ...organs and agencies of the inter-American system play a fundamental and complementary role in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the Organization of American States.

Every rapporteurship under the inter-American human rights system, without distinction, individualization, or privilege, is expected to faithfully fulfill its mandate and meet its commitment to supporting the member states of the Organization.

9. ...of peace and freedom, respect for and protection of human rights, strengthening of democratic processes and international institutions that guarantee mutual and equitable benefits among States.

Guatemala observes the commitments adopted in the international treaties to which it is a party. Therefore, the Guatemalan State dissociates itself from any provision, commitment or mandate related to the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Related Forms of Intolerance and the fight against all forms of discrimination, inasmuch as it is not a state party to said instrument.

10. ...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.

11. ...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.

12. ...environment and urges member states to consider signing, ratifying, or 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 as a matter of international law, such as a human right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment, notwithstanding the adoption of UNGA resolution 76/300, which the United States supported for its moral and political aspirations. The United States supports development of a right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment in a manner consistent with international human rights law, with a common understanding as to its content and scope.

14. ...to develop its institutions with a view to ensuring that the entire Salvadoran population enjoys a "clean, healthy, and sustainable environment," for both present and future generations.

El Salvador renews its commitment to comply with the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework, which contribute to the achievement of this human right.

El Salvador declares that the constitutional framework of the Republic and its domestic legislation contain sufficient regulations to guarantee access to information, public participation, and access to justice in environmental matters, which are the objectives advanced by the Escazú Agreement.

15. ...adopted at the fifty-second regular session of the OAS General Assembly, including “intersectionality,” “intersectional,” “women in all their diversity,” “women and girls in all their diversity,” “sexual and reproductive health,” “reproductive rights,” and so forth, placing on record that the paragraphs shall be interpreted in accordance with its domestic legal system.

16. ...to the Convention of Convention of Belém do Pará and supports efforts undertaken by the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) for its implementation.

However, the term “women in all their diversity”, as used in the context of Section xvii, is not in keeping with the laws of Saint Lucia and is beyond the scope of the Convention of Belém do Pará.

The Government of Saint Lucia therefore enters its reservation on this section and will continue to work tirelessly to meet its obligations to the referenced Convention. Furthermore, the Government of Saint Lucia insists that any work undertaken by the CIM and MESECVI acknowledges and reflects the national laws of respective member states.

17. ...Sections xvii and xviii and joins consensus where national laws allow. However, it is not in a position to agree to those issues that are in conflict with national legislation or that require national policy guidance.

18. ...the proper meaning of their words, their context, and constitutional provisions.

Under the Political Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala, men and women have equal opportunities and responsibilities. Accordingly, the Guatemalan State recognizes every person's right to enjoy his or her fundamental freedoms without that requiring it to alter the anthropological foundations of its legal system.

Therefore, Guatemala dissociates itself from all provisions, uses, or terms in this resolution that are not expressly set forth in the international commitments to which Guatemala is a party and which contravene its national laws, including, but not limited to, the interpretation and/or legal recognition of the expressions “women in all their diversity,” “women and girls in all their diversity,” and “women, young women, and girls in all their diversity.”

Likewise, Guatemala places on record that, in accordance with its Political Constitution, in addition to the integrity and security of the person, it ensures and protects human life from conception. Therefore, it dissociates itself from all provisions, uses, or terms in this resolution that are not expressly set forth in the international commitments to which Guatemala is a party and which contravene its national laws, including, but not limited to, the interpretation and/or legal recognition of the expressions “reproductive rights” and “sexual and reproductive health services,” which for the State of Guatemala do not include abortion, as that goes against protection of life and the institution of the family, a fundamental pillar of Guatemalan society.

Likewise, the State of Guatemala states for the record that under its domestic system of laws, respect for women's autonomy does not extend to abortion practices.

19. ...or internationally. The State promotes and defends human rights and reaffirms the equality of all human beings as enshrined in its Constitution which provides that ‘every person in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is entitled to the fundamental rights and freedoms (...) irrespective of his race, place of origin, political opinions, colour, creed or sex (...)’

Accordingly, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines disassociates itself from those terms which are incompatible with and contrary to its domestic laws and those which are not defined therein, reserving its right to interpret the terms of this resolution.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines remains firmly committed to the International Conventions to which it is party for the promotion and protection of the fundamental rights of all human beings.

22. ... discrimination of all forms of violence against them.

The term "women in all their diversity", as used in the context of Section xviii, is not in keeping with the laws of Saint Lucia. The Government of Saint Lucia therefore enters its reservation on this section. Furthermore, the Government of Saint Lucia insists that any work undertaken by the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) acknowledges and reflects the national laws of respective member states.

The Government of Saint Lucia will continue to work tirelessly to promote gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, as defined by its national laws.

25. ...and reaffirms the provisions of Title II "The Rights, Duties and Guarantees"; Chapter III, "Equality"; and Chapter IV, "The Rights of the Family," in its Constitution and related provisions. Accordingly, Paraguay expresses its reservation on the content of section xix., which is not provided for in its domestic laws. Similarly, the reference to "gender identity or expression," contained in the paragraphs of this resolution and in other instruments arising from this General Assembly, shall be interpreted in accordance with its domestic legal system.

27. ...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 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.

Promotion of gender equity and equality, and the human rights of women and girls, as well as the elimination of discrimination of all forms of violence against them remains our priority.

Saint Lucia's reservation on this section is therefore premised on the understanding that our national laws will continue to be applied to protect the rights and freedoms of all citizens to the extent that each is equally entitled. The Government of Saint Lucia will as a result not be bound by provisions within said section.

29. ...consensus. 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.

32. ...that any declaration would be non-binding and would not change the current state of conventional or customary international law.

The "right to development," for example, is not recognized in any of the core UN human rights conventions and, in any case, does not have an agreed international.

AG/RES. 2992 (LII-O/22)

THE STATE OF FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY IN THE AMERICAS

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on October 7, 2022)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING declaration AG/DEC. 88 (XLVI-O/16), “Declaration on Climate Change, Food Security, and Migration in the Americas,” of June 14, 2016; 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,” of October 20, 2020; Permanent Council resolution CP/RES. 1197 (2378/22), “The Surge in Fertilizer Prices and Its Impact on the Development of Sustainable Agri-Food Systems in the Region,” of May 18, 2022; and United Nations General Assembly resolution 76/264, “State of Global Food Security,” of May 27, 2022; the Commitment “Our Sustainable and Green Future,” adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the IX Summit of the Americas, on June 9, 2022; and United Nations General Assembly resolution A/76/L.75, of July 26, 2022 “The Human Right to a Clean, Healthy and Sustainable Environment”;

BEARING IN MIND General Assembly 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,” whereby the member states agreed to promote cooperation involving a comprehensive approach to strengthening domestic social development institutions, in collaboration and cooperation with various stakeholders, expanding social protection and promoting social programs to eradicate hunger and malnutrition

RECOGNIZING that the effects on global food security have worsened from the Russian Federation’s prolonged hostilities against Ukraine;

RECALLING that UN General Assembly resolutions A/ES-11/1, titled “Aggression against Ukraine,” adopted on March 2, 2022; A/ES-11/2, titled “Humanitarian consequences of the Aggression against Ukraine,” adopted on March 24, 2022; and OAS Permanent Council resolution CP/RES. 1192/22 of March 25, 2022, titled “The Crisis in Ukraine,” had warned against the impact of the conflict on increased food insecurity globally.^{1/}

MINDFUL that the Social Charter of the Americas provides that every person is entitled to adequate food without discrimination, and that in said Charter the member states committed themselves to making every effort needed to eradicate hunger and all forms of malnutrition, as well as to taking the steps needed to achieve full access to adequate, safe, and nutritious food, including steps to foster the conditions required for everyone to be free from hunger;

AWARE that everyone should have access to sufficient, safe, affordable, and nutritious food for positive impact on the productivity and development of countries, particularly ensuring health and nutrition in early childhood.

1. The Republic of El Salvador, aware that food systems impact all aspects of human life, ratifies its commitment to guarantee the right to adequate food, with an early-childhood emphasis as well as...

DEEPLY CONCERNED at the current state of food security and nutrition in the region, in which 81.8 million people have experienced food insecurity, including 12.3 million people who suffer from severe food insecurity, according to World Food Programme (WFP) estimates, disproportionately affecting groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or in vulnerable situations, as well as all women and girls, indigenous peoples and people of African descent, persons with disabilities, children and adolescents, older persons, and people in situations of human mobility, and those in rural and peripheral areas, among others;

AFFIRMING the importance of the participation of youth in the agriculture sector, both as a means to boost their contribution to the Gross Domestic Product of national economies and to empower that group to better benefit from the earnings that can be generated by a vibrant agricultural sector;

CONCERNED by the increase in the prices and shortages of fertilizer and other agricultural inputs that affect food access and availability for the population, and by the increase in the frequency and intensity of climate emergencies, coupled with the serious socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as severe challenges related to regional transportation which have slowed and, in some instances, reversed progress in reducing structural inequalities including gender inequalities, and pose a threat to the achievements made in the fight against poverty, and malnutrition, distancing the region from Sustainable Development Goal No. 2, to “end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture,” under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

ACKNOWLEDGING that certain countries' geographic location and climatic conditions, including greater susceptibility to natural and human induced disasters, inadequate arable land, and poor water supply for human consumption and crops, among others, militate against agricultural production and the achievement of food security and nutrition to achieve sustainable and resilient livelihoods – which can be improved with measures that, among other approaches, promote agroecology and encourage conservation and restoration of soil and biodiversity and introduce new agricultural and emerging technologies, including sustainable and climate-smart agriculture with capacity-building support for domestic reforms and policies that would require technical and financial support from international financial and development institutions, where appropriate;

AWARE that 19 percent of all imports to the 14 Caribbean Community (CARICOM) member states of the OAS are food and agricultural products valued in excess of US\$5 billion per year and, therefore, the current high prices may pose challenges to their food security and nutrition, deplete their financial capacity, and exacerbate an already challenging economic situation caused by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic;

REAFFIRMING our support for a rules-based, open, transparent, fair, and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system, with the World Trade Organization (WTO) at its core and reaffirm the provisions for special and differential treatment for developing country members and least developed countries (LDCs) as an integral part of the WTO Ministerial Conference 12 Outcome Document and its agreements;^{2/}

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that integrated soil, land, and water management, as well as its use and responsible consumption is necessary for sustainable agri-food systems and improved production;

2. The United States firmly believes that ensuring long term global food security should require the reaffirmation of broader WTO efforts in addition to special and differential treatment. WTO members...

UNDERSCORING the commitment to strengthening sustainable food systems in driving economic recovery, generating employment in rural and urban areas, managing natural resources sustainably, and promoting access to healthy and nutritious diets;

HIGHLIGHTING the joint statement by the heads of the World Bank Group (WBG), International Monetary Fund (IMF), United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), and World Trade Organization (WTO) calling on the international community to adopt immediate measures to address food insecurity;

HIGHLIGHTING that, at the 2021 United Nations Summit on Food Systems, a call was made to dialogue and analyze the approach to transform, as appropriate, the way food is produced and consumed; to contribute to achieving progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), through roadmaps that promote healthy, sustainable, and equitable food systems;

RECALLING that at the June 21, 2022 Inter-American Council for Integral Development and Permanent Council joint meeting, devoted to the issue of “Confronting Food Insecurity in the Americas: Best practices and lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic,” the member states shared best practices, policies, and programs, as well as lessons learned, with successful outcomes that they are pursuing in order to counteract the gaps in access, coverage, and sustainability of food and nutrition security in the Americas;

RECOGNIZING the Report “Confronting Food Insecurity in the Americas: Best Practices and Lessons Learned during the COVID-19 Pandemic,” produced by the Department of Social Inclusion, of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity, which systematizes information from 16 countries of the region, on policies and programs to ensure food security and nutrition in the region and identifies priority lines of action on this issue;

RECOGNIZING ALSO the importance of the work of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) through international technical cooperation, aimed at supporting member states’ efforts to achieve agricultural development and rural well-being and to contribute to economic growth and sustainable development in the region;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the mechanisms and other existing bodies in the Inter-American System, such as the Rapporteurship on Economic, Social, Cultural, and Environmental Rights of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the "Working Group to Examine the National Reports Envisioned in the Protocol of San Salvador" (WGPSS), which through the preparation of progress indicators, reports, and other activities provide tools to the states on the path to food and nutritional security;

HIGHLIGHTING the willingness of member states to keep value chains open and connected, in order to ensure the flow of agricultural products and inputs, allowing adequate access to fertilizers for member states and thereby contributing to food security and nutrition in the Hemisphere;

MINDFUL that improvements to the agricultural trade system might help decrease the costs of trade, reduce discriminatory and unnecessary regulatory trade barriers, and enhance the flow of agricultural products, contributing to food security and sustainable development, it is necessary to promote reform of the agricultural trading system, which includes addressing trade barriers of all kinds

that hinder or make the free flow of agro-industrial products more expensive or directly prevent them; and

FULLY AWARE that food security and nutrition in the Hemisphere are under threat and that overcoming that challenge calls for coordinated and effective action by all OAS member states, with the support of specialized institutions and international finance, cooperation, and development agencies,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states to continue to comprehensibly and sustainably prioritize food and nutrition security in their respective agendas and to take specific steps, to support, with criteria of solidarity the countries and populations most affected in the region, especially those in a situation of vulnerability and/or belonging to historically discriminated groups.
2. To urge the states to adopt comprehensive approaches to promote food and nutrition security for all, in a way that does not compromise the economic, social, and environmental foundations for future generations.
3. To encourage member states to continue to promote food policies and practices aimed at reducing food insecurity and malnutrition, particularly among groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or in vulnerable situations, as well as all women and girls, while building their resilience to the effects of climate change, biodiversity loss, and multidimensional crises, as well as strengthening statistical systems to produce and access in a timely manner information on agri-food systems for better decision making.
4. To support initiatives that contribute to increasing the capacity of governments to understand the food crisis situation, address emergencies, and promote more robust national social protection systems, capable of adapting and reacting to challenges and enabling populations to meet their food and nutritional needs.
5. To promote open, transparent, predictable, equitable, and functional agricultural markets to enable countries to meet and achieve sustainable development goals.
6. To encourage rural development by protecting rural livelihoods, increasing productivity, promoting collaboration and cooperation including such organizations as associations and cooperatives to enhance agricultural development, expanding economic opportunities in rural areas and decent work for migrant populations, and including all women, young people, indigenous and aboriginal peoples, people of African descent, and groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or in vulnerable situations, and other vulnerable groups in productive activities; as well as develop regional food supply and trade chains that promote the inclusion of all types of family farming including peasant and small and medium-sized enterprises in domestic and international markets.
7. To urge member states to share experiences with transportation networks and cold chain in order to facilitate efficient movement of food and other agricultural products and reduce food waste.

8. To encourage member states to develop, with the support of the General Secretariat, SEDI, and other relevant OAS entities, policies to attract and expand the participation of youth in the agricultural sector, including developing mechanisms for providing access to finance, crop insurance, contract purchasing of produce, and training, especially in the use of modern technology.

9. To request the General Secretariat to utilize its advocacy to call on the international donor community and multilateral development agencies to support CARICOM member states in the establishment of adequate and sustainable regional transportation so as to promote the reliable and efficient transportation of food within the region.

10. To promote the sustainable and efficient supply of and universal access to water for human consumption and crops management, bearing in mind that each state is responsible for ensuring the fundamental human right to drinking water for people within their jurisdiction, which would help to address the scarcity of water resources and drought, through agrotechnological solutions, accompanied by adequate governance.^{3/}

11. To promote policies and develop mechanisms to improve the sustainable use and management of chemicals and technological practices, in order to promote the development of sustainable agricultural practices that maintain productivity and food security, to avoid negative effects on local communities, rural producers, and consumers, and to foster healthy terrestrial ecosystems, water systems, and the health of human populations and of fauna and flora in general;

12. To urge member states and all relevant stakeholders to cooperate according to their respective resources and capacities in the areas of science, research, training, technology, and innovation, as well as traditional ancestral knowledge, in order to make sustainable practices available to all on voluntary and mutually agreed terms, especially for groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or in vulnerable situations, as well as all women and girls, young people, people in situation of poverty, small-scale family farmers, and micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises; to harness the contribution of digitalization and artificial intelligence to sustainable agriculture so as to help improve overall crop quality and precision; and to strengthen agroecological and other innovative approaches to sustainable agriculture.

13. To share experiences with implementing agricultural insurances and other tools as a means of safeguarding farmers' investments, thereby mitigating the risk associated with shocks outside the sector.

14. To make every possible effort to achieve food and nutrition security, through the transformation of food systems, as appropriate, the environment, preservation and conservation of ecosystems, and better nutrition, with affordable and healthy diets for all our populations, including nutrition education programs, school meals, public food purchases, and healthy value chains and innovations, among others.

15. To strengthen multilateralism, international solidarity, humanitarian assistance, and international cooperation, in particular South-South and triangular cooperation to achieve Sustainable Development Goal No. 2, to “end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture,” and to urge international financial institutions to provide urgent, affordable,

3. The United States understands that this resolution, including its reference to a human right to drinking water, does not alter the current state of conventional or customary international law, nor does it...

and timely solutions to help developing countries respond to the food security crisis in order to support people in vulnerable situations and climate-resilient food systems, help mitigate fertilizer shortages, and promote open trade.

16. To invite member states, permanent observers, and other donors to make voluntary contributions, to the extent of their capacities, with the aim of securing resources to finance cooperation and technical and humanitarian assistance activities to support member states' efforts to address the serious consequences of hunger and malnutrition in the Americas, –particularly support in terms of international cooperation for implementing the project “Guaranteeing Food and Food and Nutritional Security in the Americas,” spearheaded by SARE.

17. To urge the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and international cooperation and development agencies to commit their technical and specialized expertise to support the efforts of member states in their fight against food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition.

FOOTNOTES

1. ...on a lifelong basis, via an interagency roadmap for transforming food systems by making them sustainable, resilient and equitable, in keeping with the commitments adopted in the Sustainable Development Goals and at the Food Systems Summit.

El Salvador also reiterates what was expressed in the footnote to resolution in CP/RES. 1197 (2378/22), “The Surge in Fertilizer Prices and Its Impact on the Development of Sustainable Agri-Food Systems in the Region,” adopted by the Permanent Council of the OAS on May 18, 2022.

In response to the global economic crisis, El Salvador is implementing 11 economic measures to help the Salvadoran population reduce the effects of inflation, including a one-year exemption from import taxes (tariffs) on food and related products, including fertilizers.

El Salvador ratifies its position of abstention to resolution A/ES-11/1 adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its special emergency session on March 2, 2022.

El Salvador reaffirms its vocation to peace and will continue to defend dialogue, the exercise of diplomacy, and negotiation as the path to security and international peace.

El Salvador reiterates its willingness to continue working with States in the fight against food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition through the identification, implementation, and development of comprehensive initiatives that contribute to achieving food security and sustainable development in the Hemisphere.

2. ...sent a clear message at MC12 that open and transparent trade is a key part of the solution to improving global food security by committing to both short- and long-term actions aimed at strengthening the resilience of global agricultural markets. These commitments are included in the Ministerial Declaration on the Emergency Response to Food Insecurity, Ministerial Decision on World Food Program Food Purchases Exemptions from Export Prohibitions or Restrictions, and the SPS Declaration: Responding to Modern SPS Challenges.

3. ...imply that states must implement obligations under human rights instruments to which they are not a party. While we respect the importance of promoting access to sanitation and water and that efforts to do so can involve distinctive approaches, we understand this resolution’s reference to a human right to drinking water to refer to the right to safe drinking water and sanitation derived from economic, social, and cultural rights contained in the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). The United States is not a party to the ICESCR, and the rights contained therein are not justiciable in U.S. courts.

AG/RES. 2993 (LII-O/22)

RECOVERY AND STRENGTHENING OF INCLUSIVE
AND RESILIENT HEALTH SYSTEMS^{1/}

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on October 7, 2022)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND resolution AG/RES. 2977 (LI-O/21), “Developments in the COVID-19 Pandemic and its Impact on the Hemisphere”;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the peoples of the Americas continue to face the unprecedented effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on their lives, livelihoods, and economies, in particular members of groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or in vulnerable situations, as well as all women and girls, and the Hemisphere’s individuals living in poverty;

BEARING IN MIND that the social determinants of health – poverty in particular – have a differentiated impact on population groups, giving rise to inequities in health outcomes;

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;^{2/}

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the COVID-19 pandemic has deepened existing structural problems as well as shortages of and inequities in infrastructure, the provision of health services, including sexual and reproductive health services and access to medicines, including pharmaceutical products, vaccines, and other health technologies, adversely affecting the response capacity of health systems;

RECOGNIZING ALSO that the economic and social crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic has widened pre-existing social divides and gender gaps, exacerbating impediments to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

BEARING IN MIND that the health crisis has highlighted the heavy dependence of Latin America and the Caribbean on imports of medical supplies, 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;

REAFFIRMING that hemispheric solidarity, coordination, and cooperation are indispensable in strengthening capacities for prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery in the event of health emergencies; recognizing the 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; and also

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1. The State of Guatemala declares that its relations with other States are governed by international principles, rules and practices, with the purpose of contributing to the maintenance of peace and...
 2. 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...

bearing in mind the commitments undertaken and negotiations underway within the framework of the World Health Organization (WHO) and other international organizations;

UNDERSCORING the urgent need to promote voluntary transfers of technology and know-how on mutually agreed terms, and increase investment and the capacities of developing countries to research and produce safe, effective, quality, and affordable vaccines and other health technologies;

EMPHASIZING the need to invest in inclusive and resilient health systems, based on universal health access and coverage, and to implement an equitable approach with a gender perspective to prevention, preparedness, and response activities to help mitigate the risk of pre-existing inequalities that future pandemics could exacerbate;

REAFFIRMING the importance of access to affordable concessionary 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;^{3/}

BEARING IN MIND the Action Plan on Health and Resilience in the Americas, adopted on June 9, 2022, at the Ninth Summit of the Americas; and

RECALLING that the preamble to the Constitution of the World Health Organization states that the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being,

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 enhancing hemispheric coordination and cooperation to strengthen inclusive and resilient health systems that can enable progress toward universal health access and coverage and increase the capacity for prevention, preparedness, pandemic response, and recovery of health systems in all the region's countries.

2. To commit to strengthening multilateralism and global health governance, recognizing the need for collective action, under the principle of equity under international principles of equity, solidarity, and cooperation to close gaps between countries and within them.

3. To urge member states to promote mutual hemispheric solidarity in the development, production, acquisition, and timely and equitable distribution 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 voluntary Technology Transfer for Production of mRNA Vaccines on mutually agreed terms 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. Idem.

4. 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 health conditions and economies and to overcome our region's vulnerability and external dependency during global health emergencies, allowing the achievement of adequate preparedness and response capabilities in our region.

5. To promote measures to expand access to technology and increase the voluntary transfer of technologies and technical know-how on mutually-agreed terms to build the local capacities of developing countries to manufacture sanitary pandemic response products, such as vaccines, diagnostic tests, and treatments.

6. To urge member states to take strategic and targeted measures to achieve resilient health systems by rapidly advancing health care access and coverage, including universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, 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.

7. To promote a multisectoral approach, from a human rights based and gender perspective, to policies aimed at improving the capacities of health systems and universal access to health, allowing for analysis and appropriate action on the underlying social determinants of health, such as adequate living conditions and access to clean water and healthy food.

8. To promote the adoption of norms and measures which – taking into account the socioeconomic impact of pandemics on employment, trade, gender inequality, food insecurity, and access to education and culture – include a multisectoral approach, with a gender perspective, that allows for timely mobilization of the human and financial resources necessary for pandemic prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. In particular, to enhance training institutions' capacity to ensure that all countries have qualified health personnel.

9. To urge member states to adopt the "One Health" approach to create synergies to more efficiently address the protection of human, animal, environmental health and the protection of ecosystems in a coordinated manner, with a view to achieving better public health outcomes for the benefit of present and future generations.

10. To promote initiatives for the participation of civil society and other social stakeholders, including women's rights organizations, as a pillar for effective pandemic prevention and preparedness, increasing community trust in public health entities at times of vulnerability and uncertainty, such as during pandemics. Accordingly, to promote equitable programs for the management of available public information for effective and timely outreach, including risk communication as well as educational and public-awareness strategies regarding pandemics and their effects.

11. To call on member states and permanent observers to coordinate common positions aimed at enhancing multilateral cooperation, based on solidarity and equity in relevant international organizations for global health, to address future health emergencies and to facilitate post-pandemic

recovery, with a gender perspective, paying special attention to economic, productive, and financial difficulties.

12. To call on international financial institutions to provide affordable and concessionary financing to developing countries, particularly small states, in light of their vulnerability, in order to mitigate economic losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.^{4/}

4. Idem.

FOOTNOTES

1. ...freedom, respect for and protection of human rights, strengthening of democratic processes and international institutions that guarantee mutual and equitable benefits among States.

Guatemala promotes, defends, and protects at the same level and without discrimination, the human rights of all persons recognized in the international treaties, in accordance with their text, the proper meaning of their words, their context, and constitutional provisions.

In that regard, in addition to the integrity and security of the person, the State ensures and protects human life from conception. Therefore, Guatemala dissociates itself from all provisions, uses, or terms in this resolution that are not expressly set forth in the international commitments to which Guatemala is a party and which contravene its national laws, including, but not limited to, the interpretation and/or legal recognition of the expressions “reproductive rights” and “sexual and reproductive health services,” which, for the State of Guatemala, do not include abortion, as that goes against protection of life and the institution of the family, a fundamental pillar of Guatemalan society.

2. ...of American 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. 2994 (LII-O/22)

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY
AND DEMOCRACY IN THE AMERICAS^{1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/}

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on October 7, 2022)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING the objectives and principles of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Democratic Charter, the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, the American Convention on Human Rights, the Inter-American Convention on the Granting of Political Rights to Women, the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belem do Pará), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (1994), the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences; and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015), especially its Goal 5 "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls"; the Inter-American Convention against All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance (2013), the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination and Related Forms of Intolerance (2013), the Inter-American Convention on the Protection of the Human Rights of Older Persons (2015); the Inter-American Program on Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP), 2000 the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2016), and the resolution "Women's Representation and Participation in the OAS (2020)," as well as other relevant instruments that provide an international legal and political framework for the promotion and protection of the human rights of women and girls, as appropriate;

RECOGNIZING that equal participation and gender equality are essential components of representative, plural, and inclusive democracies and that the equal representation of all women in all

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1. The Republic of El Salvador reaffirms its resolved determination to comply with the human rights obligations and commitments it has assumed within both the inter-American and...
 2. Guatemala and Paraguay reaffirm that language related to the expressions "women and girls in all their diversity," "women in all their diversity", and the like does not represent consensus language...
 3. The Republic of Paraguay expresses its reservation with respect to the expression "women in all their diversity," placing on record that it shall be interpreted in accordance with the domestic...
 4. Trinidad and Tobago is unable to join consensus on preambular paragraphs 1 and 2 as well as operative paragraph 9 due to a conflict with existing domestic legislation. The Government of ...
 5. The State of Guatemala declares that its relations with other States are governed by international principles, rules and practices, with the purpose of contributing to the maintenance of peace...
 6. The Government of Guyana disassociates from elements in this document, including the term 'women in all their diversity,' that are contrary to our national laws, policies and...
 7. The Government of Saint Lucia supports all efforts aimed at the promotion of gender equity and equality, the empowerment of women, the human rights of all women and girls, as well as ...
 8. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines fully supports women's leadership for the advancement of gender equality and democracy in the Americas but is unable to join consensus on the approval of some...

their diversity in politics and public life are essential for democratic governance, justice, economic growth, and integral and sustainable development;^{9/}

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION the progress that has been achieved thus far in terms of women's participation in institutional spaces and the incorporation of a gender perspective in the OAS, in keeping with resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, without prejudice to the fact that women's representation on an equal basis in decision-making and in the highest positions of employment remains a challenge in the Organization;

BEARING IN MIND that the General Secretariat, based on the powers conferred by the Charter and the General Standards, issued Executive Order No. 16-03 on the Institutional Policy on Gender Equality, Diversity, and Human Rights of the General Secretariat of the Organization;

HIGHLIGHTING that the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), since its inception in 1928, has played a key role as the main hemispheric forum for the promotion and adoption of a shared framework, legislation, and national public policies for promoting the rights of all women and gender equality, as well as for advancing their participation and leadership in all spheres of power and decision-making,

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate its condemnation of the interconnection of multiple and and aggravating forms of discrimination and gender-based violence in the Hemisphere, in particular the lack of access for women's full, equal, effective, and meaningful participation in the public sphere, in both representation and decision-making positions, emphasizing that their participation is essential to improve the functioning of public institutions and the strengthening of policy results.

2. To reaffirm the commitments made in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 5 and its targets including SDG 5.5 "Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic, and public life" as well as the commitments contained in the Declaration of Santo Domingo, on equality and autonomy in the exercise of political rights of women for the strengthening of democracy" (2019), adopted by member states during the XXXVIII Assembly of Delegates of the CIM.

3. Request the General Secretariat to prioritize the implementation of the OAS Parity Plan and to submit an execution report to the fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly.

4. To request the General Secretariat to make all necessary efforts to facilitate coordination between the CIM and the rest of the Organization in order to advance the representation, inclusion and full, equal, effective, and meaningful participation of all women, as well as the mainstreaming of the gender approach in all programmatic work and in building consensus on the political strategy of the Organization.

5. To reiterate to member states and the General Secretariat the need to create conditions and spur opportunities for the nomination and/or appointment of women at the highest levels of

9. 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...

leadership within the OAS General Secretariat and OAS organs and entities and promote their equal participation in said positions.

6. To urge member states to promote normative reforms on the equal participation of women in the executive, legislative, and judicial branches and in the public sector, and take all appropriate measures to eliminate the structural, institutional, and cultural barriers that prevent the full, equal, effective, and meaningful participation of women in decision-making from an approach which includes the interconnection of multiple and aggravating forms of discrimination, exclusion, and inequality.

7. To urge member states to strengthen the participation of all women in political parties and organizations, under equal conditions, particularly in leadership and decision-making-spaces, as well as in the areas of management and candidacies; promote measures to ensure their access to the resources and opportunities for training and visibility in party communications including public electoral financing, as well as measures to eradicate political violence within parties.

8. To promote and support the work of the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership, facilitating dialogue and commitment processes for collaborative work among States, intergovernmental organizations, international agencies, and other key actors, as an opportunity to take advantage of and optimize international cooperation, improving efforts, effectiveness of aid and the impact of actions in favor of greater participation and leadership of women.

9. To urge member states to strengthen collaboration and cooperation in the specific area of political participation and leadership of all women in all their diversity, reinforcing channels that ensure the regular exchange of information and good practices.^{10/}

10. To accelerate the pace of progress in the implementation of international, regional and national commitments and obligations aimed at achieving gender equality, and attain the equal participation of all women at every level of decision-making in the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government and the public sector, as well as electoral governance with a gender perspective.

11. To recognize that all forms of violence and discrimination against women in public and political life including women politicians, candidates, electoral administrators, judges and members of local, grassroots and women's organizations in public life, including in digital contexts, undermine women's enjoyment of the right to take part in the conduct of public affairs; and emphasize that the promotion of the full, equal, and substantive participation and leadership of women in public life and the elimination of all forms of gender-based violence against all women are interconnected with representative democracy, since the participation of women is essential to improve and strengthen the results of policies.

12. To encourage member states to support the strengthening of women's and social organizations that defend the rights of women and realizing the full enjoyment of the civil and political rights of women, including the right of peaceful assembly and freedom of association, as well as promote the participation of these organizations in national and multilateral dialogues.

10. Idem.

13. To encourage states to support the improvement and collection of data from an approach which includes the interconnection of multiple forms of discrimination, exclusion, and inequality on the participation and representation of women in all areas of public decision-making.

14. In view of the aforementioned, to continue to support the work of the organs of the inter-American system including that of the CIM, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and other specialized organs of the Organization in order to promote the full, equal, effective, and meaningful participation of all women in all spheres of social, political, and economic life, and to promote inclusive and substantive leadership.

FOOTNOTES

1. ...universal systems.

El Salvador places a reservation on any interpretation or enforcement of the terms set out in this resolution that, by their nature, are in conflict with the principles of its Constitution and domestic legal order, as well as of those that, within the legal sphere, are not in line with public policies aimed at assisting the vast majority of people or that attempt to modify the language agreed on in international treaties that the country has ratified.

El Salvador reiterates its commitment to the full enforcement of the constitutional principle of equality and non-discrimination and to compliance with the obligations arising from that principle that are applicable in domestic law.

It also reiterates its duty to continue to work in concert to transform socio-cultural patterns that give rise to violence, inequality, and discrimination in all areas.

2. ...within the OAS and should not be interpreted as an acceptance thereof.
3. ...legal system.

4. ...Trinidad and Tobago remains firmly 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.

5. ...and freedom, respect for and protection of human rights, strengthening of democratic processes and international institutions that guarantee mutual and equitable benefits among states.

Guatemala promotes, defends, and protects at the same level and without discrimination, the human rights of all persons recognized in the international treaties, in accordance with their text, the proper meaning of their words, their context, and constitutional provisions.

Under the Political Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala, men and women have equal opportunities and responsibilities. Accordingly, the Guatemalan State recognizes every person's right to enjoy his or her fundamental freedoms without requiring it to alter the anthropological foundations of its legal system.

Therefore, Guatemala dissociates itself from all provisions, uses, or terms in this resolution that are not expressly set forth in the international commitments to which Guatemala is a party and which contravene its national laws, including, but not limited to, the interpretation and/or legal recognition of the expression "women in all their diversity." Guatemala reaffirms its commitment to combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls.

Finally, the Guatemalan State dissociates itself from any provision, commitment, or mandate related to the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Related Forms of Intolerance and the fight against all forms of discrimination, inasmuch as it is not a state party to said instrument.

6. ...priorities and states that it would not be in a position to implement any provision contained in this document that is at variance with its national laws, policies, and priorities.
7. ...the elimination of discrimination and of all forms of violence against them.

The term "women in all their diversity", as used in this resolution, is not in keeping with the laws of Saint Lucia. The Government of Saint Lucia therefore enters its reservation on this reference.

8. ...of the terms used as they are not defined in the domestic laws of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines or internationally. The State promotes and defends inclusion and equality regardless of sex. The Constitution of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines provides that 'every person in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is entitled to the fundamental rights and freedoms (...) irrespective of his race, place of origin, political opinions, colour, creed or sex (...)'

Accordingly, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines disassociates itself from those terms, which are incompatible with and contrary to its domestic laws and those which are not defined therein, reserving its right to interpret the terms of this resolution.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines remains firmly committed to the international conventions to which it is party for the promotion and protection of the fundamental rights of all human beings.

9. ...note of Preambular paragraph 2 and Operative paragraph 9 and joins consensus where national laws allow. However, it is not in a position to agree to those issues that are in conflict with national legislation or that require national policy guidance.

AG/RES. 2995 (LII-O/22)

THE POLITICAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS CRISIS IN NICARAGUA^{1/2/3/}

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on October 7, 2022)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

REAFFIRMING the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which states that “representative democracy is indispensable for the stability, peace and development of the region”;

RECALLING the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states that “the promotion and protection of human rights is a basic prerequisite for the existence of a democratic society”;

DEEPLY DISTURBED by the continued deterioration of the human rights situation in Nicaragua, resulting from the Government’s arbitrary arrests and detentions, imprisonment of political figures, forced closure of civil society organizations and universities, seizure of municipal offices, repression of journalists and raids on media organizations, and intimidation of community leaders, including women social leaders, resulting in a climate of oppression and fear;

TAKING NOTE of the repeated statements of the Permanent Council in support of the restoration of democratic institutions and respect for human rights in Nicaragua in accordance with international law, and its offers of assistance to the Government of Nicaragua, which have been ignored;

PROFOUNDLY TROUBLED by the reports by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) of the arbitrary arrest of Bishop Rolando Alvarez and eight other clerics by the Nicaraguan National Police at the Matagalpa diocesan curia on August 19 and by the systematic persecution, criminalization, harassment, police hounding, and acts of repression which the Government of Nicaragua has perpetrated against members of the Roman Catholic Church, including the arbitrary expulsion of religious congregations;

CONSCIOUS that worsening economic and political conditions have pushed an estimated 250,000 Nicaraguans to flee the country since 2018;

NOTING the ongoing work of the IACHR to monitor the human rights crisis in Nicaragua, including the work achieved by the Special Monitoring Mechanism for Nicaragua (MESENI), which has sounded alarms and issued over 35 precautionary advisories to the Nicaraguan government over the last 4 years;

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1. The Republic of El Salvador reaffirms its principled position in matters of international law, namely, not to intervene or interfere in the internal affairs of another state. The challenges facing...
 2. 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...
 3. In relation to the prevailing political and social situation in the Republic of Nicaragua, the Republic of Honduras, in strict adherence to the principles of international law, in particular the principle...

CONCERNED by Nicaragua's disregard for its international human rights obligations and by its refusal to engage with international human rights mechanisms;

NOTING that the United Nations Human Rights Council was so deeply concerned over the persistent allegations of human rights violations and abuses in Nicaragua that, in March 2022, it appointed a Group of Human Rights Experts to identify those responsible and to promote accountability through engagement with Nicaragua authorities and other stakeholders;

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Government of Nicaragua to cease all violent action against people in the country and to fully restore civic and political rights, religious freedoms, and the rule of law; to stop judicial, administrative, and other forms of intimidation and harassment against journalists, especially women journalists, and against media outlets and non-governmental organizations.

2. To urge the Government of Nicaragua to guarantee the physical, mental, and moral integrity, liberty, and right to life of all those who have been arbitrarily detained, and to immediately release all political prisoners, in compliance with the decisions and recommendations of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

3. To urge the Government of Nicaragua to cease the repression and arbitrary detention of leaders of the Catholic Church.

4. To call on all States in the region to implement a strategy, based on a comprehensive human rights and gender-responsive approach, to the factors contributing to the displacement of Nicaraguan persons and their need for protection, including through the granting of asylum and other protection measures.

5. To call on the Government of Nicaragua to grant full and unhindered access to its territory to international human rights bodies in a spirit of transparency and accountability.

6. To request the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to continue monitoring the human rights situation in Nicaragua and to provide all reasonable assistance to the United Nations Group of Human Rights Experts on Nicaragua in support of the execution of its mandate.

7. To remind the Government of Nicaragua of the deteriorating economic and social conditions of the country resulting from its actions, and to encourage it to accept the offers of regional and international cooperation to restore the nation to the path to democracy, the rule of law, and peaceful progress for all its citizens.

8. To request the Permanent Council to remain seized of the political and human rights situation in Nicaragua, by receiving regular updates from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and other expert bodies, and to consider all further actions that could be conducive to the return of democracy, the rule of law, and the protection of human rights in the country.

9. To invite member states to create a high-level commission mandated to offer the Government of Nicaragua an opportunity to discuss all relevant matters.

FOOTNOTES

1. ...the Republic of Nicaragua should be addressed and resolved by Nicaraguans, based on dialogue, understanding, and negotiation, in order to preserve peace and wellbeing in that Nation.

2. ...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.”

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 be obeyed in multi-lateral relations.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines therefore urges the Organization of American States to adhere to these principles, seek objectively verified information on the situation in the Republic of Nicaragua and continue to promote consultation and dialogue in its interaction with the Republic of Nicaragua.

3. ...of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other states, considers that this situation should be resolved between Nicaraguans through dialogue in order to promote harmony and understanding in that sister nation.

AG/RES. 2996 (LII-O/22)

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF PERU

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on October 7, 2022)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States was held in Lima from October 5 to 7, 2022; and

That in the course of the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly, the delegations expressed their profound gratitude to His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Peru, César Rodrigo Landa Arroyo, for the skill with which he steered the discussions, which led to the adoption of important declarations and resolutions on high-priority issues on the hemispheric agenda; and

UNDERSCORING the warm welcome extended by the Peruvian people and Government,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its gratitude to His Excellency Pedro Castillo, President of the Republic of Peru, and, in particular, to the Peruvian people, for the warm and generous hospitality that they showed to the participants at the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly.
2. To recognize and commend His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Peru, César Rodrigo Landa Arroyo, on his able leadership as President of the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly.
3. To express its appreciation and gratitude to Ambassador Harold Winston Forsyth Mejía, Permanent Representative of Peru to the OAS, the members of that permanent mission, and the officials from the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, whose efficiency, dedication, and professionalism contributed to the success of the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly.
4. To express its appreciation for the work done by the OAS General Secretariat in ensuring the success of the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly.



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.



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