

**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**



**TWENTY-SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION
LIMA, PERU
June 1-5, 1997**

PROCEEDINGS VOLUME I

**AG/DEC. 13 - AG/DEC. 15 (XXVII-O/97)
AG/RES. 1445 - AG/RES. 1531 (XXVII-O/97)**

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

AG/DEC. 13 — 15 (XXVII-O/97)

AG/RES. 1445 — 1531 (XXVII-O/97)

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I HEREBY CERTIFY that this volume contains the official texts of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States at its twenty-seventh regular session, held in Lima, Peru, from June 1-5, 1997.

César Gaviria
Secretary General
Organization of American States

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AG/DEC. 13 (XXVII-O/97)

COMMITMENT OF LIMA:
TOWARD A CULTURE OF PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMERICAS

(Adopted at the first plenary session,
held on June 2, 1997)

We, the ministers of foreign affairs and heads of delegation of the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS), meeting in Lima on the occasion of the twenty-seventh regular session of the General Assembly, reaffirm, on behalf of our peoples and governments, that:

1. The OAS is the central framework and a fundamental instrument for strengthening peace and security in the Hemisphere and respect for the sovereignty and independence of member states; for promoting and consolidating representative democracy with respect for the principle of nonintervention; for fostering integral and sustainable development; and, in short, for achieving the ideals proclaimed in the OAS Charter and the other legal instruments approved in Bogotá in 1948, through the rule of international law, full respect for human rights, partnership for development, and social justice.

Consequently, it is imperative that the inter-American system and its instruments and strategies function in such a way as to respond effectively to the requirements and challenges faced by our peoples so that member states are able to translate into reality the decisions emanating from dialogue among countries of the region as well as from mechanisms for concerted action in which the heads of state and government of the Hemisphere have been engaged as they strive to promote cooperation for peace and development.

2. The OAS constitutes the principal instrument for consolidation of the new hemispheric relationship characterized by partnership for development. This historic opportunity calls for coordinated efforts to develop, strengthen, and refine existing mechanisms for concerted action.

On the basis of mutual respect, a spirit of cooperation, and a commitment to assume and share responsibilities and to establish carefully our priorities, we reiterate our willingness to pursue efforts to modernize the OAS to respond effectively to hemispheric concerns and to strengthen the support that the inter-American system gives to member states.

3. The promotion and consolidation of democracy and of respect for basic human rights are fundamental elements of inter-American cooperation and solidarity. To consolidate the achievements made thus far and to advance even further, it is necessary to persevere in our efforts to confront the challenges to the construction of democratic, stable, and prosperous societies and to ensure the observance of human rights. In order to attain these objectives, the OAS will continue playing a significant role.

Within the framework of the purposes and principles of the Charter, we will intensify cooperation to strengthen our democratic institutions; promote and protect human rights in all their dimensions; combat and eradicate terrorism, corruption, and illegal trafficking in narcotics and in arms, ammunition, and explosives, among other areas of common interest. We will continue to strive for the modernization of the state, maintaining the independence of the executive, legislative, and judicial powers. We will promote as well, as a priority, the education and civic training of our peoples through high-quality, comprehensive national policies which promote peace, friendship, tolerance, dialogue, solidarity, and understanding among our peoples.

4. Peace and development are essential purposes of the OAS. Effective limitation of conventional arms that will make it possible to devote the largest possible amount of resources to development, the peaceful settlement of disputes, and full respect for treaties contribute to achieving these ends. Overcoming extreme poverty and improving the welfare of our peoples cannot be postponed. Conserving the environment in the framework of sustainable development, implementing sound economic policies that direct attention to social investment, and gradual and steady progress toward trade integration in the Americas constitute interrelated tasks of high priority.

These purposes and priorities are the subject of a comprehensive, fruitful dialogue and of cooperative action among governments, and between them and all sectors of society. This is demonstrated by the progress achieved at the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development in Santa Cruz de la Sierra and in the Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development in Mexico City, which approved the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001. The second Summit of the Americas, which will be held in Santiago in 1998, will give us the opportunity to make even greater progress in taking concrete actions in this direction.

5. International law, enriched by the norms and principles of the inter-American system, forms an essential part of the legal and political heritage of all member states. Faithful respect for it is indispensable for orderly, secure, and stable hemispheric coexistence, as well as for the consolidation of a culture of peace and development in the Americas.

We will support the development and appropriate preparation of inter-American legal instruments and promote the signing and ratification of, or accession to, currently existing ones. We will further the effective application of conventions and treaties in force, as well as their broader dissemination.

6. The celebration of the 50th anniversary of the OAS should be the opportunity to reinforce its process of modernization and institutional strengthening that will permit it to attain dynamically and functionally its purposes and principles.

To this end, we pledge to ensure continued dialogue and concerted action, with a view to the next millennium, so that we can make real progress toward the well-being of our peoples and toward the greater and more efficient participation of the Americas in the international arena.

DECLARATION AFFIRMING RESPECT FOR THE PERSONALITY,
SOVEREIGNTY, AND INDEPENDENCE OF STATES

(Adopted at the second plenary session,
held on June 2, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING the principles set forth in the Charter of the Organization of American States;

REAFFIRMING, in the terms of the Charter, that international law is the standard of conduct of states in their reciprocal relations and that international order consists essentially of respect for the personality, sovereignty, and independence of states, and the faithful fulfillment of obligations derived from treaties and other sources of international law;

RECOGNIZING that controversies of an international character arising among American states should be settled by peaceful procedures without resort to coercion or sanctions and that hemispheric problems of a multilateral character should be resolved by multilateral efforts rather than by unilateral action on the part of individual states;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that the American states face a common enemy in the form of illicit drug trafficking, which transcends national borders and requires for its eradication the willing cooperation and collaboration of all states;

CONVINCED that enhanced cooperation among the American states in drug interdiction measures will rid the region of the menace of drug trafficking and money laundering and thus contribute to the common welfare and prosperity of the peoples of the Hemisphere;

RECALLING the Declaration on Principles of International Law Concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on October 24, 1970;

RECALLING ALSO the Declaration on the Prohibition of Military, Political or Economic Coercion in the Conclusion of Treaties, adopted by the Vienna Conference of 1968-69 on the Law of Treaties;

RECALLING FURTHER the Consensus of Panama [AG/DEC. 10 (XXVI-O/96)], adopted at its twenty-sixth regular session;

RECALLING that the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere was signed by member countries at the meeting held in Montevideo in December 1996; and

CONVINCED that a reaffirmation of the purposes and principles of the Charter will further

forge the bonds of friendship and solidarity among the American states and strengthen the peace and security of the Hemisphere,

REAFFIRMS the commitment of the member states to the purposes and principles of the Charter and affirms that, in the spirit of the Summit of the Americas, multilateral efforts should be pursued to resolve common problems.

CALLS UPON member states to respect the personality, sovereignty, and independence of states and to refrain from taking any unilateral action which is inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter and may impair their friendly relations.

URGES member states to cooperate and collaborate with each other to wage a concerted effort against illicit drugs in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988) and to support efforts toward adequate preparation of the special session of the United Nations General Assembly in 1998, devoted to combating the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic, and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances; and calls upon member states that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention.

DECLARES that all international disputes or controversies of an international character arising among the American states should be settled by peaceful, non-coercive procedures and means consistent with the spirit and the letter of the Charter.

AG/DEC. 15 (XXVII-O/97)

DECLARATION ON THE QUESTION OF THE MALVINAS ISLANDS

(Adopted at the fifth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

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) approved by consensus on November 19, 1988, which requests 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 resolution AG/RES. 1049 (XX-O/90), it expressed its satisfaction with the resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries, and that in its declaration AG/DEC. 5 (XXIII-O/93), it emphasized the excellent state of their bilateral relations; and

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

WELCOMES the reaffirmation of the will of the Argentine Government to explore all possible avenues for peaceful settlement of the controversy and, in particular, its positive views concerning the inhabitants of the Malvinas Islands; and

DECIDES to continue to examine the question of the Malvinas Islands at its subsequent sessions until a definitive solution is reached thereon.

AG/RES. 1445 (XXVII-O/97)

INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION OF
AND TRAFFICKING IN FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, AND
OTHER RELATED MATERIALS

(Resolution adopted at the third plenary session,
held on June 2, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

DEEPLY CONCERNED over the increase in the region in the illicit production of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials, and over its clear connection with the drug trade, terrorism, and organized crime;

DISMAYED by the negative impact in our region of the illicit production of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials on personal safety and the integrity of our institutions;

MINDFUL of the urgent need to prevent, combat, and eradicate the illicit production of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials;

RECALLING that one of the purposes of the Organization of American States is to achieve effective control of conventional weapons so that the largest possible amount of resources can be devoted to economic and social development;

CONSIDERING the decision of the heads of state and government gathered at the Summit of the Americas held in 1994, to strengthen efforts to control firearms, ammunition, and explosives to avoid their being diverted to drug traffickers and criminal organizations;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the communiqué of the Tenth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Mechanism for Political Consultation and Consensus (Rio Group), issued in Cochabamba, Bolivia, on September 4, 1996, at which they considered the advisability of preparing a draft convention to put an end to the illicit production of and trafficking in weapons in the region;

WELCOMING the recent statements of the heads of state and government of the Hemisphere on this problem, particularly the Declaration of Principles of Bridgetown, signed on May 10, 1997, by the Caribbean countries and the United States, in which they recognized that the conclusion of an international instrument establishing rights and obligations would be an effective tool in fighting the illicit trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials and, to that end, decided to work toward the prompt adoption of an international agreement on this subject;

EXPRESSING ITS GRATITUDE to the member countries of the Mechanism for Political Consultation and Consensus (Rio Group) for submitting a draft inter-American convention against the

illicit production of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials;

RECALLING that the Permanent Council set up a working group to study and consider a draft inter-American convention against the illicit production of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials and other appropriate actions;

RECOGNIZING the efforts of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission to develop model regulations in areas related to this draft convention; and

APPRECIATIVE that many proposals were submitted to the latest meeting of the Working Group because of the interest shown in the Convention,

RESOLVES:

1. To note with satisfaction the report of the Permanent Council on the activities of the Working Group, which held several meetings during which many proposals were considered.

2. To instruct the Permanent Council, through its Working Group and with the participation of government experts, to intensify its efforts aimed at concluding an Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Production of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials, to be submitted to the member states for consideration in the autumn of 1997.

3. To request the Permanent Council to convene a special session of the General Assembly once the text of the Convention has been concluded, with the objective of adopting it and opening it for signature in 1997.

4. To express its appreciation to the General Secretariat for its cooperation in these endeavors and to request it to continue to lend its support.

AG/RES. 1446 (XXVII-O/97)

ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK PERFORMED BY THE
SUBSIDIARY ORGANS OF THE OAS COUNCILS

(Resolution adopted at the fifth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on the organization of the work performed by the subsidiary organs of the OAS councils (AG/doc.3509/97);

CONSIDERING the growing number and broader scope of the Organization's mandates and the importance of ensuring complete and effective compliance therewith;

BEARING IN MIND:

The marked increase in meetings held by different subsidiary organs of the Organization's councils, resulting from the above-mentioned mandates, and the need for adequate preparation of these meetings; and

The limited physical, financial, and human resources of the Organization and the secretariats of the councils, particularly the Secretariat of Conferences and Meetings; and

CONVINCED of the need to make more efficient and effective use of those limited resources,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Permanent Council to urgently study, through its Committee on Meetings and Organizations (CRO), the organization of the work performed by the subsidiary organs of the Organization's councils and to seek ways to streamline their efforts, so they may more efficiently and effectively carry out the mandates conferred on them.

2. To empower the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) to adopt, through its Permanent Executive Committee (CEPCIDI)—on the basis of recommendations by the CRO and preferably before the end of September 1997—organizational and/or structural measures deemed relevant for achieving the objectives of this resolution, including the adoption *ad referendum* of decisions requiring the authorization of the General Assembly.

3. To request CEPCIDI to cooperate fully with the CRO in conducting the aforementioned study and to take into account its recommendations in drafting the rules of procedure for CIDI's subsidiary organs.

4. To urge the General Secretariat to lend the greatest support possible to the work of the CRO in complying with this resolution, including the drafting of proposals or relevant documents, and to put into practice immediately the decisions duly made by the councils with a view to streamlining the work of their subsidiary organs.

5. To instruct the councils to report on compliance with this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1447 (XXVII-O/97)

FREE TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN THE HEMISPHERE

(Resolution adopted at the fifth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution AG/RES. 1364 (XXVI-O/96), "Free Trade and Investment in the Hemisphere," which requested the Inter-American Juridical Committee to examine and decide upon the validity under international law of the Helms-Burton Act;

The opinion of the Inter-American Juridical Committee contained in resolution CJI/RES.II-14/96, which states that the Committee unanimously concluded that "the bases and potential application of the legislation which is the subject of this opinion," in the important areas referred to above, "are not in conformity with international law"; and

The report of the Permanent Council on free trade and investment in the Hemisphere (CP/doc.2940/97),

RESOLVES:

1. To receive the report of the Permanent Council on free trade and investment in the Hemisphere, presented in compliance with AG/RES. 1364 (XXVI-O/96).
2. To acknowledge the work and efforts made by the Inter-American Juridical Committee in preparing its opinion on this matter.
3. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on developments in this regard.

AG/RES. 1448 (XXVII-O/97)

SUPPORT FOR THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS INITIATIVES

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Special Committee on Inter-American Summits Management to the ministers of foreign affairs, presented in compliance with resolution AG/RES. 1377 (XXVI-O/96) (CP/doc.2932/97);

CONSIDERING:

That, in resolution AG/RES. 1349 (XXV-O/95), the General Assembly set up a Special Committee of the Permanent Council on Inter-American Summits Management to ensure effective, timely, and appropriate follow-up of the activities assigned to the Organization by the Summit of the Americas;

That, in resolution AG/RES. 1377 (XXVI-O/96), the General Assembly reaffirmed the mandate of the Special Committee and instructed it to submit a written report each year to the foreign ministers at the regular session of the General Assembly on the progress made in implementing that resolution; and

That, as noted by the Special Committee in its report, it has not yet received reports from all of the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization from which such reports had been requested; and

BEARING IN MIND that, as provided for in Article 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the Permanent Council, special committees are temporary,

RESOLVES:

1. To thank the Permanent Council for transmitting the report of its Special Committee on Inter-American Summits Management, prepared in compliance with resolutions AG/RES. 1349 (XXV-O/95) and AG/RES. 1377 (XXVI-O/96).

2. To urge those organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization that have not yet done so to respond to the request made by the Special Committee for reports on their activities relating to the implementation of the initiatives of the Summit Plan of Action.

3. To reaffirm the mandate of the Special Committee, as set forth in resolution AG/RES. 1349 (XXV-O/95), and to instruct it to present a written report on the progress made in implementing this resolution to the foreign ministers, through the Permanent Council, at the twenty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly.

4. To note with satisfaction the work accomplished by the Special Committee's Working Group on Democracy and Human Rights, and to request the Special Committee to extend the Working Group's mandate.

5. To thank the General Secretariat for the support provided to the Special Committee and to instruct the General Secretariat to continue providing such assistance as necessary.

AG/RES. 1449 (XXVII-O/97)

OAS CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUMMITS OF THE AMERICAS PROCESS

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

The purposes and principles established in the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS);

The Declaration of Montrouis: A New Vision of the OAS, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth regular session;

Resolution AG/RES. 1377 (XXVI-O/96), "Support for the Summit of the Americas Initiatives";

Resolution AG/RES. 1349 (XXV-O/95), "Inter-American Summits Management," which established a Special Committee of the Permanent Council on Inter-American Summits Management to ensure effective, timely, and appropriate follow-up of the activities assigned to the Organization by the Summit of the Americas;

The important role entrusted to the OAS in the coordination and follow-up of the agreements of the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development;

Resolution AG/RES. 1448 (XXVII-O/97), "Support for the Summit of the Americas Initiatives," and the report of the Permanent Council on inter-American summits management;

The Declaration of Principles of the Summit of the Americas held in 1994, which urges the OAS and the Inter-American Development Bank to assist countries in implementing their pledges, drawing significantly upon the Pan American Health Organization and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as subregional organizations for integration; and

The Commitment of Lima: Toward a Culture of Peace and Development in the Americas, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh regular session; and

CONSIDERING:

That relations among states of the Hemisphere have entered a new era, characterized by dialogue, consensus, and cooperation;

That current conditions in the Hemisphere have engendered a community of interests and values where it is now possible to work together to achieve common objectives through bilateral and multilateral cooperation;

That the priority matters on the hemispheric agenda call for appropriate cooperation among states and that even matters traditionally considered as the exclusive province of states, such as the institutional development of countries and the overcoming of poverty and discrimination, have a multilateral dimension;

That management of these matters requires institutionalized coordination to avoid a diffusion, fragmentation, and duplication of cooperative effort within the inter-American sphere; and that the OAS is the main forum in the Hemisphere available to states for the management of hemispheric affairs; and

That it is therefore necessary to equip the OAS with the necessary instruments for effectively facing the challenges of the new hemispheric relationship,

RESOLVES:

1. To accelerate the process of modernization and institutional strengthening of the Organization to place it in the best possible position to follow-up on decisions adopted at summits of the Americas that are entrusted to it and to coordinate with other institutions of the inter-American system the execution of commitments assigned to it.

2. To instruct the Secretary General to draw up and distribute to member states as soon as possible a work plan to achieve the purposes set forth in this resolution, on the basis of the deliberations of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG). The financial implications of the work plan for the OAS will be submitted to the Permanent Council.

3. To request the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system to cooperate actively in all stages of the process.

4. To request the Secretary General to present brief monthly reports in writing to the Special Committee on Inter-American Summits Management on progress in the development and implementation of the work plan and to prepare a final report which will be made available to the SIRG before the next Summit of the Americas, in Santiago in 1998.

AG/RES. 1450 (XXVII-O/97)

SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1370 (XXVI-O/96), "Summit Conference on Sustainable Development" (AG/doc.3483/97);

BEARING IN MIND that, on December 7, 1996, the Declaration of Santa Cruz de la Sierra was signed and the Plan of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Americas was adopted;

RECALLING that the Plan of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Americas entrusted to the Organization of American States the role of coordinating and implementing the decisions taken by the heads of state and government and their representatives at the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development; and

CONSIDERING that, through resolution AG/RES. 1370 (XXVI-O/96), it requested the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh regular session on the implementation of said resolution,

RESOLVES:

1. To thank and congratulate the Government of Bolivia, through His Excellency Gonzalo Sánchez de Lozada, President of the Republic of Bolivia, for holding the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development in the city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra on December 7 and 8, 1996.

2. To consider that the work of the Working Group on OAS Cooperation regarding the Summit Conference on Sustainable Development has been completed and, at the same time, to thank and congratulate Ambassador Carlos Casap, Permanent Representative of Bolivia and Chair of the Working Group, for his excellent handling of the preparatory work for the Summit.

3. To urge the governments of the member states that have not done so to sign the Declaration of Santa Cruz de la Sierra and the Plan of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Americas.

AG/RES. 1451 (XXVII-O/97)

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE
ORGANS, AGENCIES, AND ENTITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations made by the Permanent Council (AG/doc.3512/97) on the annual reports submitted by the Administrative Tribunal (CP/doc.2855/97), the Pan American Health Organization (CP/doc.2860/97), the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CP/doc.2868/97), the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CP/doc.2864/97), the Inter-American Children's Institute (CP/doc.2867/97), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (CP/doc.2869/97), the Inter-American Indian Institute (CP/doc.2874/97), the Inter-American Commission of Women (CP/doc.2873/97), the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (CP/doc.2870/97), the Secretary General (CP/doc.2887/97), and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CP/doc.2913/97), and on the memorandum from the Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Nuclear Energy Commission (IANEC) concerning its annual report; and

CONSIDERING:

That the reports comply with the provisions of resolution AG/RES. 331 (VIII-O/78);

That the reports were duly delivered and examined in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 3 of Article 35 of the Rules of Procedure of the Permanent Council;

That the reports were presented in most instances by the respective executive secretaries, presidents, and directors, or their representatives, which allowed for in-depth analysis and accurate interpretation of the information contained in each report; and

That the Permanent Council's recommendations and observations recognize the successful endeavors of the Organization's organs, agencies, and entities in furtherance of the principles and objectives of the Organization and of the inter-American system,

RESOLVES:

1. To note and transmit to the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization the Permanent Council's observations and recommendations on the annual reports.

2. To note that—reduced budgets notwithstanding—the OAS organs, agencies, and entities have done excellent work in executing lengthy agendas; promoting their respective institutions and

enhancing the profile thereof within the Hemisphere and beyond; improving and enhancing collaboration with countries outside the region and other international bodies; and obtaining external financial resources.

3. To commend the OAS organs, agencies, and entities on their diverse and noteworthy endeavors and accomplishments in compliance with their respective mandates and in furtherance of the inter-American system.

4. To instruct the General Secretariat to make every possible effort to improve, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, the financial status of the Inter-American Commission of Women and that of the Administrative Tribunal so that these bodies will be better equipped to perform their essential activities.

5. To commend the Pan American Institute of Geography and History on the success of its decentralization and regionalization initiatives, as well as on its effectiveness in improving administrative policies and practices.

6. To urge the member states that have not yet done so to join in the efforts made by the OAS organs, agencies, and entities, which would permit a mutually beneficial exchange of resources, expertise, and assistance, conducive to an overall improvement in the quality of life for the peoples of the Americas; and to express their regret at the withdrawal of any member state from the Organization's organs, agencies, and entities.

7. To congratulate and thank the OAS organs, agencies, and entities for complying with the statutory deadline for the presentation of annual reports; and once again to urge all organs, agencies, and entities to submit their reports in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Permanent Council.

AG/RES. 1452 (XXVII-O/97)

PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE ORGANS,
AGENCIES, AND ENTITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the annual reports of the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization (AG/doc.3512/97);

RECALLING General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 331 (VIII-O/78), "Preparation of the Reports of the Organs, Agencies, and Entities of the Organization";

REAFFIRMING the need to adopt standardized criteria for preparation of the substantive information in and the form of the reports submitted under Article 90.f of the Charter, so that the information contained therein will be useful for the purposes of the General Assembly;

RECOGNIZING:

The Permanent Council's authority under Article 90.f of the Charter to consider the reports of the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization;

That the inclusion in each of the said reports of a statement on the budgetary status, financial expenditures, and external funding of the respective body would make the report more complete and facilitate its proper study by the Permanent Council;

That some of the bodies included in Article 90.f are funded by the OAS and that others are financed by other means; and

The excellent quality of the annual reports presented in 1997 in accordance with Article 90.f of the Charter by the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, the Secretary General, the Administrative Tribunal, the Pan American Health Organization, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission, the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission, the Inter-American Children's Institute, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, the Inter-American Indian Institute, and the Inter-American Commission of Women; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the Inter-American Economic and Social Council and the Inter-American Council for Education, Science, and Culture have been replaced by the Inter-American Council for Integral Development,

RESOLVES:

1. To improve on the criteria contained in resolution AG/RES. 331 (VIII-O/78), "Preparation of the Reports of the Organs, Agencies, and Entities of the Organization" for preparation of the substantive information in and the form of reports submitted under Article 90.f of the Charter, so that they may include the following in general terms and summarized form:

- a. A brief account of the origin, legal bases, structure, and purposes of each of the organs, agencies, and entities;
- b. Summarized information on the mandates and recommendations of the General Assembly and of the governing bodies of each of the organs, agencies, and entities, and on the implementation of said mandates and recommendations;
- c. A summary of the activities conducted to carry out their particular purposes, objectives, and mandates, presented by program area and country, noting progress achieved, difficulties encountered in implementation, and any other information considered relevant to bring to the attention of the General Assembly;
- d. A summary of relations and forms of cooperation with other inter-American organs and with similar regional and world organizations and the coordination achieved in their activities;
- e. A list of the meetings held during the period covered by the report and within the corresponding area of competence, with an indication of the document containing the final report of each of those meetings;
- f. The resolutions, recommendations, and observations that the particular organ, agency, or entity may decide to submit to the General Assembly; and
- g. A summary of the current financial situation, which shall include the budget for the year covered by the report; information on the source and the amount of funding sought and obtained; efforts to obtain external funding and their success; expenditure; the status of quota collections; and a global budgetary projection and possible sources of funding for the following year.

2. The criteria set out in paragraph 1.g. above shall apply at all times to the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization which are funded directly by the Organization, and shall apply to the others when they deem it appropriate.

3. The report should be as brief as possible and, where published in book form, should be presented as an executive summary for consideration by the Permanent Council.

4. The provisions contained in this resolution shall apply only to those reports submitted under Article 90.f of the Charter and transmitted by the Permanent Council to the Committee on Meetings and Organizations for study.

5. To transmit this resolution to the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization.

AG/RES. 1453 (XXVII-O/97)

DISSOLUTION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN NUCLEAR ENERGY COMMISSION

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the annual reports of the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization (AG/doc.3512/97);

RECALLING the report of the Permanent Council on the status of the Inter-American Nuclear Energy Commission (IANEC) presented in 1989 (AG/doc.2419/89), and resolution AG/RES. 1008 (XIX-O/89), "Operation of the Inter-American Nuclear Energy Commission," adopted pursuant to that report;

CONSIDERING:

That the financial situation of the Organization has not allowed for funding of IANEC since 1989, when its funding under the program-budget of the Organization was suspended, which has meant that the Commission's operations have ceased; and

That the present financial situation of the Organization does not allow for the financing of activities not included in the current program-budget and that no change in the program-budget is anticipated in the near future; and

REAFFIRMING, nonetheless, the importance of the peaceful use of nuclear energy,

RESOLVES:

1. To dissolve the Inter-American Nuclear Energy Commission (IANEC) effective forthwith.
2. To thank the Executive Secretary of IANEC for his report and his suggestions to the Permanent Council on this matter.

AG/RES. 1454 (XXVII-O/97)

CELEBRATION OF THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING that the Inter-American Commission of Women was established in 1928 by the Sixth International Conference of American States, held in Havana, and is the first intergovernmental body entrusted with the study of civil and political equality for women in the Hemisphere; and

That, since then, the Commission has been working for the full integration of women in society and has achieved important objectives, such as promoting the adoption of international conventions of genuine significance; and

CONSIDERING:

That February 18, 1998, marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of this specialized organization of the Organization of American States; and

That this significant event in the history of the Inter-American Commission of Women deserves to be commemorated,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the governments of the member states to adopt measures, insofar as they are able and through the national bodies they deem appropriate, to celebrate this event in their countries.
2. To request the Permanent Council to prepare, in coordination with the Inter-American Commission of Women, a special program for commemorating this important event, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

AG/RES. 1455 (XXVII-O/97)

GENDER-BASED INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM OF STATISTICS

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that full and equal participation by women in society requires that policies and plans be developed from a gender perspective;

MINDFUL of the urgent need for statistics which include the gender perspective in all possible areas so as to have available scientific and factual data which will assist in the definitive introduction of the gender perspective into social, economic, and cultural policy, thereby improving the quality of life of women and of society; and of the need to use statistics to assist in the definition and execution of projects which will enable governments to make real progress in achieving full and equal participation by women in society; and

CONSIDERING:

That, at present, in most member states, there are no statistics available which would satisfy the requirements for formulating sound gender-based policies and projects; and

That a gender-based inter-American system of statistics would make it possible to make comparisons among the member states, and the various regions, and could provide information essential to finding an overall solution to the gender problem,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states that have national statistical systems to look into the possibility of including the gender perspective in any statistics they compile in the future.

2. To urge member states that do not have or are not developing national statistical systems to do so, taking into account the gender perspective in any statistics they compile.

3. To urge the General Secretariat to work with relevant regional and global institutions toward promoting inclusion of the gender perspective in any statistics they compile.

AG/RES. 1456 (XXVII-O/97)

PROMOTION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION,
PUNISHMENT, AND ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN,
"CONVENTION OF BELÉM DO PARÁ"

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, "Convention of Belém do Pará," which was adopted by acclamation on June 9, 1994, at the twenty-fourth regular session, and is the first convention in the world on violence against women; and

CONSIDERING:

That in the Plan of Action adopted at the Summit of the Americas in 1994 the heads of state and government agreed to encourage, as appropriate, ratification of and compliance with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women;

That the Declaration of Montrouis: A New Vision of the OAS recognized the dignity of women and their contributions to society; called for the adoption of policies that foster active participation by women to enable them to fully enjoy all their rights and develop their potential; and, in this connection, supported the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women; and

That the adoption of the Convention of Belem do Pará demonstrates the recognition by member states of the problem of violence against women and their determination to make progress in this regard,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Permanent Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission of Women, in order to ensure follow-up of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, to report to the General Assembly every two years on progress made in its application and on experiences and results achieved through the initiatives and programs pursued in the member states to combat violence against women.

2. To encourage all member states to take appropriate measures to ensure that the principles and objectives of the Convention of Belém do Pará are incorporated into their legal systems, so as to eliminate any discrimination and inequality still existing in national laws.

AG/RES. 1457 (XXVII-O/97)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the annual reports of the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization (AG/doc.3513/97);

The document "Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere," approved by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) at its twentieth regular session, in October 1996, and endorsed by the member states at a ministerial-level meeting held in Montevideo in December 1996; and

The draft amendments to the Statute of CICAD, which were adopted by the Commission at its twentieth regular session;

REAFFIRMING its commitment to the principles and purposes set forth by the Organization in the Inter-American Program of Action of Rio de Janeiro against the Illicit Use and Production of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Traffic Therein, the Declaration and Program of Action of Ixtapa, and the Inter-American Program of Quito: Comprehensive Education to Prevent Drug Abuse;

RECALLING:

The Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas held in December 1994;

The drug control initiatives in the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas and the activities undertaken by CICAD to implement them; and

Resolution AG/RES. 1396 (XXVI-O/96), "Combating Money Laundering";

CONSIDERING:

The increasing consumption of illicit drugs, which is of concern to member states;

The desirability of strengthening CICAD's policy leadership position in the Hemisphere and its

increasingly specialized role in providing support to member states in all fields of drug control;

That the member states have as their common goal the elimination of the supply of and demand for illicit drugs;

That the Declaration of Principles of the Summit of the Americas held in 1994 recognizes the pernicious effects of organized crime and illegal narcotics on the economies, ethical values, public health, and social fabric of their countries;

That the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas states that the problems of illegal drugs and related criminal activities pose grave threats to the societies, free market economies, and democratic institutions of the Hemisphere; and

That, according to the same Plan of Action, a broad, coordinated hemispheric strategy is required to reduce illicit drug use and production, and that the member states agreed to work together to formulate such a strategy; and

RECOGNIZING the continuing excellence of the work carried out by CICAD and its assistance to member states to combat illicit drug trafficking throughout the Hemisphere,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of, endorse, and transmit to the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) the observations and recommendations made by the Permanent Council on its annual report.

2. To approve the amendments to the Statute adopted by CICAD at its twentieth regular session.

3. To take note, with thanks, of the progress that CICAD has made on money laundering control measures, through its Group of Experts, and in particular, its adoption, at its twentieth regular session, of an ongoing system of assessment of money laundering and measures to counter it under the Plan of Action of Buenos Aires adopted by a ministerial-level meeting held in December 1995. Further, to approve the ongoing nature of CICAD's commitment to this issue through the reconvening of its Group of Experts in 1997, and to urge member states that have not yet done so to complete the questionnaire on laws and other measures in force regarding control of money laundering within the framework of the Ministerial Plan of Action of Buenos Aires.

4. To instruct CICAD to report, through the Permanent Council, to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the outcome of the follow-up meeting of the Group of Experts on Money Laundering Control.

5. To approve the CICAD five-year initiative to expand its program of training, technology transfer, and international cooperation to combat money laundering, in accordance with the Ministerial Declaration and Plan of Action of Buenos Aires, and to urge the Inter-American Development Bank to cooperate in the financing of this very important initiative.

6. To note with satisfaction and commend CICAD's support to member states, through their national drug control commissions, in their international coordination efforts, and to instruct CICAD to continue providing such assistance.

7. To recognize the work carried out by the Group of Experts on Arms and Explosives and urge it to persist in its endeavors, particularly with regard to the conclusion of Model Regulations for the control of illicit trafficking in firearms, in order to ensure that those regulations are applied as soon as possible.

8. To recommend to member states that have not yet done so that they institute a system of epidemiological surveillance of drug use, taking into account CICAD's Inter-American Drug Use Data System (SIDUC) model, in order to determine trends in drug use over time.

9. To urge member states to give strong political and institutional support to school-based drug abuse prevention programs, and to the training of teachers and school administrators to enable them to become effective agents of prevention.

10. To recommend to member states that they consider the adoption of the World Health Organization's schedules for the assessment of standards of care in substance abuse treatment, as an aid to local evaluation of the adequacy and range of service provided for drug users, and to help bring about improvements in standards of care for drug abusers.

11. To invite member states to strengthen their drug abuse prevention programs to make sure that they include specific warnings about the dangers of the misuse of drugs.

12. To recommend to member states that they establish a method for evaluating drug abuse prevention programs, bearing in mind the recommendations of CICAD's First Inter-American Seminar on Evaluating the Impact of Drug Abuse Prevention Programs, held in Santiago from July 22 to 24, 1996.

13. To urge member states to continue lending support in the form of human resources and funds in order to enhance the use of telecommunications and other technologically advanced media through CICAD's Inter-American Drug Information System (IADIS).

14. To request CICAD to report, through the Permanent Council, to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on progress made in the implementation of the above recommendations.

AG/RES. 1458 (XXVII-O/97)

ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY IN THE HEMISPHERE

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the annual reports of the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization (AG/doc.3514/97);

RECALLING:

The Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas held in 1994; and

The objectives set forth by the Organization in the Inter-American Program of Action of Rio de Janeiro against the Illicit Use and Production of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Traffic Therein, approved through resolution AG/RES. 814 (XVI-O/86); and

CONSIDERING:

That the elimination of the supply of and demand for illicit drugs is one of the top priorities of the national and international policies of the member states;

That the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas required a broad and coordinated hemispheric strategy to reduce illicit drug use, production, and trafficking;

That the member states agreed to work together to formulate such a strategy; and

That the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission approved the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere and is developing a plan of action for its implementation,

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere approved by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission at its twentieth regular session, in October 1996 in Buenos Aires, and signed by member states at the ministerial-level meeting held in Montevideo, in December 1996.

2. To take note of the document on priorities for the implementation of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere (action plan for April 1997 - October 1998), approved by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission at its twenty-first regular session, in April 1997 in Washington, D.C., and to request the Commission to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-

eighth regular session on progress in its implementation.

3. To encourage the member states to continue working together and with the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission in order to facilitate an effective implementation of the provisions of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere.

4. To instruct the agencies and entities of the Organization to support the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission in the implementation of the provisions of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere.

5. To request the international financial institutions, particularly the Inter-American Development Bank, to cooperate with the member states and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission in the implementation of the provisions of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere.

6. To call upon the United Nations and its various bodies such as the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization, and the International Maritime Organization, as well as the Pan American Health Organization, to provide assistance to the member states and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission in the implementation of the provisions of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere.

7. To invite the member states and permanent observers to support the implementation of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere through their voluntary contributions to the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission programs.

AG/RES. 1459 (XXVII-O/97)

COMBATING MONEY LAUNDERING

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The report of the Permanent Council on the need to examine and agree on a coordinated hemispheric response, including the consideration of an inter-American convention to combat money laundering (AG/doc.3541/97); and

Resolution AG/RES. 1396 (XXVI-O/96), "Combating Money Laundering," which instructed the Permanent Council's Working Group on Money Laundering to continue consideration of an inter-American convention to combat money laundering;

CONSIDERING:

The decision taken by the heads of state and government at the Summit of the Americas held in 1994 on the need to "hold a working-level conference, to be followed by a ministerial conference, to study and agree on a coordinated hemispheric response, including consideration of an inter-American convention, to combat money laundering"; and

The recommendation of the Ministerial Conference concerning the Laundering of Proceeds and Instrumentalities of Crime, held in Buenos Aires on December 2, 1995, whereby, in order to comply fully with the mandate conferred by the heads of state and government, a working group was to be established under the auspices of the OAS to consider the proposal of an inter-American convention to combat money laundering and to identify priorities for the basic harmonization of national laws;

REAFFIRMING that the transfer, exchange, and investment of illicit proceeds from drug trafficking and other illegal activities are serious crimes and a challenge to law enforcement and can jeopardize financial and trading systems; and

MINDFUL of the work performed by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) and especially of its decision to convene the Group of Experts that developed the "Model Regulations concerning Laundering Offenses Connected to Illicit Drug Trafficking and Related Offenses," so that it might continue to prepare a plan of action for CICAD pursuant to the recommendations of the Ministerial Conference held in Buenos Aires in December 1995,

RESOLVES:

1. To receive with satisfaction the report of the Permanent Council on the work of its Working Group responsible for studying and agreeing on a coordinated hemispheric response, including the consideration of an inter-American convention to combat money laundering as well as the identification of priorities for basic harmonization of national laws for the same purpose.

2. To take note of the interest expressed by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) in supporting the countries in the evaluations they conduct to implement the Plan of Action of Buenos Aires, and of its interest in collaborating, in the areas within its purview, with the Working Group on Money Laundering.

3. To extend the mandate granted to the Working Group on Money Laundering so that it may continue to consider an inter-American convention to combat money laundering.

4. To request the CICAD Group of Experts to examine, in coordination with the Executive Secretariat and from its essentially technical perspective, the various existing national and international instruments on this subject and present an analytical technical report that may serve as background for the analysis to be done by the Working Group and for the decisions to be taken by the Council.

5. To urge all the governments to adopt as soon as possible, in accordance with their domestic law, the measures needed for strengthening their legal, judicial, and administrative systems, and to develop the mechanisms needed for establishing close international cooperation, which includes the exchange of information and evidence, so as to eliminate money laundering and the proceeds and instrumentalities used in that criminal activity.

6. To request the Permanent Council to present a report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1460 (XXVII-O/97)

FELLOWSHIP AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Report of the Permanent Council on the Fellowship and Training Programs (AG/doc.3487/97);

BEARING IN MIND resolutions AG/RES. 1277 (XXIV-O/94), AG/RES. 1317 (XXV-O/95), and AG/RES. 1381(XXVI-O/96);

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the report of the General Secretariat entitled "OAS Fellowship Programs for the Development of Human Resources in the American States" (CP/doc.2753/96);

REAFFIRMING that member states assign high priority to the human resource training activities carried out through the OAS Fellowship and Training Programs;

CONSIDERING:

That, at its meeting of July 11, 1996, the Permanent Council established a working group to study all aspects of the Fellowship and Training Programs, including mechanisms for improving their financial administration and possible sources of external funding;

That the objective of the OAS Fellowship and Training Programs is to support human resource development in member states; and

That the programs should therefore be guided by the development objectives and priorities of the Organization adopted in the strategic plan of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI); and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the recommendations of the Meeting of the Working Group to Study the Fellowship and Training Programs with Authorities Responsible for Training and Fellowships, which was held on April 28 and 29, 1997 (GT/BECAP-28/97 rev. 2),

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the report of the Permanent Council on the Fellowship and Training Programs, which includes the recommendations contained in the final report of the Meeting of the Working Group to Study the Fellowship and Training Programs with Authorities Responsible for Training and Fellowships.

2. To urge member states to implement, as soon as possible and where appropriate, the recommendations contained in that final report.

3. To instruct the Permanent Council, through its Working Group to Study the Fellowship and Training Programs, to prepare and adopt by November 1997 a manual of flexible and transparent general procedures, on the basis of the recommendations contained in the final report.

4. To instruct the General Secretariat to prepare a work plan for implementing the recommendations contained in the final report to be submitted to the Permanent Council in September 1997, with a view to implementing it in the course of the 1998 selection process, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

5. To instruct the General Secretariat to see to it that, in the interest of better communication and optimum transparency, all communications concerning fellowships are transmitted through the official channels established by each member state.

6. To instruct the General Secretariat to set up a capital fund as one of the mechanisms for financing the Fellowship and Training Programs of the Organization and in so doing to use a portion of the resources approved for the said programs.

7. To request the Permanent Council to examine and approve, through its Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs, the proposals for financing the Capital Fund.

8. To invite the member states and permanent observers to make voluntary contributions to the Capital Fund, and to promote private-sector donations.

9. To request the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, through its Permanent Executive Committee, to look into the possibility of strengthening cooperation between post-secondary educational institutions across the Hemisphere.

10. To request the Permanent Council to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session a report on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1461 (XXVII-O/97)

EXTENSION OF THE SPECIAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR THE CARIBBEAN PROGRAM

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That, in resolution AG/RES. 1387 (XXVI-O/96), the General Assembly resolved to extend the undergraduate Special Fellowships for the Caribbean Program (SPECAP) to benefit other Caribbean Basin states, including Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and the Central American countries (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama), and Bolivia, Ecuador, and Paraguay; and

That funds for expanding the SPECAP Program are to come from external sources and other financing mechanisms,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the General Secretariat to submit to the Permanent Council, no later than November 1997, a detailed plan of action for executing the mandate set forth in operative paragraph 2 of resolution AG/RES. 1387 (XXVI-O/96).

2. To request the General Secretariat to present quarterly progress reports on the application of the mandate set forth in the preceding paragraph, which include details on the external resources obtained.

AG/RES. 1462 (XXVII-O/97)

CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on preparations for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Organization (AG/doc.3510/97);

RECALLING its resolution AG/RES. 1366 (XXVI-O/96), "Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Organization of American States";

UNDERLINING that the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the OAS is an excellent opportunity to reaffirm the purposes and principles of the Organization and to strengthen it as an institution, so as to address the new challenges posed by the coming century;

RECOGNIZING:

The efforts that have been made by the Permanent Council, through its Working Group to Prepare for the Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Organization of American States, and by the General Secretariat, through the Organizing Committee, to ensure adequate preparation for the commemoration of this very important anniversary; and

The initiative of the Government of Colombia to establish the National Committee for the Celebration of the 50th Anniversary; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the human, financial, and support-service resources that are needed for the successful holding of this event,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Permanent Council on preparations for the celebration of the 50th anniversary, which includes an indicative, flexible plan of activities.

2. To instruct the General Secretariat to endeavor to obtain as soon as possible pledges of external financial assistance and other types of support for holding the events marking the 50th anniversary and report on a regular basis to the Permanent Council on the fulfillment of these mandates.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat to tailor the final plan of activities to the resources

available within the program-budget, together with any external resources obtained for this purpose.

4. To reiterate its invitation to the member states to promote the holding of national activities marking the 50th anniversary of the Organization.

5. To also reiterate its invitation to the different entities of the inter-American system to assist and take an active part in the preparation and celebration of the 50th anniversary of the OAS.

6. To instruct the Permanent Council to take such steps as it may consider necessary and appropriate to ensure success of the activities marking the 50th anniversary of the OAS.

7. To reiterate its appreciation to the Government of Colombia for its offer to host the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the OAS.

8. To request the Permanent Council to report on activities concerning the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the OAS to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1463 (XXVII-O/97)

WHITE HELMETS

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on the White Helmets Initiative (AG/doc.3519/97);

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that, in the Plan of Action adopted by the Summit of the Americas in 1994, the heads of state and government said that the White Helmets Initiative could facilitate the eradication of poverty and strengthen the humanitarian rapid response capability of the international community to emergency humanitarian, social, and developmental needs, and that the countries of the Americas could pioneer the initiative through the creation of national corps of volunteers that could respond to calls from other countries in the region; and

RECALLING that, in resolution AG/RES. 1403 (XXVI-O/96), the Permanent Council was requested to set up a Working Group on the White Helmets Initiative to receive comments from the governments on the Initiative and examine concrete measures for promoting it within the OAS; explore the possibility of defining measures for mutual cooperation in handling humanitarian emergencies in the Americas through the White Helmets, under the existing mechanism for coordination between the General Secretariat of the OAS and the Secretariat of the United Nations; prepare, in coordination with the Office of the Assistant Secretary General, a plan of support for conducting White Helmets humanitarian assistance activities in the Hemisphere; and continue encouraging full implementation of this initiative,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report presented by the Permanent Council on the White Helmets Initiative.
2. To approve the Plan for Implementation of the White Helmets Initiative within the Organization of American States, attached hereto, prepared by the Working Group on the White Helmets Initiative in collaboration with the Office of the Assistant Secretary General.
3. To instruct the Permanent Council to coordinate with the Office of the Assistant Secretary General, through the Working Group on the White Helmets Initiative, implementation of the Plan, which will not require the establishment of any new administrative offices that would have budgetary implications for the Organization.

4. To authorize the establishment of a special fund, to be known as the "Special White Helmets Fund," made up of voluntary contributions from governments of the region, the international community, multilateral agencies, private sources, and individuals expressing an interest in the Initiative.

5. To instruct the Permanent Council to prepare, through the Working Group on the White Helmets Initiative, and approve specific guidelines for use of the Special White Helmets Fund, which will be managed by the Office of the Assistant Secretary General.

6. To urge the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States to work with the Secretariat of the United Nations, within existing mechanisms, to coordinate procedures for evaluation and cooperation in the response to humanitarian emergencies through the White Helmets Initiative.

7. To request the General Secretariat to present a report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

APPENDIX

PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WHITE HELMETS INITIATIVE
WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

I. BACKGROUND

The White Helmets Initiative was proposed by the Argentine Republic to the international community in 1993. It was backed by the United Nations General Assembly, included in the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas held in 1994, and adopted by the Organization of American States in 1995.

Its essential purpose is to help to alleviate critical situations of hunger and poverty, wherever they occur in the Hemisphere, and to assist population groups in disaster situations, whether natural or caused by human action.

The Organization of American States adopted the White Helmets Initiative through resolutions AG/RES. 1351 (XXV-O/95) and AG/RES. 1403 (XXVI-O/96).

In resolution AG/RES. 1403 (XXVI-O/96), the General Assembly requested the Permanent Council to set up a Working Group on the White Helmets Initiative, which, among other tasks, was to receive comments from the governments on the White Helmets Initiative, examine concrete measures for promoting it within the OAS, and continue encouraging full implementation of this initiative in the region.

II. ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

The purposes of the White Helmets Initiative include tapping potential in the countries of the region for emergency humanitarian assistance and facilitating the subsequent transition to the rehabilitation phase. It often happens that emergency response resources are not administered efficiently when and where they are needed. Hence, critical situations often remain unresolved even when material and human resources for addressing them are available.

Coordinated action at the regional level by the various parties involved in this process can more effectively alleviate the effects of circumstances that make humanitarian assistance necessary. Hence, a renewed offensive must be launched to make the best use of the countries' solidarity and generate rapid solutions to emergencies that call for humanitarian aid.

The basic implied concept is that volunteer technical teams specializing in humanitarian relief be selected by the governments and made available to the countries in the region under OAS coordination.

White Helmets activities are to be conducted, at the request of the affected state or states, by

teams of professionals previously tested in similar operations or properly trained by their countries.

Funding for their operations is provided through voluntary contributions, earmarked or not, from governments in the region, the international community, multilateral agencies, private institutions, and individuals.

The White Helmets Initiative provides the governments with a complementary mechanism for channeling and coordinating efforts aimed at swift humanitarian solutions to emergency situations.

The White Helmets Initiative will preserve the apolitical, neutral, and impartial nature of humanitarian assistance, and will be consistent with the purposes and principles established in the OAS Charter.

III. PROPOSAL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WHITE HELMETS INITIATIVE IN THE OAS

Execution of the White Helmets Initiative in the OAS does not entail the establishment of new administrative functions with budgetary implications.

A. Implementation of the White Helmets Initiative will be directed by the Office of the Assistant Secretary General, which will have the following responsibilities, among others:

- Gather and record information on human and material resources available in the region which the White Helmets will provide;
- Circulate that information through OAS communications mechanisms;
- Together with the country or countries affected, identify specific targets for humanitarian assistance, with a view to the optimal use of resources;
- In the light of that information, coordinate, along with the countries involved and the United Nations Secretariat, and using existing mechanisms^{1/}, approaches to evaluation and cooperation under the White Helmets humanitarian relief program; and
- Promote the White Helmets Initiative by those means it finds suitable.

B. To facilitate the accomplishment of these tasks, a Special White Helmets Fund will be established, at no cost to the Organization. It will be administered by the Office of the Assistant Secretary General with the approval of the Permanent Council.

Contributions will be voluntary and will come from the governments of the region, the

1. Cooperation agreement between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the Secretariat of the United Nations, signed in New York on April 17, 1995.

international community, multilateral agencies, private institutions, and individuals expressing an interest in the Initiative.

In the case of any contribution earmarked for a specific purpose, an agreement between the donor and the OAS General Secretariat will be drawn up, and will specify the purpose of the contribution whenever the donor so requests. Use of those funds will be governed by that agreement.

When donations are not earmarked, the funds will be used, as available, to ensure that humanitarian assistance as offered by the White Helmets is provided. To that end, the Office of the Assistant Secretary General will hold consultations, when necessary, with the pertinent areas of the Organization.

C. The Office of the Assistant Secretary General will keep the Permanent Council abreast of all activities to be carried out under the Initiative.

AG/RES. 1464 (XXVII-O/97)

FOLLOW-UP OF THE MEETING OF SENIOR TELECOMMUNICATION OFFICIALS

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action for the Americas adopted at the Meeting of Senior Telecommunication Officials held in Washington, D.C., on September 25 and 26, 1996, which was coordinated by the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) pursuant to a mandate from the Summit of the Americas; and

CONSIDERING:

That, at the Summit of the Americas held in 1994, the heads of state and government adopted a Plan of Action, in which they undertook, through CITEL and, in coordination with the subregional telecommunications organizations, to develop and carry out a work program to:

- Evaluate regulatory, technical, and legal means to promote liberalization, common standards, interoperability of networks, and compatible use of the radio spectrum;
- Examine ways to promote greater consistency of the certification processes for telecommunications equipment among member countries;
- Develop regional guidelines for the provision of international value-added network services;
- Support a meeting by 1996, coordinated by CITEL, of senior telecommunication officials to conduct further discussions of the above actions; and

That in the Declaration of Montrouis: A New Vision of the OAS, the ministers of foreign affairs and heads of delegation declared:

Their commitment to promote investment in information, communication, and telecommunication infrastructure; and they request the Secretary General to promote access for our countries' institutions to information networks and to support and propose policies to strengthen the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) so that it may fulfill the mission entrusted to it in the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action for the Americas, adopted by the Meeting of Senior Telecommunication Officials.

2. To recommend that, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs of the Permanent Council identify the funds required to monitor the activities recommended by the ministers, in order to comply with their objectives and commitments.

3. To request the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission to continue including in its annual report to the General Assembly a review of the follow-up to the Summit of the Americas and of activities arising out of decisions adopted by the Meeting of Senior Telecommunication Officials.

AG/RES. 1465 (XXVII-O/97)

SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) is the agency of the Organization of American States responsible for telecommunications in the Americas;

That CITEL is performing a task of major importance in monitoring the follow-up to telecommunication initiatives launched at the Summit of the Americas and is conducting programs and projects of great significance for the development of countries in the Hemisphere, all of which will be examined and evaluated at the Second Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly; and

That, at the First Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly, held in Montevideo in February 1994, the Republic of Ecuador was chosen as the venue for its Second Regular Meeting and that in a note to the Secretary General dated October 28, 1996, the Government of Ecuador confirmed its readiness to host that meeting,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Secretary General to use his good offices with the governments of member states to ensure participation by senior state telecommunication officials in the Second Regular Meeting of the Assembly of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), to be held in Quito from March 2 to 6, 1998.

2. To request the General Secretariat to distribute copies of this resolution together with the convocation of the above-mentioned CITEL meeting to member states as a sign of the General Assembly's support and its interest in having the Second Regular Meeting of the CITEL Assembly attended by government representatives at the highest possible level, in order to guarantee its success.

AG/RES. 1466 (XXVII-O/97)

SUPPORT FOR BUILDING THE PROCESS OF DEMOCRATIZATION
AND ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACE IN GUATEMALA

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND the mandate for cooperation in and support for the consolidation of democracy and the peace process conferred on the General Secretariat through resolution MRE/RES. 2/93 of the Ad Hoc Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs on Guatemala and through General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 1378 (XXVI-O/96) of June 1996;

CONSIDERING:

The signing of the Agreement on Firm and Lasting Peace between the Government of Guatemala and the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unit in Guatemala City on December 29, 1996, which ended more than three decades of internal conflict;

The strong commitment of the parties to carry out the task of implementing the agreements and thereby to consolidate peace and democracy in Guatemala; and

The commitment of the international community to continue supporting the country in its efforts to fully implement the above-mentioned agreements; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the report of the Secretary General on the development of the Special Program of Support for Guatemala,

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate Guatemalan President Alvaro Arzú, his administration, and the people of Guatemala on reaching the historic agreement, which is laying the foundation for firm and lasting peace in Guatemala.

2. To reiterate its support for the Government and people of Guatemala in their efforts to consolidate democracy and achieve firm and lasting peace in the country.

3. To instruct the Secretary General to continue lending his full support to the objectives of democratic consolidation, peace, reconstruction, and reconciliation in Guatemala, through the Special Program of Support for Guatemala, which was established in 1996.

4. To request the General Secretariat to maintain and expand the components of the program mentioned in the previous paragraph, in accordance with the specific request of the Government of Guatemala and within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, with a particular focus on democratic institution-building, conflict resolution, education for democracy, electoral reform, the rapid conclusion of the mine-clearing operation, and the reintegration into society of people who were involved in or affected by the internal armed conflict.

5. To request the General Secretariat to develop and implement, in close cooperation with the Government of Guatemala, an integral support and advisory program for several of the communities most affected by the internal armed conflict.

6. To request the Secretary General to continue coordinating efforts with the Secretariat of the United Nations and other international organizations to support initiatives to build Guatemala in the wake of the internal armed conflict.

7. To request the Secretary General to inform the Permanent Council, prior to the twenty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly, on how the Special Program of Support for Guatemala is faring.

AG/RES. 1467 (XXVII-O/97)

CONCLUSION OF THE MANDATE OF CIAV/OAS

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN resolutions AG/RES. 675 (XIII-O/83), AG/RES. 702 (XIV-O/84), AG/RES. 770 (XV-O/85), AG/RES. 831 (XVI-O/86), AG/RES. 870 (XVII-O/87), AG/RES. 937 (XVIII-O/88), AG/RES. 993 (XIX-O/89), AG/RES. 1057 (XX-O/90), AG/RES. 1122 (XXI-O/91), AG/RES. 1191 (XXII-O/92), AG/RES. 1342 (XXV-O/95), AG/RES. 1375 (XXVI-O/96), and AG/RES. 1 (XXIII-E/96);

RECALLING the agreement signed by the presidents of the Central American countries, meeting in Tela, Honduras, on August 7, 1989, to establish a Commission for Support and Verification (CIAV) under the auspices of the Organization of American States (OAS);

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the report of the Secretary General concerning resolution AG/RES. 1 (XXIII-E/96) on CIAV/OAS activities;

CONSIDERING the request from the Government of Nicaragua to the Secretary General that the Organization continue its program of support to Nicaragua; and

RECOGNIZING the contribution made by CIAV/OAS to the reintegration of former combatants into civilian life, to the promotion of human rights, and to national reconciliation,

RESOLVES:

1. To thank the Secretary General for his report on CIAV/OAS activities in Nicaragua.
2. To recognize and thank CIAV/OAS, the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, particularly Dr. Oscar Santamaría, Dr. Sergio Caramagna, Dr. Elizabeth Spehar, and Mr. Santiago Murray, for their support to the people of Nicaragua in developing free and transparent electoral processes and in building their democratic institutions.
3. To recommend the definitive conclusion of the work of CIAV/OAS in Nicaragua; and to request the General Secretariat, in accordance with the request of the Government of Nicaragua, to support the creation of a new program for cooperation and technical assistance so as to continue to support and strengthen Nicaraguan institutions in the building of democracy and the promotion of human rights.
4. To request the member states and permanent observers to continue to support

Nicaragua as it recovers from the consequences of armed conflict and to collaborate in consolidating its democracy, in response to the request made by the Government of Nicaragua.

AG/RES. 1468 (XXVII-O/97)

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
AND THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the General Secretariat report on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1372 (XXVI-O/96), "Cooperation between the Organization of American States and the United Nations System" (AG/doc.3469/97),

RESOLVES:

1. To express to the Secretary General its satisfaction with the activities carried out by the General Secretariat to continue to strengthen the relationship of cooperation and coordination between the Organization of American States (OAS) and the United Nations (UN).
2. To express to the Assistant Secretary General its satisfaction with the competent manner in which coordination between the two organizations was handled through the continued use and enhancement of the mechanisms intended for that purpose.
3. To reiterate to the Secretary General that it is advisable to continue to carry out cooperation activities under the OAS-UN Cooperation Agreement, and to request him to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1469 (XXVII-O/97)

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE ORGANIZATION
OF AMERICAN STATES AND THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT
OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN INTEGRATION SYSTEM

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas held in December 1994 and, in particular, the commitment therein to "support the Central American Alliance for Sustainable Development, which seeks to strengthen those democracies by promoting regional economic and social prosperity and sound environmental management";

The Agreement on Cooperative Relations between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System, signed on March 26, 1994; and

Resolutions AG/RES. 1292 (XXIV-O/94), AG/RES. 1341 (XXV-O/95), and AG/RES. 1371 (XXVI-O/96) on cooperation between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the Secretary General's report on implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1371 (XXVI-O/96).

2. To request the General Secretariat to prepare, in consultation with the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System, a biennial program of cooperation designed to strengthen the process of Central American integration and cooperation, within the framework of the Agreement on Cooperative Relations and in close coordination with the programs of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, for approval and execution, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

3. To instruct the Secretary General to take appropriate measures to expand and make effective cooperation between the Organization of American States and the Central American Integration System, and between its specialized agencies and the Central American integration institutions.

4. To reiterate its request to the General Secretariat, in consultation with the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System, to support the efforts of countries of that region to meet the commitments set forth in the Central American Alliance for Sustainable Development, the Framework Treaty on Democratic Security in Central America, and in particular the work programs of the national councils for sustainable development.

5. To request the Secretary General to present a report on implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1470 (XXVII-O/97)

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
AND THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY

(Resolution adopted at the sixth plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the general report on implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1374 (XXVI-O/96), "Cooperation between the Organization of American States and the Caribbean Community" (AG/doc.3470/97),

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Secretary General on implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1374 (XXVI-O/96).
2. To request the Secretary General to intensify efforts to deepen and expand cooperation between the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), particularly among the various technical specialized areas of both organizations.
3. To urge the Secretary General to finalize the preparatory activities for holding the Second OAS-CARICOM General Meeting on Cooperation, which will take place in the second half of 1997.
4. To request the Secretary General to submit a report on implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1471 (XXVII-O/97)

INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The Charter of the Organization of American States, Article 3 of which declares that “international law is the standard of conduct of States in their reciprocal relations”;

The Declaration of Panama on the Inter-American Contribution to the Development and Codification of International Law [AG/DEC. 12 (XXVI-O/96)], in which the General Assembly declares “its renewed and most staunch commitment to continue promoting the progressive development and codification of inter-American international law in the framework of the Organization of American States as a suitable way to strengthen relations of peace and solidarity among the states of the Americas, with full respect for their sovereignty and the principle of nonintervention,” as well as “its interest in promoting the broadest possible awareness of the inter-American legal system,” and its decision “that the Permanent Council, through its Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs, promote procedures for more effective cooperation and coordination among the various bodies of the Organization on legal matters”;

The working document entitled “The Law in a New Inter-American Order,” presented by the Secretary General and considered both by the Permanent Council and by the Inter-American Juridical Committee; and

The document “Legal Cooperation: A Tool for Enhancing the Inter-American Legal System,” presented by the Secretary General to the Permanent Council at its meeting on April 30, 1997;

BEARING IN MIND the work in which the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States has been engaged in this area; and

CONSIDERING:

That the Permanent Council, at its meeting on July 11, 1996, transmitted to the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs for study the Declaration of Panama on the Inter-American Contribution to the Development and Codification of International Law;

That the multilateral treaties adopted within the framework of the Organization of American States constitute a valuable legal heritage that must be preserved and given wide dissemination;

That dissemination of this subject matter among the political bodies of the OAS facilitates the study, discussion, negotiation, and development of new legal instruments within the framework of the inter-American system;

That it is important to disseminate legal studies of the inter-American system; and

That cooperation to promote the development, dissemination, and teaching of international law in the inter-American context is an indispensable undertaking,

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law:

INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

The member states of the Organization of American States, within the framework of the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the Organization and bearing in mind the Declaration of Panama on the Inter-American Contribution to the Development and Codification of International Law [AG/DEC. 12 (XXVI-O/96)], have decided to adopt the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law, implementation of which requires the following actions:

Treaties in the Inter-American Context

- a. To encourage the development of an Inter-American System of Legal Information, which will be accessible via the Internet and provide ready access to the complete texts of inter-American treaties of which the OAS is the depository and data on the current status of signatures, ratifications and/or accessions, reservations, objections, declarations, and the date of their entry into force, and to background information and preparatory documentation thereon, as well as to similar information on cooperation agreements concluded by the OAS and on inter-American treaties of which the General Secretariat is not the depository.
- b. To instruct the General Secretariat to coordinate, through the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, the work under way in other areas of the General Secretariat, in other bodies of the Organization, and in the various agencies and entities of the inter-American system, with a view to strengthening the Inter-American System of Legal Information, in consultation with the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs of the Permanent Council.

Legal Development within the Organs of the OAS

- c. To systematize the resolutions and declarations of the different organs of the OAS and the action plans and other studies and documents approved within the framework of the

Organization with a view to facilitating the study, discussion, negotiation, and development of new agreements within the framework of the inter-American system.

- d. To request the General Secretariat to ensure close coordination among the various areas and offices and other bodies of the OAS so as to move forward with the activities described in the preceding paragraph.

Teaching of Inter-American International Law

- e. To strengthen the Course on International Law conducted each year in Rio de Janeiro by the Inter-American Juridical Committee and the Secretariat for Legal Affairs by including sessions on the latest developments in international law and the major political agreements relating to the new hemispheric agenda.
- f. To organize, in cooperation with institutions in the various member states, courses at the subregional and national levels on the various aspects of inter-American law, in particular, on the latest legal developments within the Organization, so as to provide the opportunity to diplomatic agents, teachers of international law, academics, judges, members of the armed forces, and other senior public and institutional officials to be aware of legal and political developments within the OAS and to discuss them.
- g. To provide its staunchest support to the activities described in the preceding paragraph, in particular by encouraging the participation of senior OAS officials and international jurists and specialists and by offering scholarships and/or apprenticeships in legal practice and research to outstanding participants.
- h. To hold meetings of professors of public and private international law from the member states to share ideas and proposals for action. At these meetings, consideration could be given to preparing a handbook or other teaching materials, organizing workshops or refresher courses, and developing future links with appropriate academic institutions with a view to achieving the systematic incorporation of inter-American law into the curricula of the various faculties of law.
- i. To hold periodic Workshops on International Law with the participation of high-level jurists and specialists in international law and of legal advisers from the foreign ministries of member states in order to further the study and development of legal issues in the inter-American system.
- j. To take into account the need to include topics and representatives from the various legal systems in the Hemisphere in all the activities mentioned above.

Publications

- k. To encourage the publication of such texts as the amended Charter of the OAS and inter-American treaties adopted during the past decade.

- l. To promote regular publication of the Inter-American Juridical Bulletin so as to cover the major activities of the OAS in the legal area, including, in particular, information on new treaties adopted within the inter-American system, and the corresponding signatures, ratifications and/or accessions, reservations, and declarations, *inter alia*.
- m. To resume the publication of the Inter-American Juridical Yearbook in order to reintroduce a forum for the dissemination of expert doctrine on various aspects and topics relating to current inter-American law and new developments in the framework of the new hemispheric agenda.
- n. To prepare a systematic and updated work on the institutional framework and legal aspects of the inter-American system to mark the 50th anniversary of the OAS.

Cooperation in the Development, Dissemination, and Teaching of International Law in the Hemisphere

- o. To promote agreements with various entities for the teaching and dissemination of inter-American law, including universities, institutes of international studies, and diplomatic academies, to encourage greater awareness of the legal heritage of the inter-American system and of the latest political developments within the framework of the Organization.
 - p. To promote cooperation with international organizations such as the United Nations, in particular the Sixth Committee of its General Assembly and the International Law Commission, as well as The Hague Academy of International Law, and The Hague Conference on Private International Law, as a means of further publicizing inter-American international law.
 - q. To promote the conclusion of cooperation agreements with various international financial agencies such as the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank, and with foundations and other public and private entities that are in a position to provide financial assistance for the dissemination, development, and teaching of international law.
2. To instruct the Permanent Council to monitor this Program of Action, which will be carried out within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, and to request it to submit a report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

APPENDIX

INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW:
PLAN OF ACTIVITIES FOR LEGAL COOPERATION AND INFORMATION IN 1997-98

Since the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law has been adopted, it is advisable to define and establish priorities for the projects and specific activities to be implemented by the General Secretariat, through the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, in the area of legal cooperation and information in the 1997-98 period. Accordingly, the following activities, regarding which follow-up action will be taken by the Permanent Council, through its Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs, will be implemented during that time frame, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

- i. Develop the Inter-American Legal Information System so as to incorporate, via the Internet, the texts of inter-American treaties and conventions, national laws related to issues on the inter-American legal agenda, and resolutions, declarations, and plans of action adopted by the Organization with regard to that agenda.
- ii. Prepare for and organize the Meeting of Ministers of Justice of the Americas in accordance with the agreements and guidelines adopted by the Permanent Council once a decision has been made to hold it.
- iii. Develop, as stipulated in the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development, a hemisphere-wide network of officials and experts in environmental law, so as to facilitate the exchange of information and experience and to establish a focal point for cooperative efforts to strengthen laws and standards in this area.
- iv. Establish a data bank on current environmental law in the member states as part of the Inter-American Legal Information System.
- v. Organize a seminar with Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., on the inter-American legal system and its evaluation and prospects.
- vi. Hold Workshops on International Law to further the study and development of legal issues in the inter-American system, with the participation of high-level jurists and specialists in international law.
- vii. Publish periodically the Inter-American Juridical Bulletin.
- viii. Resume the publication of the Inter-American Juridical Yearbook in order to reintroduce a forum for the dissemination of expert doctrine on various aspects and topics relating to current inter-American law and its development.
- ix. Prepare an updated edition of the book *The Inter-American System: Juridical and Political Matters*, published by the General Secretariat in 1981.

AG/RES. 1472 (XXVII-O/97)

SIXTH INTER-AMERICAN SPECIALIZED CONFERENCE
ON PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That, in resolution AG/RES. 1393 (XXVI-O/96), the General Assembly convened the Sixth Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law (CIDIP-VI), to be held on a date and at a place to be determined by the Permanent Council, and instructed the Council to approve the draft rules of procedure and agenda for CIDIP-VI for submission to the governments of the member states for their approval, taking into consideration the eight agenda items referred to in the aforementioned resolution;

That the Permanent Council referred the aforementioned resolution to its Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs;

That, to date, several delegations have submitted comments on the suggested agenda items to the Chair of that Committee; and

That the General Secretariat, through its Department of International Law, has prepared a study entitled "Selection of Agenda Items for the Sixth Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law (CIDIP-VI)" (SG/SLA/DIL/doc.2/96), for the purpose of assisting the Committee in its deliberations on the agenda,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Permanent Council to continue its study of agenda items for the Sixth Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law (CIDIP-VI).
2. To urge those member states that have not yet done so to provide their comments and observations on the draft agenda for CIDIP-VI.
3. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1473 (XXVII-O/97)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN JURIDICAL COMMITTEE

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Juridical Committee and the presentation by the Chair of the Committee, Dr. Eduardo Vio Grossi; and

CONSIDERING:

That Article 53.f of the Charter of the Organization of American States includes among the powers of the General Assembly that of considering the observations and recommendations presented by the Permanent Council with regard to the reports of the organs and entities of the Organization, in accordance with Article 90.f of the Charter;

That Article 52 of the Charter establishes the Inter-American Juridical Committee as one of the organs of the Organization; and

That the Inter-American Juridical Committee presented its annual report to the Permanent Council, which, in turn, has transmitted its observations and recommendations thereon to the General Assembly,

RESOLVES:

1. To receive and transmit to the Inter-American Juridical Committee the observations and recommendations made by the Permanent Council on the Committee's annual report.

2. To acknowledge the efforts made by the Inter-American Juridical Committee and, especially, to thank it for the support it provides to the General Assembly and to the Permanent Council and its Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs in the preparation of draft conventions and other studies that are requested of it.

3. To request the Inter-American Juridical Committee to continue studying the various legal questions related to integration and, in this regard, to recognize the importance of maintaining appropriate coordination between the Inter-American Juridical Committee, the Permanent Council, the Special Committee on Trade, and the General Secretariat through the Secretariat for Legal Affairs and the Trade Unit.

4. To take note of resolution CJI/RES. II-14/96, which approves the unanimous opinion of the Inter-American Juridical Committee given in fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 1364 (XXVI-O/96), "Free Trade and Investment in the Hemisphere," and to acknowledge the efforts of the Inter-American Juridical Committee in carrying out its work on a timely basis.

5. To request the Inter-American Juridical Committee to continue its study of various matters relating to enhancement of the administration of justice in the Americas and to cooperate as fully as possible with other bodies of the Organization that are doing work in this area, particularly the Permanent Council's Working Group on Enhancement of the Administration of Justice in the Americas.

6. To urge the Inter-American Juridical Committee to continue its study of democracy in the inter-American system in accordance with operative paragraph 1 of its resolution CJI/RES. I-2/96.

7. To note the holding of the Seminar on Democracy in the Inter-American System in February 1997 in Washington, D.C., and to urge the Inter-American Juridical Committee to encourage this type of activity and promote participation by various specialists who are nationals of OAS member states.

8. To recommend to the Inter-American Juridical Committee that it proceed with its studies on inter-American cooperation against terrorism, taking into account the decisions reached by the member states of the Organization at the Inter-American Specialized Conference on Terrorism, held in Lima, Peru, in April 1996, and the results of the Meeting of Government Experts on Cooperation to Prevent, Combat, and Eliminate Terrorism, held in May 1997 in Washington, D.C.

9. To note the importance of holding the February-March 1997 session of the Inter-American Juridical Committee at the headquarters of the Organization and, in this connection, to recommend that future sessions be held either at OAS headquarters or in other member states, in keeping with Article 104 of the OAS Charter, in order to increase awareness of the Committee's work. Any regular sessions that the Inter-American Juridical Committee decides to hold away from its headquarters must be financed out of its regular budget.

10. To reiterate that it is necessary to intensify the relationship between the Inter-American Juridical Committee and the political bodies of the Organization, especially the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs of the Permanent Council.

11. To note and recognize the validity of holding meetings of the Inter-American Juridical Committee with legal consultants and advisers from the foreign ministries of the member states and to support the Inter-American Juridical Committee in holding the third meeting of this kind on August 7 and 8, 1997, in Rio de Janeiro, the purpose of which is to further strengthen ties between the Committee and the legal consultants.

12. To underscore the importance of holding the Course on International Law, which is organized annually by the Inter-American Juridical Committee in cooperation with the General Secretariat; to express its support for focusing the course program on a central theme; to urge the General Secretariat to maintain equitable geographic participation among fellows from the member

states participating in the Course so as to ensure a balance between the civil-law and common-law systems; and to request support from the member states in increasing the number of fellows and in attracting more professors to the Course.

13. To encourage the Inter-American Juridical Committee to continue to cooperate with other national and international governmental and nongovernmental organizations in order to share information about legal development at the international level.

14. To take note of the agenda adopted by the Inter-American Juridical Committee for its next regular session.

AG/RES. 1474 (XXVII-O/97)

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (AG/doc.3477/97) and the presentation of that report to the Permanent Council by the President of the Court; and

CONSIDERING:

That Article 53.f of the Charter of the Organization of American States establishes as a function of the General Assembly consideration of the observations and recommendations presented by the Permanent Council with regard to the reports of the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization, in accordance with Article 90.f of the Charter;

That Article 65 of the American Convention on Human Rights establishes that the Court shall submit a report on its work during the preceding year to the General Assembly for consideration; and

That the Inter-American Court of Human Rights presented its annual report to the Permanent Council, which forwarded observations and recommendations thereon to the General Assembly,

RESOLVES:

1. To note with satisfaction the work being carried out by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

2. To support an appropriate level of financing for the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, so that it may continue fulfilling the important functions entrusted to it by the American Convention on Human Rights.

3. To thank the European Union once again for its contribution to the Court for execution of the third stage of the project "Support for the Inter-American Court of Human Rights."

4. To urge those member states of the OAS that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the American Convention on Human Rights, "Pact of San José, Costa Rica," and to consider accepting the compulsory jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

5. To receive and transmit to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the annual report.

6. To express its appreciation to Dr. Héctor Fix Zamudio, President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and congratulate him on his upcoming retirement after 12 years of uninterrupted service, during which he did brilliant and extraordinary work to serve the cause of human rights in the Hemisphere.

AG/RES. 1475 (XXVII-O/97)

PROMOTION OF REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND that the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) establishes in its preamble that "representative democracy is an indispensable condition for the stability, peace and development of the region," and establishes that one of its purposes is "to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention";

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution AG/RES. 1063 (XX-O/90), in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary General "to establish within the General Secretariat a Unit for the Promotion of Democracy," as well as resolutions CP/RES. 572 (882/91) and CP/RES. 583 (904/92), in which the Permanent Council adopted the Program of Support for the Promotion of Democracy and the Work Plan of the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD);

The report of the Permanent Council on the promotion of democracy, which includes the annual report on the activities of the UPD; and

The documents "Representative Democracy in the Americas: Proposed Framework for Action for the Inter-American System" (CP/doc.2899/97) and "Program on Center for Studies on Democracy (PCED)" (CP/doc.2900/97), prepared by the General Secretariat;

RECALLING:

That, in the Santiago Commitment to Democracy and the Renewal of the Inter-American System, the ministers of foreign affairs and heads of delegation of the member states declared their inescapable commitment to the defense and promotion of representative democracy and human rights in the region, within the framework of respect for the principle of nonintervention;

That, in the Declaration of Managua for the Promotion of Democracy and Development, the ministers of foreign affairs and heads of delegation of the member states also expressed their opinion that the support and cooperation provided by the OAS—to strengthen democratic institutions through programs that help the states requesting such assistance increase their own ability to improve their political organization models—are fundamental to this new hemispheric commitment; and, in that regard, they underscored the contribution made by the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy and the Permanent Council toward preparing proposed incentives for the preservation and strengthening of democratic systems in the Hemisphere; and

That, in the Declaration of Principles of the Summit of the Americas, the heads of state and government asserted that democracy is the sole political system which guarantees respect for human rights and the rule of law while it safeguards cultural diversity, pluralism, respect for the rights of minorities, and peace within and among nations; and that democracy and development reinforce one another; and

That the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas states, *inter alia*, that "the OAS needs to direct more effort to the promotion of democratic values and practices and to the social and economic strengthening of already-established democratic regimes"; and

CONSIDERING:

That, in resolution AG/RES. 1402 (XXVI-O/96), "Promotion of Democracy," the General Assembly instructed the Permanent Council to continue to study the preparation of a set of proposed incentives to preserve and strengthen democratic systems and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh regular session; and

That, pursuant to resolution CP/RES. 572 (882/91), the Unit "will be available to perform such tasks as the competent authorities may entrust to it in support of democracy in the Hemisphere,"

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Permanent Council on the promotion of democracy, which includes the annual report on the activities of the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD).

2. To request the Permanent Council to take into account, when it prepares the study on the organization of the work performed by the subsidiary organs of the councils, mandated by resolution AG/RES. 1446 (XXVII-O/97), the active and full work program and the fundamental purpose of the Working Group on Representative Democracy.

3. To instruct the Permanent Council, through the Working Group on Representative Democracy, to give continuing guidance, as necessary, to the General Secretariat regarding activities in the area of democracy—particularly to the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy in the pursuit of its objectives and the implementation of its work plans.

4. To request the Permanent Council, through the Working Group on Representative Democracy, to promote cooperation in related activities and, when appropriate, between the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy and the various organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS, in order to strengthen the promotion and defense of representative democracy in the region in keeping with the principle of nonintervention.

5. To instruct the Permanent Council, through the Working Group on Representative Democracy, to study the 1998 annual work plan of the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy and to approve it, with any necessary changes, by the end of 1997; and to monitor implementation of the criteria for selecting programs or projects to be supported by the Unit for the Promotion of

Democracy, as adopted in its work plan.

6. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue to provide the Permanent Council with quarterly progress reports on the activities of the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, including information on the level of budgetary execution, for review by the Working Group on Representative Democracy.

7. To request the Permanent Council, through the Working Group on Representative Democracy, to present to the General Assembly annual reports on the work carried out by the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy in support of the promotion and consolidation of democracy in the Hemisphere.

8. To entrust the General Secretariat, through the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, with conducting and promoting, *inter alia*, studies, seminars, and research to strengthen democracy in the region, with full respect for the principle of nonintervention.

9. To note the initiation of the study to establish within the General Secretariat a permanent voluntary fund to finance electoral observer missions requested by the member states; and to instruct the Permanent Council, through the Working Group on Representative Democracy, to continue the study and to establish, if appropriate, the rules and criteria for use of this voluntary fund.

10. To urge the Permanent Council to continue to develop, through the Working Group on Representative Democracy, an agenda to promote democratic practices and principles in the youth of the Hemisphere and to continue the analysis and design of programs aimed at providing contact and exchanges among youth leaders of the member states.

11. To instruct the Permanent Council, through the Working Group on Representative Democracy, to continue the study on incentives to preserve and strengthen democratic systems.

12. To instruct the Permanent Council to examine, through the Working Group on Representative Democracy, the document prepared by the General Secretariat entitled "Representative Democracy in the Americas: Proposed Framework for Action for the Inter-American System" (CP/doc.2899/97).

13. To note the document prepared by the General Secretariat entitled "Program on Center for Studies on Democracy (PCED)" (CP/doc.2900/97), stressing, in particular, the importance of the OAS contribution to developing, strengthening, and consolidating the institutions of representative democracy through increased support for research, the exchange of experiences, and training. It therefore instructs the Permanent Council to continue to study the proposal, taking particular account of the role played by the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy in this regard and the need to review the structure and operation of the proposed program in greater detail.

14. To instruct the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1476 (XXVII-O/97)

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF RESOURCES UNDER THE MECHANISM FOR
EXECUTING AND FINANCING SPECIAL ACTIVITIES ARISING FROM
APPLICATION OF RESOLUTION AG/RES. 1080 (XXI-O/91)

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING that, through resolution AG/RES. 1352 (XXV-O/95), the General Assembly adopted the Mechanism for Executing and Financing Special Activities Arising from Application of Resolution AG/RES. 1080 (XXI-O/91), item III.C. of which instructed the Secretary General to present to the Permanent Council for its consideration and approval, *ad referendum* to the General Assembly, draft regulations governing the use of resources under the aforementioned mechanism;

CONSIDERING that the Permanent Council, through the Working Group on Representative Democracy, examined and approved the draft regulations; and

RECOGNIZING:

That the purpose of the mechanism for executing and financing special activities arising from application of resolution AG/RES. 1080 (XXI-O/91) is to provide stable, predictable, and timely financing for such activities;

That the special activities of the Organization arising from the relevant decisions of the ad hoc meetings of ministers of foreign affairs and special sessions of the General Assembly need to be adequately executed and financed, and carried out in an orderly, efficient, and transparent manner, in particular with respect to the use of resources; and

The importance of participation by permanent observers in these special activities undertaken by the Organization,

RESOLVES:

To adopt the following Regulations Governing the Use of Resources under the Mechanism for Executing and Financing Special Activities Arising from Application of Resolution AG/RES. 1080 (XXI-O/91):

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF RESOURCES UNDER THE MECHANISM FOR
EXECUTING AND FINANCING SPECIAL ACTIVITIES ARISING FROM
APPLICATION OF RESOLUTION AG/RES. 1080 (XXI-O/91)

Article I. For the purposes of these regulations, "the authorization" shall refer to the budgetary authorization specified as "support for special activities of the Organization arising from the application of resolution AG/RES. 1080 (XXI-O/91)," as provided for in resolution AG/RES. 1352 (XXV-O/95). The authorization is in the amount up to US\$1,000,000, on a biennial basis, charged against unused appropriations or other available resources from previous biennia.

Article II. The sole purpose of the authorization is to finance those special activities of the Organization that stem from relevant decisions adopted at ad hoc meetings of ministers of foreign affairs and special sessions of the General Assembly, in fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 1080 (XXI-O/91), and that cannot be funded under Regular Fund programs.

Article III. To ensure the execution of urgent measures, the Secretary General is authorized to use up to US\$50,000 in a particular situation without prior consideration by the Permanent Council. If additional resources are necessary and the Permanent Council is not able to consider the request of the Secretary General within a reasonable period, the Secretary General is authorized to use another US\$25,000 upon informing the Chair of the Permanent Council. The Secretary General shall report to the Permanent Council on the use of these funds.

Article IV. The Secretary General, in consultation with the president of the ad hoc meeting of ministers of foreign affairs or of the General Assembly meeting in special session, shall present to the Permanent Council for its consideration the budgetary and financial plan for implementing the pertinent decisions of such meetings, within a maximum period of 15 days.

The Secretary General shall present a report to the Permanent Council within 30 days of the presentation of the plan and, if necessary, shall present subsequent reports, the frequency of which shall be determined by the Permanent Council. Such reports shall contain information on the execution of the plan, proposals for modifying it, and information on sources of funding including expenditures covered by the authorization, expenditures from the Regular Fund in support of the plan, in-kind contributions, voluntary contributions made to supplement funding for special activities, and the expenditure of voluntary contributions.

Article V. The Secretary General shall take the necessary steps, including entering into agreements, if necessary, with the member states, permanent observers, and other states and agencies to secure voluntary contributions to supplement funding for the special activities indicated in Article II. The Secretary General shall take delivery of the voluntary contributions and shall issue orders for their disbursement in accordance with the plan and any agreements as mentioned in this article.

AG/RES. 1477 (XXVII-O/97)

INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM FOR COOPERATION
IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution AG/RES. 1397 (XXVI-O/96), in which the General Assembly decided "to instruct the Permanent Council, through the Working Group on Probity and Public Ethics and taking into consideration the pertinent provisions of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, the respective national legal systems, the documents presented by the Chair of the Working Group and by the Secretary General, and any other contributions it deems relevant, to draw up a draft program for cooperation in the fight against corruption and submit it to the General Assembly at its next regular session"; and

The report of the Permanent Council on the draft resolution entitled "Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption" (AG/doc.3476/97);

CONSIDERING:

That the Charter of the Organization states in its preamble that "representative democracy is an indispensable condition for the stability, peace and development of the region" and that "juridical organization is a necessary condition for security and peace founded on moral order and on justice";

That the member states, in signing the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, stated, in the preamble, that they were "convinced that corruption undermines the legitimacy of public institutions and strikes at society, moral order and justice, as well as at the comprehensive development of peoples";

That the heads of state and government, meeting at the Summit of the Americas held in December 1994, stated that "the problem of corruption is now an issue of serious interest not only in this Hemisphere, but in all regions of the world" and added that "corruption in both the public and private sectors weakens democracy and undermines the legitimacy of governments and institutions. The modernization of the state, including deregulation, privatization and the simplification of government procedures, reduces the opportunities for corruption. All aspects of public administration in a democracy must be transparent and open to public scrutiny";

That, on March 29, 1996, the Specialized Conference on the Draft Inter-American Convention against Corruption adopted the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, a unique international legal instrument that represents an important step forward in action taken within the purview of the Organization of American States;

That the purposes of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption are to promote and strengthen the development by each of the states parties of the mechanisms needed to prevent, detect, punish, and eradicate corruption, and to promote, facilitate, and regulate cooperation among the states parties to ensure the effectiveness of measures and actions to prevent, detect, punish, and eradicate corruption in the performance of public functions and acts of corruption specifically related to such performance;

That the Organization of American States has also been carrying out other activities to help fight the scourge of corruption, in areas such as the drafting of model laws on illicit enrichment and transnational bribery and the compilation of laws of the member states;

That, in response to the mandate issued by the General Assembly, the Working Group on Probity and Public Ethics has been considering the measures which should be adopted by the Organization of American States to achieve more effective international cooperation in fighting corruption;

That the priority interest shown by member states in pursuing the objectives set forth in the Convention, the activities under way in other international organizations, and the efforts of institutions representing civil society have given an impetus to anticorruption requirements and opportunities to which the Organization should respond in an appropriate and timely manner; and

That the Organization of American States is an appropriate forum for exchanging information on the challenges faced by the countries of the region as they fight corruption and for implementing such cooperation mechanisms as the member states consider necessary in this important area,

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt—on the basis of the report of the Permanent Council on the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption (CP/doc.2897/97 corr. 1), which contains the report of the Working Group on Probity and Public Ethics that is attached as an integral part of this resolution—the following:

**INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM FOR COOPERATION
IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION**

The member states of the Organization of American States (OAS), within the framework of the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the Organization, bearing in mind the commitment made by the heads of state and government at the Summit of the Americas in 1994 to fight the scourge of corruption, and on the basis of the provisions of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, the international legal instrument that serves as the general framework for the

commitments assumed by member states, have decided to adopt the following Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption, the implementation of which will call for the following measures:

I. IN THE LEGAL AREA

1. Adopt a strategy, through the Permanent Council and its Working Group on Probity and Public Ethics, to secure prompt ratification of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.
2. Continue to compile national laws on matters related to fighting corruption and identifying corrupt acts.
3. Conduct comparative studies of legal provisions in the member states, identifying similarities, differences, and any loopholes.
4. Examine the legal definitions of illicit enrichment and transnational bribery on the basis of the work of the Inter-American Juridical Committee, including its proposals on model laws in this area.
5. Identify other avenues toward the drafting of model laws that include the most advanced anticorruption approaches. Such model laws could cover both general and specific aspects of this activity.
6. Begin to draft codes of conduct for public officials, as provided in Article III.1 of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, as member states so request. Account should be taken here of recent work at the United Nations.
7. Consider the problem of the laundering of assets or proceeds derived from corruption, providing for activities allowing the states to criminalize the laundering of assets derived from corruption, if they have not already done so, in fulfillment of the commitment assumed under Article VI.1.d of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.
8. Organize the information produced by these activities, promoting the use of electronic media, so as to make the Organization a source of legal information and, in general, a publicity and training tool for anticorruption efforts.

II. IN THE INSTITUTIONAL AREA

1. Identify public institutions in each member state that are engaged in anticorruption efforts, with special attention to the constitutional structure that sustains and organizes the group of institutions in each case, and the role of each, including the Judiciary, parliaments, comptroller's offices, public prosecutor's offices, institutions of the executive branch, police forces, and any specialized anticorruption bodies in those

countries that have established them.

2. Promote the sharing of experience with a view to providing services for improving existing anticorruption institutions and systems.
3. Establish, if possible and advisable, a support system for government institutions charged with fighting corruption, with the participation of the Organization of American States.
4. Determine what the public institutions charged with fighting corruption need in order to carry out their functions more effectively; and provide, at the request of the member states, advisory services relating to existing experience at the institutional level, as well as assistance in training staff at those institutions.
5. Provide advisory services to help member states develop educational programs in the area of ethics and other matters related to the conduct of public officials and members of the private sector.
6. Publicize OAS anticorruption activities, using electronic and all other available media.

III. IN THE INTERNATIONAL AREA

Implement, if appropriate, a system of consultations by which to share experience and information with the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the Inter-American Development Bank, among others, so as to enhance the understanding of each organization as it fights corruption, avoid duplication of efforts, and assess the prospects for joint projects.

IV. IN CIVIL SOCIETY

In order to create, maintain, and strengthen mechanisms for enlisting civil society and nongovernmental organizations in efforts to prevent corruption, under Article III.11 of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, the following activities are envisioned:

1. Conduct media publicity campaigns to secure the signature and ratification of, or accession to, as appropriate, the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.
2. Share experience on the role of the press in fighting corruption.
3. Formulate programs to complement the formal education efforts the states might undertake through the educational system to promote the ethical values that underlie the fight against corruption.

4. Identify professional organizations whose activities could be linked to anticorruption efforts, so as to enlist the support of bar associations and associations of accountants and auditors, among others.
 5. Establish means of enlisting, maintaining, and strengthening the participation of civil society and nongovernmental organizations in anticorruption efforts.
2. To instruct the Permanent Council to supervise the implementation of this Program.
 3. To instruct the General Secretariat to implement the measures provided for in this Program, through the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, and to report to the General Assembly at its next regular session on the measures taken and progress made.
 4. To express its special appreciation to the Chair of the Working Group on Probity and Public Ethics, Ambassador Edmundo Vargas Carreño, Permanent Representative of Chile, for an excellent job in making it possible to adopt the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption.

APPENDIX

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PROBITY AND PUBLIC ETHICS
IN RELATION TO THE PROGRAM FOR INTER-AMERICAN COOPERATION
IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

I. BACKGROUND

1. On January 22, 1996, the Chair of the Working Group on Probity and Public Ethics submitted to that Group for consideration the document entitled "Fundamentals of a Possible Program for Inter-American Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption" (CP/GT/PEC-39/96). In that document, he stated that "the Organization is currently focusing its efforts on drafting the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, and it should continue in this vein." He subsequently presented his views on the procedure that should be followed within the Organization once the Convention was adopted and the areas in which the OAS should work.

2. On March 29, 1996, the Inter-American Convention against Corruption was adopted in Caracas, Venezuela. The Convention is the keystone of cooperative inter-American efforts to prevent, detect, punish, and eradicate corruption. The purposes set out in that legal instrument provide the overall framework for activities to be undertaken by the member states in this area with the support of the General Secretariat.

3. At its meeting of May 9, 1996, the Working Group took up the document "A Plan of Action against Corruption" (CP/GT/PEC-60/96), prepared by the Office of the Secretary General. This document contains several points of interest regarding the actions that the Organization should take.

4. The General Assembly of the Organization adopted resolution AG/RES. 1397 (XXVI-O/96) at its twenty-sixth regular session. The third operative paragraph reads:

To instruct the Permanent Council, through the Working Group on Probity and Public Ethics and taking into consideration the pertinent provisions of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, the respective national legal systems, the documents presented by the Chair of the Working Group and by the Secretary General, and any other contributions it deems relevant, to draw up a draft program for cooperation in the fight against corruption and submit it to the General Assembly at its next regular session.

5. During its twenty-sixth regular session, the General Assembly of the Organization also adopted resolution AG/RES. 1398 (XXVI-O/96), which expressed satisfaction at the adoption of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, and decided:

3. To urge any member states that have not yet done so to sign the Inter-American Convention against Corruption as soon as possible.

4. To call upon the member states that signed the Inter-American Convention against Corruption to ratify it so that it may enter into force.

6. The General Assembly of the Organization also adopted resolution AG/RES. 1395 (XXVI-O/96), operative paragraph 4 of which decides:

To instruct the Inter-American Juridical Committee, as a follow-up to its contribution to the adoption of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, to develop model laws regarding illicit enrichment and transnational bribery, which member states may draw upon.

7. The Inter-American Juridical Committee, at its regular session in February-March 1997, approved a resolution entitled "Elements for Preparing Model Legislation relating to Illicit Enrichment and Transnational Bribery" (CJI/RES-I-1/97), and intends to give further consideration to the topic at its sessions in August 1997.

8. The Working Group on Probity and Public Ethics met on November 25, 1996, and considered the document presented by the Chair, entitled "Proposed Program for Inter-American Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption," which had been circulated to the missions for any observations they might see fit to make. The observations and commentaries submitted on that occasion were incorporated into a new version of this document, which was considered at a meeting of the Working Group on February 24, 1997. In light of the comments made at that time, the document was again considered by the Working Group at meetings held on April 8 and May 1 and 6, 1997. The version that is now submitted incorporates the observations presented at that last meeting.

9. The Inter-American Convention against Corruption entered into force on March 8, 1997, thirty days after deposit of the second instrument of ratification, pursuant to the provisions of Article XXV of that instrument.

II. RESOURCES

1. The Working Group considered it desirable that sufficient resources be allocated, within the regular OAS budget, for proper implementation of the program. This means that the annual program-budget will have to include resources for activities planned under this program.

2. Additionally, thought could be given to the possibility of coordinating efforts with other multilateral organizations, such as the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, or the Council of Europe, so as to channel resources for activities under a cooperation program such as this. Efforts to secure additional resources could also target public institutions in the member states or third countries, or private institutions, that have an interest in supporting such activities, as decided by the competent OAS bodies.

III. PROGRAM APPROACH

The Program for Inter-American Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption is designed with a view to the purposes stated in the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, which sets out the general legal framework for activities that the member states, with the support of the General Secretariat, decided to conduct to fight the scourge of corruption.

2. Activities under the proposed program are in line with Article II of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, which states the purposes of that international instrument as follows:

1. To promote and strengthen the development by each of the States Parties of the mechanisms needed to prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption; and
2. To promote, facilitate and regulate cooperation among the States Parties to ensure the effectiveness of measures and actions to prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption in the performance of public functions and acts of corruption specifically related to such performance.

3. Achieving the purposes set forth in the Convention and implementing this Program involves activities undertaken by both the Organization of American States and each individual member state. Within the Organization, the coordination of activities to implement the Program will be in the hands of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, under the supervision of the Permanent Council.

4. In order to put into effect the provisions of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, it is essential to design and apply a strategy for encouraging the signature and ratification of this legal instrument among the member states of the Organization or, if appropriate, accession by third countries. For that reason, one of the priorities under this program should be to prepare and implement such a strategy.

5. As regards national activities, the Organization of American States should stand ready to provide advisory assistance to the appropriate public agency, when so requested by an interested state, and to support exchanges of information and experience among such agencies by way of seminars and other activities, as available resources allow. Another type of international cooperation activity will also be executed, according to the requests submitted by the member states to the Organization. All these activities are closely linked and mutually supportive.

6. The advisory assistance and information exchange tasks carried out by the Organization will be approached in a special way as regards the national activities provided for in the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, in keeping with the provisions of that legal instrument.

IV. SUBJECT AREAS

A. Legal questions

1. The legal aspects of this program relate both to the internal law of the member states and to the international instruments establishing means of international cooperation to fight corruption, including cooperation among states on judicial matters.

2. The commitments assumed by the states under the Inter-American Convention against Corruption relate to preventive measures (Article III), to adoption of the necessary legislative or other measures to establish as criminal offenses under their domestic law the acts of corruption described in Article IV and to facilitate cooperation among the states parties (Article VII), to the provisions on transnational bribery (Article VIII) and illicit enrichment (Article IX), and to consideration of establishing as offenses under their laws the acts to which Article XI on progressive development refers.

3. Activities under this program will need to be directed at supporting actions taken by member states to implement their commitments. The corresponding legislative actions pertain to various branches of domestic law: criminal law and criminal procedure, administrative law, tax law, and civil law.

4. In order to support the states in fighting corruption, the Organization of American States proposes to carry out the following activities:

- a. The Permanent Council, through the Working Group on Probity and Public Ethics, should adopt a strategy to secure prompt ratification of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.
- b. Continue to compile national laws on matters related to fighting corruption and identifying corrupt acts. The General Secretariat, through the Department of International Law of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, has begun this work, which will be a continuing task, since laws are updated constantly.
- c. Conduct comparative studies of anticorruption laws, identifying similarities, differences, and any loopholes. This will advance the harmonization of existing anticorruption laws.
- d. Examine the legal definitions of illicit enrichment and transnational bribery on the basis of the work of the Inter-American Juridical Committee, including its proposals on model laws in this area.
- e. Identify other avenues toward the drafting of model laws that include the most advanced anticorruption approaches. Such model laws could cover both general and specific aspects of this activity.
- f. Begin work on draft codes of conduct, provided for under Article III.1 of the

Inter-American Convention against Corruption, as member states so request. This activity will need to take account of recent work in the United Nations.

- g. Study the problem of the laundering of assets or proceeds derived from corruption. The cooperation program under consideration should provide for activities allowing the states parties to criminalize the laundering of assets derived from corruption, if they have not already done so, in fulfillment of the commitment assumed under Article VI.d of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption. In this task, special attention should be paid to the activities carried out and the progress made by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission and the Working Group in this area, so as to prevent duplication of effort.
- h. Organize the information produced by these activities, promoting the use of electronic media, so as to make the Organization a source of legal information and, in general, a publicizing and training tool for anticorruption efforts. This work should also include a description of the institutions referred to in the following section, and make use of their experience with training materials and other tools.

B. Institutional matters

The institutional aspects of the program relate to identifying the institutions responsible for anticorruption efforts and providing support for them in those efforts. The following activities, directed towards both state and civil society institutions, are proposed:

- a. Identify public institutions in each state that are engaged in anticorruption efforts. Special attention should be paid to the constitutional structure that sustains and unifies the group of institutions in each case, and the role of each, including the judiciary, parliaments, comptrollers, inspectors, prosecutors, institutions of the executive branch, police forces, and specialized anticorruption bodies in those countries that have established them.
- b. Promote the sharing of experience with a view to providing services for improving existing anticorruption institutions and systems. Thought has been given to the possibility of establishing a support system for government institutions charged with fighting this scourge, with the participation of the Organization of American States.
- c. Determine what those institutions need to carry out their functions more effectively. The Organization, at the request of the member states, should provide advisory services relating to existing experience at the institutional level, as well as assistance in training staff at those institutions, within the limits of available resources.
- d. Provide advisory services to help member states develop educational programs in the area of ethics and other matters related to the conduct of public officials and agents of

the private sector.

- e. Publicize OAS anticorruption activities by producing reports and making use of electronic and other available media.

C. Coordination with international organizations

The Organization will implement, if appropriate, a consultative system for sharing experience and information with the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the Inter-American Development Bank, among others, so as to enhance the understanding of each organization as it fights corruption, avoid duplication of efforts, and assess the prospects for joint projects.

D. Relations with civil society institutions

The Inter-American Convention against Corruption commits the states parties to considering measures, within their own systems of institutions, to create, maintain, and strengthen mechanisms for enlisting civil society and nongovernmental organizations in efforts to prevent corruption, under Article III.11. In this area, the following activities are envisioned:

- a. Arrange for the sharing of experience on the role of the press in fighting corruption.
- b. Conduct media publicity campaigns to secure the signature and ratification of, or accession to, as appropriate, the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.
- c. Draft proposals for programs that could complement efforts undertaken by the states under the formal education system to publicize and promote the ethical values that underlie the fight against corruption.
- d. Identify professional organizations whose activities could be linked to anticorruption efforts, so as to enlist the support of bar associations and associations of accountants and auditors, among others.
- e. Establish means of enlisting, maintaining, and strengthening the participation of civil society and nongovernmental organizations in anticorruption efforts.

AG/RES. 1478 (XXVII-O/97)

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (CP/doc.2882/97) and the presentation thereof by the Chair of the Commission, as well as the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) (AG/doc.3492/97); and

CONSIDERING:

That the member states of the Organization of American States have proclaimed in the Charter, as one of their principles, respect for the fundamental rights of the individual, without distinction as to race, nationality, creed, or sex;

That the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, established at the Fifth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, held in Santiago in 1959, has as its principal function, pursuant to the Charter and the American Convention on Human Rights, that of promoting the observance and protection of human rights;

That numerous member states have expressed the view that, when the IACHR is preparing a report on the human rights situation in a specific state, that state should be given the opportunity within a reasonable time to review the report so that it may present its observations; and

That the member states have reaffirmed the inextricable link between human rights, democracy, and development,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of and express appreciation for the Annual Report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

2. To urge the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to continue to promote the observance and protection of the human rights established in the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man and the American Convention on Human Rights; to recognize the Commission's efforts to that end in the Hemisphere; and to urge the member states to continue to assist and support the Commission and to provide it with the resources it needs in order to fulfill its functions, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

3. To welcome the observations and recommendations presented by the Permanent Council and to transmit them to the Commission along with those contained in this resolution.

4. To express its satisfaction with the progress made in the effective observance of human rights in the region, in particular the measures being adopted by the member states to strengthen the promotion, observance, and defense of human rights in their respective countries; and to appeal to the member states to overcome the difficulties that still hinder the full exercise of human rights.

5. To recommend to member states that have not yet done so that they sign, ratify, or accede to, as appropriate, in accordance with their constitutional and statutory requirements, the American Convention on Human Rights (Pact of San José, Costa Rica); the Additional Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights in the Area of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, "Protocol of San Salvador"; and the other inter-American instruments for the promotion and protection of human rights.

6. To urge the member states to guarantee and exercise special vigilance with regard to the human rights of indigenous populations, minors at risk, refugees, persons with disabilities, migrant workers and their families, detainees and prisoners, undervalued or minority groups, and victims of racial discrimination; to urge the member states to establish conditions that foster harmony and tolerance among them and all sectors of society; and to call upon the IACHR to continue paying special attention to these matters.

7. To request the IACHR to continue to report on measures taken in response to the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council that were transmitted by the General Assembly.

8. To call the attention of the IACHR to the issue of the prior review by the concerned state of reports on the human rights situation in a specific state.

9. To call upon the IACHR to continue to place special importance on dialogue with the member states regarding the progress achieved and the difficulties encountered in terms of effective promotion and protection of human rights in the Hemisphere.

10. To condemn emphatically all forms of racism, racial or religious discrimination, xenophobia, and intolerance; and to urge the member states to adopt effective measures to promote tolerance and eliminate all racist and discriminatory conduct.

11. To request the IACHR to continue its work on the project to promote and protect the right of women in the Hemisphere to be free from discrimination against women, in conjunction with the member states and the competent bodies of the inter-American system.

12. To thank the Commission for beginning to evaluate the situation of migrant workers and their families in the Hemisphere, to call upon the Commission to complete its evaluation as soon as possible, and to invite the member states to continue to assist the Commission when it so requests.

13. To note with satisfaction the growing use of the friendly settlement mechanism, and to call upon the member states and the IACHR to continue to use this mechanism, within a framework of cooperation, in cases where it can produce a solution.

14. To reiterate the importance of retaining the impartial and independent character of the membership of the IACHR as a key factor in the promotion and protection of human rights in the Hemisphere.

AG/RES. 1479 (XXVII-O/97)

"PROPOSED AMERICAN DECLARATION ON
THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES"

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (AG/doc.3492/97); and

CONSIDERING:

That, through resolution AG/RES. 1022 (XIX-O/89), the General Assembly requested the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to prepare a declaration on the rights of indigenous populations; and

That, on April 10, 1997, the Permanent Council received the "Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples" (CP/doc.2878/97 corr. 1), prepared by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its appreciation for and take note of the "Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples," prepared by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.
2. To instruct the Permanent Council to study the "Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples."
3. To express the view that the text of the "Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples" should reflect the concerns of indigenous populations as well as the work of the United Nations in this area.
4. To urge the member states to present to the Permanent Council, by December 31, 1997, their observations and recommendations on the "Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples."
5. To request the Inter-American Juridical Committee and the Inter-American Indian Institute to transmit to the Permanent Council their comments on the "Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples," taking into account any observations and recommendations presented by the member states.

6. To instruct the Permanent Council to convene a meeting of government experts in this field, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, upon receipt of the observations and comments referred to in the preceding paragraphs, and once it has carried out other activities it deems pertinent, with a view to the possible adoption of the "Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples" by the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1480 (XXVII-O/97)

THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF ALL MIGRANT WORKERS
AND THEIR FAMILIES

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (document CP/doc.2882/97), Chapter VI of which contains a progress report on the situation of migrant workers and their families in the Hemisphere that states that a working group has been formed and a rapporteur appointed;

CONSIDERING:

That the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man proclaims that all persons are equal before the law and have the rights and duties enshrined in that declaration, without distinction as to race, sex, language, creed, or any other factor;

That the American Convention on Human Rights recognizes that the essential human rights are not derived from one's being a national of a particular state but are based upon attributes of the human person, for which reason they merit international protection;

That each state party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights must guarantee the rights recognized therein for all individuals present within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction;

That all states parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights should pledge to guarantee the exercise of the rights set forth therein, without discrimination of any kind, particularly with regard to national origin;

That the Declaration of Principles of the Summit of the Americas held in 1994 states that it is politically intolerable and morally unacceptable for some sectors of our populations to be bypassed and not to share fully in the benefits of development, and that everyone should have access to the fruits of democratic stability and economic growth, without discrimination based on race, sex, national origin, or religion; and

That the Plan of Action of that summit sets forth the commitment to review and strengthen the law governing protection of the rights of minority groups, so as to ensure that they are free from discrimination, guarantee them full and equal legal protection, and facilitate their active participation in society;

CONSIDERING ALSO the sovereign right of each state to formulate and apply its migration laws in the way that best meets its national interests, always in keeping with the principles and rules of international law and in a spirit of cooperation;

RECALLING that the Declaration of Montrouis: A New Vision of the OAS states that increasing interdependence and economic integration require that the question of migrant workers and their families be addressed on the basis of solidarity among member states and with full respect for the dignity and rights of such persons;

RECALLING ALSO that, in the Declaration of Montrouis: A New Vision of the OAS, concern is expressed over the situation of all migrant workers and their families, whose dignity and human and civil rights should be respected and protected by the member states;

BEARING IN MIND the statements made on the rights of migrant workers and their families within the framework of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) and, in particular, the references to this especially vulnerable population group in the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001 and the Inter-American Program to Combat Poverty and Discrimination;

BEARING IN MIND ALSO that many migrant workers and their families are compelled to leave their homes in search of better opportunities and to escape the poverty that the member states are committed to eradicating, as noted in the Inter-American Program to Combat Poverty and Discrimination;

CONCERNED over the increasingly frequent expressions of racism, xenophobia, and other forms of discrimination and inhuman and degrading treatment leveled at migrant workers and their families in various parts of the world;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the vulnerable situation in which many migrant workers and their families often find themselves, in part because they do not live in their states of origin; they have difficulties owing to differences of language, customs, and culture; and their circumstances often lead to the breakdown of the family; and

CONVINCED that it is necessary to intensify efforts to improve the situation of all migrant workers and their families and guarantee their rights and their dignity,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm that the principles and standards set forth in the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man and the American Convention on Human Rights apply to all persons, including migrant workers and their families.

2. To urge the states to promote and guarantee effective protection of the essential rights of all migrant workers and their families, in keeping with applicable international instruments and taking account of generally recognized humanitarian principles.

3. To thank the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) for its work in behalf of the rights of all migrant workers and their families, and to urge it to intensify its efforts with a view to presenting a thorough report on their situation.

4. To urge the Permanent Council to continue to support the work of the IACHR in this area and to take into account the efforts of other international organizations in behalf of migrant workers and their families, with a view to helping to improve their situation in the Hemisphere.

5. To urge the Inter-American Council for Integral Development to carry out projects and activities to benefit all migrant workers and their families, as an expression of inter-American solidarity and an essential element in the integral development of the member states.

6. To request the councils of the Organization to present to the General Assembly, at its twenty-eighth regular session, a report, with recommendations, on the implementation of this resolution in their particular areas of competence.

AG/RES. 1481 (XXVII-O/97)

ENHANCEMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATION
OF JUSTICE IN THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on enhancement of the administration of justice in the Americas (CP/doc.2919/97), presented pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1392 (XXVI-O/96);

CONSIDERING:

That said resolution indicates the desirability of developing activities aimed at achieving greater judicial cooperation in the region and at increasing awareness of the international rules of law emanating from the inter-American system; and

That, in that connection, the Permanent Council, with the collaboration of the General Secretariat, has already held subregional seminars and workshops, and that these activities should be pursued with the collaboration of member states and national and international institutions; and

BEARING IN MIND the provisions of the Declaration of Panama on the Inter-American Contribution to the Development and Codification of International Law [AG/DEC. 12 (XXVI-O/96)], in particular paragraphs 12 and 13,

RESOLVES:

1. To receive with satisfaction the report of the Permanent Council on enhancement of the administration of justice in the Americas.

2. To reiterate to the Permanent Council that it should continue, through its Working Group on Enhancement of the Administration of Justice in the Americas, in coordination with the Inter-American Juridical Committee and the General Secretariat, in collaboration with the national and international institutions involved in this subject and within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, to organize seminars or workshops aimed at achieving greater judicial cooperation in the region and at increasing awareness of international rules of law emanating from the inter-American system, and that it should consider and forward, through appropriate channels, any requests member states may put to the Organization with regard to assistance for the enhancement of the administration of justice in their countries.

3. To request the Permanent Council to report the implementation of this resolution to the

General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1482 (XXVII-O/97)

MEETING OF MINISTERS OF JUSTICE

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on enhancement of the administration of justice in the Americas (CP/doc.2919/97), presented pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1392 (XXVI-O/96); and

CONSIDERING:

That the Declaration of Panama on the Inter-American Contribution to the Development and Codification of International Law [AG/DEC. 12 (XXVI-O/96)] notes that "it is necessary for member states to reaffirm their full support for the progressive development and codification of international law, for dissemination of information thereon in the framework of the Organization of American States, and for measures allowing greater inter-American legal cooperation"; and

That, to this end, it is essential that, at the highest level, a determination be made of the areas and the ways in which legal and judicial cooperation in the Hemisphere may best be strengthened,

RESOLVES:

1. To underscore the importance of holding a meeting of ministers of justice, or of ministers or attorneys general with competence in this area, to consider issues contributing to enhanced legal and judicial cooperation in the Americas.

2. To instruct the Permanent Council to hold necessary consultations to prepare the agenda and to convene and organize the meeting, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

3. To request the Permanent Council to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1483 (XXVII-O/97)

PROCEDURES FOR PREPARING AND ADOPTING INTER-AMERICAN LEGAL
INSTRUMENTS WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Chair of the Permanent Council on procedures for preparing and adopting inter-American legal instruments within the Organization of American States, as provided for in resolutions AG/RES. 1329 (XXV-O/95) and AG/RES. 1391 (XXVI-O/96); and

CONSIDERING:

That, in resolution AG/RES. 1329 (XXV-O/95), the General Assembly instructed the General Secretariat to prepare draft guidelines covering the entire process of preparation of inter-American legal instruments for review and comment by the Inter-American Juridical Committee and for submission to the Permanent Council, which would present a report to the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth regular session;

That, in resolution AG/RES. 1391 (XXVI-O/96), the General Assembly renewed the mandate given in that resolution and requested the Inter-American Juridical Committee to present to the Permanent Council as soon as possible its comments on the study prepared by the General Secretariat, in order to enable the Permanent Council to present the report in question to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh regular session; and

That the General Secretariat has prepared the requested study, in respect of which the Inter-American Juridical Committee made its observations during its regular session held in February and March 1997,

RESOLVES:

To request the Permanent Council to continue its consideration of the topic, taking into account the studies prepared by the General Secretariat and the Inter-American Juridical Committee, so that it might present a report on draft guidelines for the entire process of preparation of inter-American legal instruments to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session, for possible adoption.

AG/RES. 1484 (XXVII-O/97)

PROCEDURE FOR CORRECTING ERRORS IN TREATIES OR CONVENTIONS FOR
WHICH THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES IS DEPOSITORY

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the need to establish a procedure for correcting errors in treaties or conventions for which the Organization of American States is depository;

CONSIDERING that resolution AG/RES. 545 (XI-O/81), "Procedure for Correcting Errors or Discrepancies in Treaties or Conventions for Which the OAS Is Depository," has presented certain difficulties and drawbacks in terms of its application and interpretation, which have come to light in recent cases in which the error correction process was applied;

BEARING IN MIND that, through resolution AG/RES. 1329 (XXV-O/95), the General Assembly said that the Organization should consider studying possible guidelines covering the entire process of preparing inter-American legal instruments, which would include a procedure for correcting errors; and

CONSIDERING that the Inter-American Juridical Committee, in resolution CJI/RES.I-3/97, recommended a review of resolution AG/RES. 545 (XI-O/81),

RESOLVES:

To adopt the following Procedure for Correcting Errors in Treaties or Conventions for Which the Organization of American States Is Depository, which shall replace in its entirety the procedure set forth in resolution AG/RES. 545 (XI-O/81):

PROCEDURE FOR CORRECTING ERRORS IN TREATIES OR CONVENTIONS FOR
WHICH THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES IS DEPOSITORY

Article 1

The purpose of this procedure is to correct errors in texts of treaties for which the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States is depository. The procedure applies to cases in which, after the text has been certified, the signatory states or states parties agree that the treaty contains an error.

Article 2

For the purpose of applying this procedure, an error shall be understood as:

- a. One of a typographical nature;
- b. A discrepancy between the certified texts of the treaty in the official languages of the Organization of American States due to errors in translation or omissions in one text with respect to another or others;
- c. A discrepancy between the text signed by the negotiating states and open for signature, ratification, or accession by the states and the text as adopted, as it appears in the minutes, for presentation to the delegations for signature.

Article 3

When an error has been noticed by a signatory state or state party, it shall be reported to the Secretary General for the purposes provided in this procedure. The Secretary General shall initiate the procedure *ex officio* when the error has been noticed by the General Secretariat in its capacity as depository. In both instances, the period during which the signatory states or states parties, or the Secretary General, may submit proposals for correction shall be the 90 days beginning on the date of adoption of the text of the treaty.

Article 4

In order to make the correction, the Secretary General, within the 15 days following expiry of the initial 90-day period, shall inform the signatory states and the states parties of the error and of the proposal for its correction. A period of 60 days, beginning on the date of notification, shall be established for the states to present their objections to the proposal for correction.

Article 5

If, upon expiry of the period stipulated in the preceding article, no objection has been raised, the Secretary General shall make the correction in the text, shall execute a *procès-verbal* of rectification of the text, and shall transmit a copy of the *procès-verbal* and a certified copy of the amended text to the signatory states of, or states parties to, the treaty.

If an objection or objections have been raised during the time period specified in the preceding paragraph, the Secretary General shall communicate the objection or objections to the other parties to the treaty and to the other signatory states, and shall invite them to present their observations or comments within 30 days. Within the 15 days following expiry of that period, the Secretary General shall convene a special meeting, at which, if applicable, any decisions taken on corrections to be made in the texts in question will be conveyed to the Secretary General. Once a written agreement has been signed by all the signatory states or states parties that have presented written proposals or objections, the Secretary General shall proceed as provided under the first paragraph of this article and shall append the agreement to the *procès-verbal* of rectification referred to in that paragraph.

Article 6

The corrected text shall replace the defective text *ab initio*.

Article 7

The correction of the text of a treaty that has been registered shall be reported to the Secretariat of the United Nations.

AG/RES. 1485 (XXVII-O/97)

MEETING OF GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES ON
ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on the meeting of government representatives on electoral campaign contributions (CP/doc.2894/97) and the document presented by the Permanent Mission of Venezuela on the subject (CP/CAJP-1172/97);

BEARING IN MIND that the Charter of the Organization of American States affirms in its preamble that "representative democracy is an indispensable condition for the stability, peace and development of the region" and establishes as one of the essential purposes of the Organization the promotion and consolidation of "representative democracy with due respect for the principle of nonintervention";

RECALLING that in the Declaration of Principles of the Summit of the Americas the heads of state and government stated that "democracy is based, among other fundamentals, on free and transparent elections and includes the right of all citizens to participate in government"; and

CONSIDERING that there is growing concern in the Hemisphere that the effective exercise of representative democracy, a fundamental principle established in the Charter of the Organization of American States, may be threatened by contributions that undermine the integrity of the electoral process,

RESOLVES:

1. To note with satisfaction the Permanent Council report, and to convene a meeting of government representatives on electoral campaign contributions.

2. To thank the Government of Venezuela for its generous offer to host the meeting of government representatives on electoral campaign contributions, and to accept that offer.

3. To instruct the Permanent Council to draw up an agenda and set the date for the meeting of government representatives on electoral campaign contributions; and to instruct the General Secretariat to lend the necessary support, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, for holding this meeting.

4. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1486 (XXVII-O/97)

AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly (AG/doc.3464/97);

BEARING IN MIND that the General Assembly, through resolution AG/RES. 1400 (XXVI-O/96), "Amendment of Article 22 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly," replaced the words "Second Committee (Economic and Social Matters, and Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Matters)" in the third paragraph of that article with the words "Second Committee (Matters relating to the Partnership for Integral Development)";

CONSIDERING that, through the same resolution, AG/RES. 1400 (XXVI-O/96), the General Assembly instructed the Permanent Council, "once it has adopted the Statutes of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, to conduct the necessary studies to establish whether, as a result of the adoption of the Statutes, new changes will have to be introduced into the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly"; and that those Statutes were adopted by resolution AG/RES. 1443 (XXVI-O/96); and

MINDFUL of the provisions of Article 92 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly,

RESOLVES:

1. To amend Article 6, 21, 33, and 42 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly to read as follows:

Article 6. The chairmen, presidents, or representatives of the following organs or agencies of the inter-American system may attend the General Assembly sessions with the right to speak:

Inter-American Juridical Committee;
Inter-American Commission on Human Rights;
Inter-American Court of Human Rights;
Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development;

Inter-American specialized organizations.

Article 21. The chairman of the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, or his representatives, may participate in the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee, with the right to speak.

The Committee may invite representatives of other entities of the inter-American system to participate in its deliberations when it considers matters directly related to the activities of those entities.

Article 33. The agenda for each regular session shall include the following matters, in addition to those mentioned in Article 32:

- a. Adoption of the agenda;
- b. The observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the reports of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, the Inter-American Juridical Committee, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the General Secretariat, the specialized organizations and conferences, and the other organs, agencies, and entities;
- c. Determination of the place and date of the next regular session;
- d. Election of officers of organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization.

The following matters shall be included on the agenda every two years:

- i. Approval of the biennial program-budget of the Organization; and
- ii. Determination of the quotas of the member states.

Article 42. Reports from the Meeting of Consultation, those requested by the General Assembly itself, and any observations and recommendations that the Permanent Council may present on the reports of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, the Inter-American Juridical Committee, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the General Secretariat, the specialized organizations and conferences, and the other organs, agencies, and entities must be transmitted to the governments of the member states no later than thirty days prior to the opening date of the regular session of the General Assembly.

2. To instruct the General Secretariat to publish the revised text of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly.

AG/RES. 1487 (XXVII-O/97)

DRAFT INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF
ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION BY REASON OF DISABILITY

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on the draft Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination by Reason of Disability (AG/doc.3480/97);

CONSIDERING:

That the Charter of the Organization of American States declares, in Article 3.i and 3.k, respectively, that "social justice and social security are bases of lasting peace," and that "the American States proclaim the fundamental rights of the individual without distinction as to race, nationality, creed or sex"; and

That the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal, in dignity and in rights, and that the rights and freedoms of every person must be respected without distinction of any kind;

RECALLING that the Additional Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights in the Area of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, "Protocol of San Salvador," recognizes that "everyone affected by a diminution of his physical or mental capacities is entitled to receive special attention designed to help him achieve the greatest possible development of his personality"; and

BEARING IN MIND:

That the General Assembly, in its resolution AG/RES. 1369 (XXVI-O/96), instructed the Permanent Council to prepare, through the appropriate Working Group, a draft Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination by Reason of Disability; and

That, in accordance with the aforementioned resolution, it also instructed the Inter-American Juridical Committee to prepare and submit its observations to the Permanent Council at the earliest possible date, once it had received the draft Convention referred to in the preceding paragraph,

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate the firm and decisive commitment of the Organization of American States to persons with disabilities in the Hemisphere.

2. To recognize the importance of the progress achieved to date in preparing the draft Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination by Reason of Disability.

3. To instruct the Inter-American Juridical Committee to formulate its observations on the draft Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination by Reason of Disability at its regular session to be held in August 1997, and to transmit these observations to the Permanent Council, pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1369 (XXVI-O/96).

4. To request the Inter-American Juridical Committee, in preparing the observations requested in the preceding paragraph, to take into account the comments submitted by the governments of member states, as well as those presented by the Pan American Health Organization and by the Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

5. To reiterate the mandate to the Permanent Council, according to which, once the observations have been received from the Inter-American Juridical Committee, it should convene, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, a special meeting of the Working Group, with the participation of legal or other experts designated by the member states, pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1369 (XXVI-O/96), to prepare a new draft Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination by Reason of Disability, which would be submitted to the General Assembly for consideration at its twenty-eighth regular session.

6. To urge member states that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying, or acceding to the Protocol of San Salvador, as appropriate, so that it may enter into force as soon as possible.

7. To reiterate the importance of adopting an Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination by Reason of Disability and of making every possible effort so that this legal instrument may be signed by the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1488 (XXVII-O/97)

EVALUATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE WORKINGS OF
THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM FOR THE PROMOTION
AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on evaluation and improvement of the workings of the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights (AG/doc.3481/97); the working document "Toward a New Vision of the Inter-American Human Rights System" (CP/doc.2828/96), presented to the Permanent Council by the Secretary General and now being considered by the governments; and the document "Seminar on the Inter-American System for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights: Conclusions of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Minutes of the Statements Made by Participants (OEA/Ser/L/V/II.95, doc.28);

BEARING IN MIND that the member states of the Organization of American States have proclaimed in the Charter, as one of their principles, respect for the fundamental rights of the individual, without distinction as to race, nationality, creed, or sex;

RECALLING:

That Article 105 of the Charter stipulates that the "principal function" of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights "shall be to promote the observance and protection of human rights and to serve as a consultative organ of the Organization in these matters"; and

That, under the American Convention on Human Rights, it is within the authority of the General Assembly to adopt the statutes of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights;

AWARE that the international promotion and protection of human rights enhances and complements the protection offered by the internal law of member states and has as its cornerstone the dignity of the human being; and

CONSIDERING:

That next year marks the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Charter and the adoption of the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, instruments that gave rise to the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights and have had a decisive influence on its subsequent development;

That, after 38 years of activity in the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and 18 years in the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and 28 years after the signing of the Pact of San José, Costa Rica, along with acknowledging the achievements of the inter-American human rights system and underscoring its effective contribution to the observance of human rights in the Hemisphere, it is appropriate to continue to examine the system in order to formulate proposals to contribute to its improvement and strengthening;

That, through resolution AG/RES. 1404 (XXVI-O/96), the General Assembly instructed the Permanent Council to evaluate the workings of the inter-American system for the protection and promotion of human rights with a view to initiating a process for its improvement, possibly by modifying the respective legal instruments and the working methods and procedures of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights;

That the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs held several meetings to consider the evaluation and improvement of the inter-American human rights system, at which various governments made comments;

That, in April 1997, for the first time, a special meeting of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs, convened by the Permanent Council [CP/RES. 687 (1089/96)] and attended by government experts, was held to consider evaluation and improvement of the inter-American human rights system, and at that meeting conclusions on the subject of the international promotion of human rights were formulated and firm progress was made in identifying mechanisms and criteria for improving the international protection of human rights in the Hemisphere; and

That it would be desirable to continue efforts toward improving the inter-American human rights system, including the possibility of evaluating the appropriate legal instruments and the working methods and procedures of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights,

RESOLVES:

1. To note with satisfaction the report of the Permanent Council on evaluation and improvement of the workings of the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights.

2. To welcome the conclusions of the special meeting of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs on the international promotion of human rights in the inter-American system, as set forth in resolution AG/RES. 1489 (XXVII-O/97).

3. To note with interest the results of the Seminar on the Inter-American System for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights, sponsored by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights from December 2 to 4, 1996, in Washington, D.C., as well as the working document "Toward a New Vision of the Inter-American Human Rights System," presented to the Permanent Council by the Secretary General.

4. To instruct the Permanent Council to continue, in fulfillment of resolution AG/RES.

1404 (XXVI-O/96), through its Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs and with a view to strengthening and improving the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights, its comprehensive consideration of the various aspects of that system, formulating recommendations, as appropriate and through the corresponding organs, concerning possible reforms of the applicable legal instruments.

5. To instruct the Permanent Council to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session the recommendations referred to in the preceding paragraph as well as those on any other matter that could contribute to the improvement and strengthening of the inter-American human rights system.

6. To instruct the Permanent Council to promote dialogue, through its Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs and in order to strengthen and improve the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights, with the due cooperation of the agencies and entities of the inter-American system and, when applicable, with the cooperation of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights and, where appropriate, other governmental and nongovernmental organizations and institutions.

7. To transmit this resolution to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

AG/RES. 1489 (XXVII-O/97)

INTERNATIONAL PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN
THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND that the member states of the Organization of American States have proclaimed in the Charter, as one of their principles, respect for the fundamental rights of the individual, without distinction as to race, nationality, creed, or sex;

RECALLING that Article 105 of the Charter stipulates that the "principal function" of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights "shall be to promote the observance and protection of human rights and to serve as a consultative organ of the Organization in these matters"; and

CONSIDERING:

That, in the current situation in the Hemisphere, which is characterized by representative democracy, the international promotion of human rights takes on fundamental importance and must be given strong impetus within the inter-American system; and

That the Permanent Council convened a special meeting of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs on evaluation and improvement of the inter-American human rights system, with government experts in attendance, at which important criteria for enhanced promotion of human rights in the Hemisphere were adopted,

RESOLVES:

1. To welcome the conclusions of the special meeting of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs on international promotion of human rights in the inter-American system, which appear below:

INTERNATIONAL PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
IN THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM

1. Given the present situation in the Hemisphere, which is characterized by representative democracy, the international promotion of human rights takes on fundamental importance and must be given strong impetus within the inter-American system.

2. International promotion should focus on raising an awareness of human rights while fostering and strengthening a culture of tolerance, peace, and development in the Hemisphere. To that end, there was a consensus to reiterate the appeal to sign, ratify, and/or accede to regional human rights instruments and to accept the adjudicatory jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

3. The promotion and protection of human rights are interdependent concepts that interact and reinforce one another. Promotion helps to raise awareness of the rights and duties of the people and serves to prevent human rights violations. The observance and defense of human rights are helpful in promoting them.

4. Within this framework, greater impetus and appropriate approaches for IACHR human rights promotion tasks should be sought, without reducing protection activities.

5. Emphasis was placed on the complementarity that exists between the international promotion of human rights and national promotion carried out by the member states, which have prime responsibility in the area of promotion.

6. The promotion of human rights should be viewed from a broad perspective, on the basis of the criteria of universality, indivisibility, and interdependence.

7. Among effective means for the international promotion of human rights are education, dissemination, fellowships, internships, and the exchange of experience among states.

8. Human rights education and dissemination should encompass primarily all internationally recognized rights, including civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights; corresponding duties; and the guarantees, remedies, and procedures for the defense of human rights envisaged in both domestic laws and international instruments; as well as reports of the IACHR and the jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

9. Promotional activities must be directed at the society as a whole through all levels of education, with special attention to the groups most at risk—including women, children, displaced persons, migrant workers, indigenous populations, and people with disabilities—and, in particular, specific sectors such as forces of law and order, judges, teachers, and political leaders.

10. Dissemination must take place, *inter alia*, through the mass media, publications, audiovisual technology, and the Internet.

11. Pursuant to the instruments governing it, the main function of the IACHR shall be to promote respect for and the defense of human rights at the regional level, with special attention given to the needs of member states in this area. The

IACHR will carry out this function in coordination with other competent OAS bodies and in cooperation with the agencies and entities of the inter-American system as well as the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights and other governmental and nongovernmental organizations and institutions.

12. To facilitate effective international promotion of human rights in the inter-American context, it would be advisable to receive support and financial resources from international organizations (such as the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, and the United Nations Development Programme) and from their national counterparts (e.g., foundations, cooperation agencies).

13. There was a consensus concerning the importance of an inter-American program for the international promotion of human rights, which would have to be submitted to the political organs of the Organization.

2. To request the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to prepare, without reducing its protection activities and in collaboration and/or consultation with other pertinent organs and entities, a draft inter-American program for the international promotion of human rights, to be submitted to the Permanent Council for consideration before the twenty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly—a task that should be carried out within the allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

3. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1490 (XXVII-O/97)

IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary
session, held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT resolution AG/RES. 1380 (XXVI-O/96), "Improvement of Public Safety and Security";

HAVING SEEN the report presented by the Secretary General (AG/doc.3471/97) on the subject of public safety and security and the work program and possibilities for technical cooperation in this area;

RECALLING the Declaration of Montrouis: A New Vision of the OAS, which states the intent to "foster an exchange of experiences in the prevention of and war on crime and to study possible measures to improve public safety"; and

CONSIDERING that knowledge and experience in this area can be exchanged within the framework of the OAS and with the broadest respect for the sovereignty and independence of the countries,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of and express appreciation for the report on the subject of public safety and security presented by the Secretary General.
2. To instruct the Permanent Council to study and analyze the report presented by the Secretary General, in fulfillment of the provisions of resolution AG/RES. 1380 (XXVI-O/96).
3. To urge the Secretary General to continue to lend his support to study of the topic.
4. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly once consideration of this topic has been concluded.

AG/RES. 1491 (XXVII-O/97)

CONSIDERATION OF THE SITUATION OF THE PERMANENT OBSERVERS
AND THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITIES
AND PROGRAMS OF THE ORGANIZATION

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the request presented by several member states to consider the situation of the permanent observers and their participation in the activities and programs of the Organization;

CONSIDERING:

That the General Assembly, by resolution AG/RES. 50 (I-O/71), established the status of permanent observer to the Organization of American States and entrusted the Permanent Council with the task of determining the criteria and timing for implementing that decision; and

That the Permanent Council has complied with the mandate from the General Assembly, by means of resolutions CP/RES. 52 (61/72) and CP/RES. 407 (573/84); and

BEARING IN MIND:

That 41 states have now acquired the status of permanent observer to the Organization;

That it is appropriate to consider the possibility of establishing criteria recognizing the various forms of participation by these states in the activities and programs of the Organization; and

That several permanent observers have expressed a desire for greater participation in the activities and programs of the Organization,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Permanent Council to study the situation of the permanent observers so as to assess the possibility of establishing criteria governing all aspects of participation by those states in the cooperation activities and programs of the Organization.
2. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the results of the studies conducted in this area.

AG/RES. 1492 (XXVII-O/97)

HEMISPHERIC COOPERATION TO PREVENT, COMBAT, AND
ELIMINATE TERRORISM

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on hemispheric cooperation to prevent, combat, and eliminate terrorism (AG/doc.3490/97 corr. 2);

RECALLING resolution AG/RES. 1399 (XXVI-O/96), which requested the Permanent Council to consider convening a meeting of government experts to examine ways to improve the exchange of information and other measures for cooperation among the member states to prevent, combat, and eliminate terrorism;

TAKING ACCOUNT of the Declaration and the Plan of Action on Hemispheric Cooperation to Prevent, Combat, and Eliminate Terrorism, adopted at the Inter-American Specialized Conference on Terrorism, held in Lima in 1996;

BEARING IN MIND:

That, through resolution CP/RES. 700 (1108/97), the Permanent Council convened that meeting of government experts and adopted its agenda; and

That the meeting of government experts was held in Washington, D.C., on May 5 and 6, 1997; and

CONSIDERING that among the measures recommended in the Plan of Action on Hemispheric Cooperation to Prevent, Combat, and Eliminate Terrorism is the follow-up, within the framework of the OAS, of progress made in implementing that Plan of Action, promotion of "the prompt signing and ratification of and/or accession to international conventions related to terrorism, in accordance with their domestic laws," and initiation of a study "within the framework of the OAS and on the basis of an evaluation of existing international instruments, [on] the need for and advisability of a new inter-American convention on terrorism,"

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate the importance of the Declaration and the Plan of Action on Hemispheric Cooperation to Prevent, Combat, and Eliminate Terrorism, adopted at the Inter-American Specialized

Conference on Terrorism, held in Lima in 1996.

2. To reiterate, further, that the observance of international law, full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for the sovereignty of states, the principle of nonintervention, and strict observance of the rights and duties of states embodied in the Charter of the Organization of American States constitute the global framework for preventing, combating, and eliminating terrorism.

3. To reiterate as well its strongest condemnation of all forms of terrorism, by whomever and however they are perpetuated, and to repudiate these acts, which have serious consequences and which, as pointed out in the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas, "constitute a systematic and deliberate violation of the rights of individuals."

4. To take note of the Report of the Permanent Council on Hemispheric Cooperation to Prevent, Combat, and Eliminate Terrorism and, in particular, to express its satisfaction with the results of the Meeting of Government Experts to Examine Ways to Improve the Exchange of Information and Other Measures for Cooperation among the Member States in order to Prevent, Combat, and Eliminate Terrorism.

5. To instruct the Permanent Council to study the recommendations and proposals made at the Meeting of Government Experts and, particularly, the proposal on the establishment of a "directory of competencies," aimed at improving cooperation among member states in order to prevent, combat, and eliminate terrorism.

6. To instruct the Permanent Council to continue considering appropriate means and mechanisms for follow-up of the measures recommended in the Plan of Action on Hemispheric Cooperation to Prevent, Combat, and Eliminate Terrorism and to submit a report on progress and results achieved to the General Assembly at its next regular session.

7. To urge member states that have not yet done so to sign, ratify, and/or accede to, in accordance with their domestic laws, the international conventions related to terrorism referred to in United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/51/210.

8. To instruct the Inter-American Juridical Committee to continue its study of the topic "Inter-American Cooperation to Confront Terrorism" in light of the documents adopted at the Inter-American Specialized Conference on Terrorism.

AG/RES. 1493 (XXVII-O/97)

LEGAL DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATION

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on the legal development of integration (AG/doc.3484/97); and

CONSIDERING:

That, as stated in resolution AG/RES. 1406 (XXVI-O/96), integration of the countries of the Hemisphere is one of the objectives of the inter-American system, and that the Charter of the Organization of American States provides that member states shall so direct their efforts and take the necessary measures to accelerate the integration process;

That the aforesaid resolution recommended to the Permanent Council that it convene a technical-legal meeting to address the various legal dimensions of regional economic integration to identify areas that could be addressed by concrete projects in this field in cooperation with regional and subregional integration mechanisms or with other institutions that share this inter-American objective;

That, pursuant to the aforementioned resolution, the Permanent Council convened a meeting of experts, held on March 11 and 12, 1997, in Montevideo, which considered the following topics: (i) legal relationship among the various integration agreements; (ii) application of integration law in national laws and relationship between the two; (iii) harmonization of national laws in integration processes; and (iv) possible OAS activities regarding the various integration processes; and

That, as a result of their discussions, "the experts concluded that the OAS could play a role in the legal development of subregional or hemispheric integration" and recommended that the OAS undertake, as appropriate, studies in particular areas and carry out other specific tasks such as those outlined in the Final Report of the Meeting of Experts of the OAS Working Group on Legal Development of Integration (OEA/Ser.K/XXXV.1, REDJI/doc.6/97),

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Permanent Council on the legal development of integration.
2. To recommend that the Permanent Council, with the support of the General Secretariat and the Inter-American Juridical Committee, draw up a work plan in this area on the basis of the

recommendations made at the Meeting of Experts of the Working Group on Legal Development of Integration. The Work Plan shall give priority, in its first stage, insofar as possible, to the following aspects:

- a. To continue to conduct comparative studies of a descriptive nature on regulatory instruments governing regional, subregional, and extraregional integration schemes or free trade areas, with a view to their dissemination.
 - b. To organize a program designed to examine the legal issues resulting from the relationship between integration processes and treaties on free trade and possibilities for harmonizing them, taking into account the experiences of other integration organizations and mechanisms, as well as the recommendations of the Meeting of Experts.
 - c. To arrange for regular follow-up of legal development of integration by both government authorities with competence in this area and other experts.
3. To note that the activities described in the work plan will be carried out within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.
 4. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1494 (XXVII-O/97)

CONFIDENCE- AND SECURITY-BUILDING MEASURES IN THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND that, under Article 2 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), one of the essential purposes of the Organization is to strengthen the peace and security of the Hemisphere;

RECALLING its resolutions AG/RES. 1121 (XXI-O/91) and AG/RES. 1123 (XXI-O/91) on strengthening peace and security in the Hemisphere, and AG/RES. 1179 (XXII-O/92), AG/RES. 1237 (XXIII-O/93), AG/RES. 1284 (XXIV-O/94), AG/RES. 1288 (XXIV-O/94), AG/RES. 1353 (XXV-O/95), and AG/RES. 1409 (XXVI-O/96) on confidence- and security-building measures;

EMPHASIZING once more the importance of the Declaration of Santiago on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures, adopted on November 10, 1995, which recommended that confidence- and security-building measures be applied in the manner deemed most suitable;

RECOGNIZING:

That one of the essential purposes set forth in the Charter is to achieve effective limitation of conventional weapons that will make it possible to devote the largest possible amount of resources to the economic and social development of the member states;

That economic and social development and cooperation among the member states are essential for strengthening peace and security in the region;

That the adoption of confidence- and security-building measures is a significant contribution to transparency, mutual understanding, and regional security, and to the attainment of development goals, including the eradication of poverty and protection of the environment;

That confidence- and security-building measures, applied in the manner that states deem most suitable, must be adapted to the geographic, political, social, cultural, and economic conditions of each country or region, and that they have their own scope, as experience in the Hemisphere has amply demonstrated;

That the application of confidence- and security-building measures helps establish a climate conducive to effective limitation of conventional weapons, which makes it possible to devote maximum resources to the economic and social development of the member states—one of the essential purposes set forth in the Charter; and

That pursuing and intensifying dialogue to strengthen peace, confidence, and security in the region is both necessary and timely;

RECEIVING WITH SATISFACTION the results of the consultations undertaken on the Declaration of Santiago on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures concerning the preparation of general guidelines for the development of a program of education for peace within the framework of the OAS; and

NOTING WITH GRATIFICATION the report of the Chair of the Committee on Hemispheric Security (AG/doc.3517/97),

RESOLVES:

1. To commend those member states that have begun to apply the recommendations of the Declaration of Santiago on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and of the General Assembly resolutions on the matter, and those that have presented the corresponding reports.

2. To urge once again those member states that have not yet done so to report to the Permanent Council, through its Committee on Hemispheric Security, on the application of confidence- and security-building measures.

3. To call on all member states to provide to the Permanent Council, through its Committee on Hemispheric Security, prior to April 15 of each year, information on the application of confidence- and security-building measures, so as to facilitate, in particular, the preparation of the complete and systematic inventory of these measures, in light of the provisions of the Declaration of Santiago and resolutions AG/RES. 1284 (XXIV-O/94) and AG/RES. 1288 (XXIV-O/94).

4. To stress the importance for all member states to participate fully in the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolutions 46/36 L and 47/52 L, and to provide the required information for the preparation of the United Nations Standardized International Reporting of Military Expenditures, as provided for in United Nations General Assembly resolution 46/25.

5. To reiterate its request to member states to provide the Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS), by May 15 of each year, with the information referred to in the preceding paragraph.

6. To renew the appeal to all member states to increase their mutual exchange of information on defense policies and doctrines so as to contribute to regional openness and transparency on matters of security.

7. To reaffirm the urgent need to intensify the common struggle and cooperative action against extreme poverty, so as to help to reduce economic and social inequality in the Hemisphere and thus help to promote and consolidate democracy in the region.

8. To call on member states to continue the process of consultation with a view to making progress in the limitation and control of conventional weapons; and to instruct the Permanent Council, through its Committee on Hemispheric Security, to consider the matter.

9. To request the Permanent Council to intensify with the support of the General Secretariat, its efforts and its consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and other institutions with a view to considering the advisability of holding a meeting of experts on the issue, so as to complete before the 50th anniversary of the OAS a program on education for peace in the Hemisphere, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

10. To encourage an exchange of experience in confidence- and security-building measures with other regions, including, when deemed appropriate, participation by the Committee on Hemispheric Security as an observer in meetings held by other international organizations working on the subject, such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

11. To request the General Secretariat to complete and keep up-to-date the roster of experts in confidence- and security-building measures, which was agreed to in resolution AG/RES. 1409 (XXVI-O/96), so that they may conduct outreach courses, consultations, seminars, and studies as determined by the Permanent Council, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

12. To invite the Inter-American Defense Board to provide, pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1240 (XXIII-O/93) and when the Permanent Council so requests, advisory and consultative services on confidence- and security-building measures of a military nature to the Committee on Hemispheric Security and to update the 1995 inventory.

13. To instruct the Permanent Council to continue consideration of this matter, through the Committee on Hemispheric Security, and to conduct periodic meetings for follow-up of resolution AG/RES. 1409 (XXVI-O/96), "Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the Americas."

14. To further instruct the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

15. To transmit this resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to other regional organizations, as appropriate.

AG/RES. 1495 (XXVII-O/97)

SECOND REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON CONFIDENCE- AND
SECURITY-BUILDING MEASURES

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on hemispheric security (AG/doc.3517/97);

RECALLING that the Declaration of Santiago on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures states that "the strengthening of bilateral and multilateral dialogue facilitates mutual understanding and increased collaboration in the face of the challenges of the next century. Confidence- and security-building measures in the Americas are especially significant for building ties of friendship and cooperation";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

That the strengthening of peace and security in the Hemisphere is one of the essential purposes of the Organization of American States, and that economic and social development and cooperation among the member states are vital to that goal;

That it is necessary and appropriate to pursue and intensify dialogue to strengthen peace, confidence, and security in the region;

TAKING NOTE of resolutions AG/RES. 1237 (XXIII-O/93), "Meeting of Experts on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the Region," AG/RES. 1284 (XXIV-O/94), "Information on Military Expenditures and Register of Conventional Arms," AG/RES. 1288 (XXIV-O/94), "Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the Region," and AG/RES. 1409 (XXVI-O/96), "Confidence- and Security-Building Measures"; and

CONSIDERING that the General Assembly, through resolution AG/RES. 1412 (XXVI-O/96), convened a regional conference to follow up on the Santiago Regional Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its appreciation to the Government of El Salvador and accept its offer to host the Second Regional Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures.
2. To instruct the Permanent Council to carry out, through its Committee on Hemispheric

Security, the preparatory work for the Conference, including preparation and approval of the agenda, with a view to holding it in February 1998.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat to lend support for holding the conference, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

4. To instruct the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1496 (XXVII-O/97)

THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE AS AN
ANTIPERSONNEL-LAND-MINE-FREE ZONE

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING NOTE of the report of the General Secretariat on the Mine-Clearing Program in Central America (AG/doc.3465/97);

NOTING WITH GRAVE CONCERN that, according to the same report, there are still thousands of antipersonnel land mines in Central America and that there is information regarding their existence in other areas of the Hemisphere;

CONCERNED that these antipersonnel land mines are constantly producing innocent victims in Latin America, destroying the economic assets of rural populations, and hindering the normal development of society as a whole;

MINDFUL that enormous human, financial, and technological resources are needed for mine-clearing in the affected areas in Latin America and that the resources available to dispatch this urgent task are limited;

RECALLING resolutions AG/RES. 1299 (XXIV-O/94), AG/RES. 1335 (XXV-O/95), AG/RES. 1343 (XXV-O/95), and AG/RES. 1411 (XXVI-O/96) on antipersonnel land mines;

ALSO RECALLING United Nations General Assembly resolution A/51/45 S, sponsored by 24 member states of the Organization of American States (OAS), which, *inter alia*, urges states to pursue vigorously an effective international agreement to ban the use, stockpiling, production, and transfer of antipersonnel land mines with a view to completing the negotiation as soon as possible;

MINDFUL of United Nations General Assembly resolutions 49/79 and 50/74, concerning the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, and Protocol II to this convention;

RECOGNIZING the support of the OAS General Secretariat and of individual states and other international institutions with regard to mine-clearing efforts in Central America;

WELCOMING the outcome of the Ottawa Conference "Towards a Global Ban on Anti-Personnel Land Mines," and taking note of the growing number of countries that have pledged support for initiatives aimed at the global elimination of the production, stockpiling, use, and transfer

of antipersonnel land mines, including the Ottawa Process and the efforts of the Disarmament Conference to reach a legally binding international agreement to ban antipersonnel land mines;

APPRECIATIVE of all the initiatives to increase awareness of the danger of antipersonnel land mines and to strengthen international efforts in order to attain a legally binding international agreement to ban antipersonnel land mines permanently;

ALSO WELCOMING the statement by Mexico declaring itself an antipersonnel-land-mine-free zone and the joint statement by the Central American and CARICOM foreign ministers proposing that their region should become an antipersonnel-land-mine-free zone by 1999;

COMMITTED to the goal that those member states affected by the scourge of antipersonnel land mines may be permanently free of them, after the mine-clearing operations have been completed, and that the nations of the Hemisphere may focus all human and financial efforts on national development, democracy, and hemispheric solidarity;

RECOGNIZING the contributions of member states to the integrated register of antipersonnel land mines, which provides information on, *inter alia*, antipersonnel land mine stockpiles, the number of antipersonnel land mines removed during the past year, and the plans for clearance of the remaining antipersonnel land mines; and

EXPRESSING its deep satisfaction with the increasing number of member states that have declared bans or moratoria on the production, use, and transfer of antipersonnel land mines or that have begun to destroy stockpiles,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm the goals of the global elimination of antipersonnel land mines and the conversion of the Western Hemisphere into an antipersonnel-land-mine-free zone.

2. To call upon member states that have not already done so to declare and implement moratoria on the production, use, and transfer of all antipersonnel land mines in the Western Hemisphere at the earliest possible date and to inform the Secretary General when they have done so.

3. To urge member states that have not yet done so to become parties to the 1980 United Nations Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and its protocols, especially Protocol II as amended, and to urge those member states which are already parties to this Convention to ratify Protocol II as amended at the earliest possible date and to request member states to inform the Secretary General when they have done so.

4. To request the Permanent Council to continue, through its Committee on Hemispheric Security, with the support of the General Secretariat and as a confidence- and security-building measure, to implement a complete and integrated register of antipersonnel land mines based on the information provided each year by member states on the following: the approximate number of antipersonnel land mines in their stockpiles, the number of antipersonnel land mines that have been

removed during the past year, plans for clearance of the remaining antipersonnel land mines, and any other pertinent information.

5. To urge member states, as they work toward the goals adopted in resolution AG/RES. 1411 (XXVI-O/96), to continue to implement measures aimed at suspending the spread of anti-personnel land mines, such as stockpile destruction; and to encourage member states to adopt domestic legislation, as necessary, to prohibit the private possession and transfer of antipersonnel land mines and to inform the Secretary General when they have done so.

6. To urge member states to pursue vigorously an effective, legally binding international agreement to ban the use, stockpiling, production, and transfer of antipersonnel land mines with a view to completing its negotiation as soon as possible.

7. To commend those member states that have started to implement the provisions of resolution AG/RES. 1411 (XXVI-O/96) and that have submitted the appropriate reports to the OAS.

8. To request the Secretary General to write to all non-OAS member states, informing them of the goals adopted in operative paragraph 1 of this resolution and calling upon them to support these undertakings.

9. To request the Secretary General to inform the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and other international organizations concerned of measures adopted by the OAS to eliminate all use, stockpiling, production, and transfer of antipersonnel land mines.

10. To instruct the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the topics addressed in this resolution.

AG/RES. 1497 (XXVII-O/97)

SPECIAL SECURITY CONCERNS OF SMALL ISLAND STATES

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on the Special Meeting of the Committee on Hemispheric Security on the Special Security Concerns of Small Island States (AG/doc.3517/97) held in Washington, D.C., on October 17 and 18, 1996, in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 1410 (XXVI-O/96);

TAKING NOTE of the Rapporteur's report on special security concerns of small island states (CP/CSH-58/97) and the addendum to document AG/doc.2838/92 entitled "Hemispheric Security: Security of Small States. Report of the Commonwealth Group";

AWARE of the Program of Action of the United Nations Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in Barbados in April 1994; and

CONSIDERING:

That the size of the small island states makes them especially vulnerable to all forms of aggression;

That, for the small island states of the Hemisphere, security is multidimensional in scope and includes military, political, economic, social, and natural components; and

That, for the small island states, threats to their security include illegal trafficking in narcotics, illegal trade in arms, increasing levels of crime and corruption, environmental and economic vulnerabilities particularly in relation to trade, susceptibility to natural disasters, transportation of nuclear waste, and increased levels of poverty;

RECALLING the Declaration of Santiago on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and, especially, its recommendation that seminars and studies be conducted and a high-level meeting on the special security concerns of small island states be held;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the member states, pursuant to Article 1 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, have pledged "to achieve an order of peace and justice, to promote their solidarity, to strengthen their collaboration, and to defend their sovereignty, their territorial integrity, and their independence"; and Article 2.a, of the Charter which establishes that one of the essential purposes of the Organization is "to strengthen the peace and security of the continent";

RECALLING that Article 3.b of the Charter establishes that "international order consists essentially of respect for the personality, sovereignty, and independence of States, and the faithful fulfillment of obligations derived from treaties and other sources of international law"; and

REAFFIRMING the General Assembly's decision, contained in resolution AG/RES. 1410 (XXVI-O/96), to continue consultations on holding a high-level meeting on the special security concerns of small island states, taking into account the results of the special meeting of the Committee on Hemispheric Security on this subject,

RESOLVES:

1. To note with satisfaction the success of the Special Meeting of the Committee on Hemispheric Security on the Special Security Concerns of Small Island States, held on October 17 and 18, 1996, in Washington, D.C., and to recognize with appreciation the contribution made by the government experts to the Meeting.

2. To transmit the report on the Special Meeting of the Committee on Hemispheric Security to interested institutions and organizations, such as the Caribbean Community, the Central American Integration System, the United Nations, the Association of Caribbean States, the Commonwealth of Nations, and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

3. To instruct the Permanent Council, through its Committee on Hemispheric Security, to continue consultations on convening a high-level meeting on the special security concerns of small island states, taking into account the results of the above-mentioned Special Meeting of the Committee on Hemispheric Security on this matter.

4. To instruct the General Secretariat to support the convening of this high-level meeting, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

5. To request the General Secretariat and the competent organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system to study ways in which they can address the special security concerns raised at the Special Meeting of the Committee on Hemispheric Security and to present the results of this study to the Permanent Council by October 1997.

6. To request the Permanent Council to continue, through its Committee on Hemispheric Security, its consideration of the topic and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1498 (XXVII-O/97)

SUPPORT FOR THE MINE-CLEARING PROGRAM IN CENTRAL AMERICA

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary
session, held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on hemispheric security (AG/doc.3517/97);

BEARING IN MIND that the presence of thousands of antipersonnel mines in the region constitutes a permanent and serious threat to the population; causes tragedy for individuals and families; stands in the way of socioeconomic development in vast, rich rural areas; and affects border integration in these areas;

CONSIDERING that the Central American countries affected by the presence of antipersonnel mines have given top priority to mine-clearing operations and have stressed the urgency for completing these operations before the year 2000;

STRESSING the great humanitarian value of mine-clearing programs;

RECOGNIZING the efforts being made by the governments of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua to continue mine-clearing operations;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION the important contributions by member states, such as Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela, and by permanent observers such as Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the European Union, to mine-clearing in Central America;

NOTING FURTHER the coordination and fund-raising work for the mine-clearing assistance program in Central America in which the Secretary General has been engaged, especially through the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, as well as the support of the Committee on Hemispheric Security and the advisory services provided by the Inter-American Defense Board; and

RECALLING resolution AG/RES. 1413 (XXVI-O/96), "Support for Mine-Clearing in Central America," which urges "the member states, the permanent observers, and the international community in general to assist the Central American countries affected by the presence of mines, especially by supporting preventive education programs for the civilian population and the physical and psychological rehabilitation of victims of mines,"

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt as an objective of the Organization of American States the completion of mine-clearing in Central America by the year 2000.

2. To reiterate to the member states and permanent observers, as well as to the international community as a whole, its appeal for them to continue to participate actively by cooperating in and supporting the mine-clearing assistance program in Central America.

3. To urge the Secretary General to continue, insofar as possible and within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, to provide the necessary support to the Central American countries for continuation of the Mine-Clearing Program and for its coordination, supervision, and administration, and also to enable the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy to direct its program toward conclusion of mine-clearing in Central America by the year 2000 and to report to the Permanent Council every quarter.

4. To recognize the participation and support of an increasing number of member states, permanent observers, and other states, as well as the General Secretariat, particularly through the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, in mine-clearing in Central America and further to recognize the technical assistance from the Inter-American Defense Board in this matter.

5. To renew its appeal to the member states, the permanent observers, and the international community in general to lend their assistance to the Central American countries affected by the presence of mines, especially by supporting preventive education programs for the civilian population and physical and psychological rehabilitation of victims.

6. To support the convocation of a pledging conference in Honduras in 1997, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, for the purpose of completing mine-clearing in Central America by the year 2000.

7. To reiterate its request to the Inter-American Council for Integral Development that it pay special attention to the integral development of Central American rural areas in which the mine-clearing program has been completed, as stated in the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001.

8. To request the Secretary General to transmit this resolution to the United Nations Secretary-General and to other international organizations as appropriate.

9. To request the Secretary General to present a report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1499 (XXVII-O/97)

CONSOLIDATION OF THE REGIME ESTABLISHED IN THE TREATY FOR
THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN

(Adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING resolution AG/RES. 1414 (XXVI-O/96) on the importance of achieving full consolidation of the regime established in the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), within the framework of cooperation for security in the Hemisphere and regional contributions to global security;

RECOGNIZING:

That the creation of nuclear-weapon-free zones is an important step toward disarmament, which significantly strengthens all aspects of the international nonproliferation regime;

That the Treaty of Tlatelolco is a momentous contribution to international law and to the ceaseless efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and guarantee international peace and security; and

That the Treaty of Tlatelolco has become the model for the establishment of other nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world, such as the South Pacific (Treaty of Rarotonga), Southeast Asia (Treaty of Bangkok), and Africa (Treaty of Pelindaba), which, when they enter into force, will cover more than half the countries of the world and all of the Southern Hemisphere;

POINTING TO the success of the pioneering effort made by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to achieve the first populated nuclear-weapon-free zone, an undertaking which involves all nuclear-weapon states and the countries in the Hemisphere and elsewhere that, *de jure* or *de facto*, bear international responsibility for territories located within the Treaty's zone of application;

BEARING IN MIND:

That the Eleventh Special General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) was held on February 14, 1997, to mark the 30th anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco); and

That, on January 29, 1997, the Permanent Council approved resolution CP/RES. 693

(1101/97), commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Treaty of Tlatelolco; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the Treaty of Tlatelolco is now in force for 32 sovereign states of the region,

RESOLVES:

1. To welcome the specific steps taken by a number of countries for consolidation of the regime of military denuclearization established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

2. To urge the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean to contribute to consolidating the regime of military denuclearization established by the Treaty and to its enhancement through the ratification, by all of the signatory states, of the amendments arising from resolutions of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL): 276 (E-V) of July 3, 1990; 268 (XII) of May 10, 1991; and 290 (VII) of August 26, 1992.

3. To renew its appeal to the governments that have not yet done so to negotiate, as soon as possible, bilateral or multilateral agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency for application of that Agency's safeguards to their nuclear activities, as stipulated in Article 13 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

4. To recognize the importance of strengthening OPANAL as the appropriate legal and political forum for ensuring unqualified observance of the Treaty in its zone of application and in cooperation with the agencies of other nuclear-weapon-free zones.

5. To reaffirm its commitment to continue striving for a universal, genuine, and nondiscriminatory nonproliferation regime in all its aspects.

6. To transmit this resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to other relevant international organizations.

AG/RES. 1500 (XXVII-O/97)

MUTUAL CONFIDENCE IN THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary
session, held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECOGNIZING:

That the strengthening of peace and security in the Hemisphere is an essential purpose of the Organization of American States (OAS) and that economic and social development and cooperation among its member states are fundamental to its achievement;

That, in accordance with the Charter of the OAS and the Charter of the United Nations (UN), the member states have the right to maintain armed forces for individual and collective self-defense; and

The importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security;

EMPHASIZING that the application of confidence- and security-building measures helps establish a climate conducive to effective limitation of conventional weapons, which makes it possible to devote maximum resources to the economic and social development of member states, one of the essential purposes of the OAS Charter;

REAFFIRMING the Declaration of Santiago on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures, adopted on November 10, 1995, which recommended the application, in the manner that is most suitable, of confidence- and security-building measures;

RECALLING its resolution AG/RES. 1179 (XXII-O/92), in which the member states agreed to accept as a guiding principle of regional disarmament, arms control and limitation policies, the requirement to enhance security and stability at the lowest possible levels of forces consistent with defense requirements and international commitments; express the commitment of the Organization to effectively contribute to the efforts being made at the international level toward the strengthening of peace and security; maintain only such military capabilities as are necessary for self-defense and fulfillment of international commitments, consistent with their constitutions, laws, and the principles and purposes of the OAS and UN charters; and exercise restraint in conventional arms transfers with a view to preventing excessive or destabilizing arms build-ups;

AWARE that the preservation of a balance in the defense capabilities of states at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control;

CONVINCED that endeavors by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of states and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts;

TAKING NOTE of resolutions AG/RES. 1409 (XXVI-O/96) and AG/RES. 1284 (XXIV-O/94), and United Nations General Assembly resolution 50/70 D of December 12, 1995, on transparency in armaments, and that an enhanced level of transparency could contribute to confidence- and security-building among states; and

BEARING IN MIND:

That the increase in openness and transparency in the arms field contributes to building mutual confidence, reducing tensions, and strengthening regional and international peace and security, and may contribute to decreasing the acquisition, production, and transfer of arms; and

That there is consensus among the member states on the implementation of confidence-building measures, which include, in particular, transparency and exchange of information on arms,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Permanent Council to consider through the Committee on Hemispheric Security, the desirability of approving a legal framework on the issue of advance notification of major arms acquisitions covered by the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, as a means to achieve an effective limitation of conventional weapons that will make it possible to devote the largest possible amount of resources to the economic and social development of the member states, in accordance with Article 2.g of the Charter.
2. To instruct the Permanent Council, should it decide that such a framework is desirable, to draft it with the goal of adopting it at the next Summit of the Americas, to be held in Santiago.
3. To appeal to the international community to support this effort.

AG/RES. 1501 (XXVII-O/97)

GLOBAL SOLIDARITY IN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND:

That, in Article 1 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, the American states stated that they established "the international organization that they have developed to achieve an order of peace and justice, to promote their solidarity, to strengthen their collaboration, and to defend their sovereignty, their territorial integrity, and their independence"; and in Article 2 they proclaimed that the essential purposes of the Organization were, among others, "to strengthen the peace and security of the continent"; "to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention"; and "to promote, by cooperative action, their economic, social, and cultural development";

That the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man recognizes that "the American peoples have acknowledged the dignity of the individual, and their national constitutions recognize that juridical and political institutions, which regulate life in human society, have as their principal aim the protection of the essential rights of man and the creation of circumstances that will permit him to achieve spiritual and material progress and attain happiness"; and

That, under Article 1 of the American Convention on Human Rights, "the States Parties to this Convention undertake to respect the rights and freedoms recognized herein and to ensure to all persons subject to their jurisdiction the free and full exercise of those rights and freedoms, without any discrimination for reasons of race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, economic status, birth, or any other social condition";

CONSIDERING:

That, in the Santiago Commitment to Democracy and the Renewal of the Inter-American System, the ministers of foreign affairs and heads of delegation at the twenty-first regular session of the General Assembly declared "their inescapable commitment to the defense and promotion of representative democracy and human rights in the region, within the framework of respect for the principles of self-determination and non-intervention";

That, in the Declaration of Nassau, the ministers of foreign affairs and heads of delegation at the twenty-second regular session of the General Assembly declared "their unwavering and renewed commitment to the strengthening, defense and promotion of representative democracy and human rights in the Hemisphere, the rule of law within the framework of the principles of self-determination,

nonintervention and solidarity enshrined in the OAS Charter" as well as "their decision to continue the process of consultation on cooperative hemispheric security with a renewed commitment to democratic solidarity";

That, in the Declaration of Managua for the Promotion of Democracy and Development, the ministers of foreign affairs and heads of delegation at the twenty-third regular session of the General Assembly declared "the need to consolidate, in the context of the cultural identity of each nation in the Hemisphere, democratic structures and systems which encourage freedom and social justice, safeguard human rights, and favor progress," as well as "their commitment to continuing and expanding dialogue on hemispheric security among the member states, in an integral and updated approach that takes account of the new international situation with a view to strengthening the peaceful tradition of the Hemisphere and actively contributing to international security and world peace";

That, in the Declaration of Belém do Pará, the ministers of foreign affairs and heads of delegation at the twenty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly declared "their firm commitment to strengthening the OAS as the main hemispheric forum of political consensus so that it may support the realization of the aspirations of member states in promoting and consolidating peace, democracy, social justice, and development";

That, in the Declaration of Montrouis: A New Vision of the OAS, the ministers of foreign affairs and heads of delegation at the twenty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly declared "their commitment to preserving peace and security and promoting democracy, human rights, social justice, and development, reaffirming their intent to strengthen the Organization of American States as the leading political forum in the Hemisphere so that it may offer member states the cooperation they require in order to meet those objectives"; and

That, in the Declaration of Principles of the Summit of the Americas, the elected heads of state and government of the Americas committed themselves "to advance the prosperity, democratic values and institutions, and security of our Hemisphere" and reiterated their "firm adherence to the principles of international law and the purposes and principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter and in the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), including the principles of the sovereign equality of states, nonintervention, self-determination, and the peaceful resolution of disputes,"

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the member states to maintain mutual cooperation with a view to promoting hemispheric peace and security, based, *inter alia*, on the following elements:

- a. Respect for sovereignty and nonintervention in the internal affairs of states;
- b. Respect for the principle of the juridical equality of states;
- c. Strengthening and development of democratic institutions;
- d. Promotion of integral and sustainable development based on justice and solidarity;

- e. Respect for human rights, with special regard for social, political, and economic rights; and
- f. Special attention to the needs of disadvantaged population groups and regions.

2. To reaffirm its conviction that the security and well-being of peoples require the adoption of social and economic measures that promote improvement of living conditions and the elimination of social and regional disparities.

3. To urge the member states, with a view to consolidating achievements in the fields of democracy, human rights, and fundamental freedoms as well as encouraging solidarity among the peoples of the Americas, to include subjects related to the elements listed in operative paragraph 1 of this resolution in the training and specialization programs for their armed forces, police, and security units, if they have not already done so.

4. To urge the member states to keep each other informed of the measures adopted to implement this resolution, and to report to the Permanent Council on such measures.

5. To request the Permanent Council to present to the General Assembly any comments or observations it considers pertinent to the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1502 (XXVII-O/97)

INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE IN HAITI

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING that, in the exercise of the powers conferred on it by resolution AG/RES. 1080 (XXI-O/91), the Permanent Council convened an Ad Hoc Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs on September 30, 1991, the very day on which the *coup d'état* had taken place in Haiti, to assess the seriousness of the events that had occurred and had caused the sudden and violent interruption of the democratic process in that country;

BEARING IN MIND resolutions MRE/RES. 1/91, MRE/RES. 2/91, MRE/RES. 3/92 corr. 1, MRE/RES. 4/92, MRE/RES. 5/93 corr. 1, MRE/RES. 6/94, and MRE/RES. 7/95, adopted by the ministers of foreign affairs of the member states with respect to the restoration of democracy in Haiti; resolutions CP/RES. 567 (870/91), CP/RES. 575 (885/92), CP/RES. 594 (923/92), CP/RES. 610 (968/93), CP/RES. 630 (987/94), and CP/RES. 633 (995/94); as well as declarations CP/DEC. 2 (896/92), CP/DEC. 8 (927/93), CP/DEC. 9 (931/93), CP/DEC. 10 (934/93), CP/DEC. 14 (960/93), CP/DEC. 15 (967/93), CP/DEC. 18 (986/94), and CP/DEC. 21 (1006/94), adopted by the Permanent Council;

TAKING NOTE of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations, in particular Security Council resolutions 841 (1993), 861 (1993), 862 (1993), 867 (1993), 873 (1993), 875 (1993), 905 (1994), 917 (1994), 933 (1994), 940 (1994), 944 (1994), 948 (1994), 964 (1994), 975 (1994), 1007 (1994), and 1048 (1994), and General Assembly resolutions 46/7 (1991), 46/138 (1991), 47/20 A (1992), 47/20 B (1993), 48/27 A (1993), 48/27 B (1994), 49/27 (1994), and 49/201 (1995), concerning the crisis in Haiti;

TAKING NOTE of resolution AG/RES. 1373 (XXVI-O/96), which reaffirmed the necessity to maintain an international presence in Haiti in order to safeguard the stable and democratic environment necessary for economic growth and development;

REAFFIRMING that one of the essential purposes of the Organization of American States (OAS) is to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention;

CONSIDERING:

That the international community, particularly through the OAS and the United Nations (UN), responded to the appeal of the Haitian Government by taking the necessary steps to reinstate the constitutional government of Haiti, in accordance with the sovereign will of the Haitian people, as

expressed overwhelmingly in the December 16, 1990, elections; and

That the rule of law was restored in that country with the return to constitutional order on October 15, 1994, the reinstatement of the officials legitimately elected by the Haitian people in December 1990, and the successful holding of free and democratic local, parliamentary, and presidential elections in 1995, leading to a peaceful and democratic transfer of power;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the efforts of President René Prével and the Government and people of Haiti to consolidate democracy and ensure strict observance of human rights and the socioeconomic development of Haiti should be firmly supported by the international community and, in particular, by the member states; and

OBSERVING that the Government of Haiti, with the support of the OAS and the UN, has launched programs aimed at consolidating democratic institutions in Haiti,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its deepest satisfaction with the consolidation of the rule of law in Haiti, thanks to the establishment of a stable government that respects democratic principles.
2. To congratulate the people and Government of Haiti on their efforts to bring about national reconciliation and embark on a process of strict observance of human rights.
3. To reaffirm the staunch resolve of member states to pursue their active cooperation in strengthening the rule of law and the democratic system in Haiti, promoting sustainable development, and ensuring strict observance of human rights in that country.
4. To recommend that the OAS/UN International Civilian Mission continue its activities in Haiti and first and foremost gear them toward programs aimed at supporting the judicial reform undertaken by the Government.
5. To commend the OAS/UN International Civilian Mission in Haiti for its contributions to the full observance of human rights and the rule of law in Haiti.
6. To support the international community in sustaining, during this period of transition, the same level of commitment it demonstrated in recent years or in providing a higher level of assistance, if possible, and to recommend that, at the request of the Haitian Government, the community maintain a strong presence in Haiti and extend, also at the Government's request, its full support for strengthening the national police and reinforcing the stable and democratic environment necessary for economic growth and development.
7. To encourage initiatives by all member states and permanent observers to strengthen their partnership with the Government and people of Haiti within the framework of efforts to advance democracy and sustainable development.
8. To urge international financial institutions to accelerate their disbursement of the

assistance which has been promised to Haiti so that its government may meet the many social and economic needs of the population, which will reinforce the rule of law and the policy of national reconciliation launched with the return to constitutional order.

9. To request the Secretary General to present written reports every six months on the implementation of this resolution to the Permanent Council and transmit them to the United Nations Secretary-General, relevant international financial institutions, and governments of the member states and permanent observers.

AG/RES. 1503 (XXVII-O/97)

RESPECT FOR INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING its resolutions AG/RES. 1270 (XXIV-O/94), AG/RES. 1335 (XXV-O/95), and AG/RES. 1408 (XXVI-O/96) on respect for international humanitarian law;

CONVINCED of the continuing value of the fundamental principles and established rules of international humanitarian law and of the need to respect and ensure respect for these rules in all circumstances;

STRESSING the need to consolidate the existing body of international humanitarian law by achieving universal acceptance thereof, the need for wide dissemination and full implementation of that law at the national level, and the need to repress all violations of its provisions;

CONSIDERING:

That the Organization of American States proclaims the fundamental rights of the individual and encourages the promotion of those rights; and

That all member states should raise awareness of international humanitarian law in their respective countries;

RECALLING the continuing efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to promote and disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law and the activities it carries out in its capacity as a specifically neutral and independent intermediary; and

RECALLING ALSO the cooperation agreement signed by the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the International Committee of the Red Cross on May 10, 1996, in the city of Washington, D.C., as well as the Seminar on International Humanitarian Law, held jointly by the General Secretariat and the ICRC in January 1997,

RESOLVES:

1. To appeal to all member states that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the 1977 Additional Protocols I and II to the Geneva Convention at the earliest possible date.

2. To call upon all member states that are parties to the 1977 Additional Protocol I and those who have not yet signed it but intend to do so to make the declaration provided for under Article

90 thereof.

3. To urge member states to consider the possibility of examining the adoption, as necessary, of national enabling laws and regulations, to apply and disseminate international humanitarian law, and to monitor its implementation, with particular emphasis on:

- The adoption of adequate criminal legislation to punish war crimes in international conflicts and other serious violations of international humanitarian law;
- The adoption of measures to prevent misuse of the red cross and red crescent emblems and other signs provided for in the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their 1977 Additional Protocols; and
- The dissemination of the appropriate humanitarian treaties among the armed forces, security forces, and the general public and the appointment and training of persons qualified in international humanitarian law including legal advisers within the armed forces.

4. To encourage member states to consider the possibility of examining the establishment of national advisory committees on international humanitarian law to ensure its effective implementation.

5. To invite member states to continue their cooperation with the ICRC in its various areas of responsibility and to facilitate its work.

6. To invite the member states to consider information submitted by the ICRC relating to the implementation of international humanitarian law.

AG/RES. 1504 (XXVII-O/97)

THE SITUATION OF REFUGEES, RETURNEES,
AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS
IN THE HEMISPHERE

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 4, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That, through its resolutions AG/RES. 774 (XV-O/85), AG/RES. 838 (XVI-O/86), AG/RES. 891 (XVII-O/87), AG/RES. 951 (XVIII-O/88), AG/RES. 1021 (XIX-O/89), AG/RES. 1039 (XX-O/90), AG/RES. 1040 (XX-O/90), AG/RES. 1103 (XXI-O/91), AG/RES. 1170 (XXII-O/92), AG/RES. 1214 (XXIII-O/93), AG/RES. 1273 (XXIV-O/94), AG/RES. 1336 (XXV-O/95), and AG/RES. 1416 (XXVI-O/96), the General Assembly expressed its concern for those who, as refugees, returnees, or internally displaced persons, require protection of their fundamental rights and humanitarian assistance in the Americas;

That, while the current political context in the region is characterized by the growing strengthening of democratic institutions, situations which generate internal and external displacement persist in some countries;

That the Central American Council of Human Rights Ombudsmen convened a Regional Forum on Human Rights, Refugees, and Migrants in Central America, in San José, Costa Rica, in October 1996, which adopted recommendations on measures to protect the rights of migrants and refugees; and

That, at the Second Regional Conference on Migration, held in Panama in March 1997, in which the governments of Central America, Panama, Belize, Canada, the United States, and Mexico participated and international organizations concerned with the issue were represented, the Regional Consultation Forum, characterized by a spirit of dialogue and cooperation, was set up as a permanent mechanism for management of the international migratory phenomenon,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the governments of countries in the region, when the situation requires, to exert all necessary efforts to resolve internal situations pursuant to applicable legal provisions, paying special attention to the needs of vulnerable populations.

2. To stress the importance of strengthening the rule of law for the consolidation of democratic institutions and absolute respect for human rights aimed at preventing forced displacements

and finding lasting solutions for affected populations.

3. To recognize and support the efforts that the governments of the countries concerned are undertaking to provide humanitarian assistance to the displaced populations that request it and urge them to continue to seek lasting solutions.

4. To encourage the governments of the countries in the region that might be affected by the arrival of persons due to the situation in their home countries to take appropriate measures to safeguard the life and security of these persons, in particular those related to the international protection of refugees, in keeping with applicable national and international norms.

5. To consider the need for harmonizing the laws, criteria, and procedures regarding refugees insofar as possible, in order to provide appropriate treatment to persons in that position.

6. To encourage governments that have not yet done so to consider acceding to the international instruments on the status of refugees.

7. To request the General Secretariat to consider strengthening the mechanisms for collaboration and coordination between the Organization of American States and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

8. To take note of the Second Regional Conference on Migration, held in Panama in March 1997, and to acknowledge the progress made, in particular the establishment of the Regional Consultation Forum.

AG/RES. 1505 (XXVII-O/97)

SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES OF
EXPERIENCE AMONG OMBUDSMEN

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the increasingly important role of the ombudsman in the Hemisphere, whose post is referred to in various legal systems in Latin America and the Caribbean as "defender of the people," "defender of the population," and "human rights attorney" or "human rights commissioner";

HIGHLIGHTING the role being played by ombudsmen or defenders of the people in strengthening democratic governance and in consolidating the promotion and dissemination of citizens' rights; and

CONSIDERING the favorable discussion about the role of the ombudsman at recent Ibero-American summits of heads of state and government, especially at the latest summit in Santiago, where explicit mention was made of the institution in the conclusions; as well as the Secretary General's reference to the ombudsman as an integral part of the new vision of the OAS and the statements by the most important organizations representing the institution of the ombudsman, such as the International Ombudsmen Institute at its October 1996 meeting in Buenos Aires, promoting the holding of international meetings and closer ties with international organizations, including the Organization of American States and other organs and agencies of the inter-American system,

RESOLVES:

1. To take into account the initiatives taken by ombudsmen, or defenders of the people, defenders of the population, human rights attorneys, and human rights commissioners, within the purview of the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsmen (IFO), to hold its Third Annual Congress Peru in 1998.

2. To support the efforts of defenders of the people in the Hemisphere, urging them to persevere in their important work.

3. To recommend to the international community in general, that it provide, as far as practicable, its valuable support in holding the Congress and in strengthening the institution of the ombudsman in the Hemisphere.

4. To urge the organs of the inter-American system to promote exchanges of experience among ombudsmen or defenders of the people, defenders of the population, human rights attorneys, and human rights commissioners in the Hemisphere, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

AG/RES. 1506 (XXVII-O/97)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL
FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) (AG/doc.3508/97); and

REAFFIRMING that partnership for development is one of the basic objectives of the Organization,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the observations and recommendations of the Permanent Council on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) and to express its satisfaction therewith.
2. To recognize CIDI's work on the programs, projects, and activities carried out during the period covered by its annual report.

AG/RES. 1507 (XXVII-O/97)

CONTINUING PARTICIPATION IN THE INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR
INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT BY MEMBER STATES THAT HAVE NOT
RATIFIED THE PROTOCOL OF MANAGUA

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN resolution AG/RES. 2 (XXII-E/96), "Participation of Member States That Have Not Ratified the Protocol of Managua in the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) When Said Protocol Enters into Force" and resolutions AG/RES. 1442 (XXVI-O/96) and CIDI/RES. 24 (II-O/97), on continuation of the aforementioned participation;

EMPHASIZING the amendments made to the Charter of the Organization to incorporate the elimination of extreme poverty as a basic objective of integral development (Protocol of Washington) and to establish an Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) to promote cooperation among the American states for the purpose of achieving their integral development and, in particular, helping to eliminate extreme poverty (Protocol of Managua); and

CONSIDERING that as of the date of this resolution there are still member states that have not ratified the Protocol of Managua,

RESOLVES:

1. To exhort member states which have signed and not ratified the Protocol of Washington, which incorporates the elimination of extreme poverty as a basic objective of development, and the Protocol of Managua, which establishes the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), to consider doing so as soon as possible.

2. To extend the period during which its resolution "Participation of Member States That Have Not Ratified the Protocol of Managua in the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) When Said Protocol Enters into Force" [AG/RES. 2 (XXII-E/96)] will remain in force until the next regular session of the General Assembly, which will review the situation if at that time there are still member states that have not ratified the Protocol of Managua.

AG/RES. 1508 (XXVII-O/97)

FOLLOW-UP TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND THE INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL
FOR EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND CULTURE

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution AG/RES. 1435 (XXVI-O/96), "Activities in the Areas of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council and the Inter-American Council for Education, Science, and Culture in 1995"; and

Resolution CIDI/RES. 21 (II-O/97) of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, "Follow-up to the Activities of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council and the Inter-American Council for Education, Science, and Culture"; and

CONSIDERING that the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI) must review the pending mandates of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council and the Inter-American Council for Education, Science, and Culture, as indicated in operative paragraph 1 of resolution CIDI/RES. 21 (II-O/97), and must then complete the corresponding follow-up measures in the conceptual and operative framework of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001,

RESOLVES:

1. To extend until the twenty-eighth regular session the deadline given to the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) to enable it, through CEPCIDI, to review the pending mandates of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council and the Inter-American Council for Education, Science, and Culture, as indicated in operative paragraph 1 of resolution CIDI/RES. 21 (II-O/97), and to complete the corresponding follow-up measures in the conceptual and operative framework of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001.

2. To instruct CIDI to present a report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1509 XXVII-O/97)

REPORT OF THE SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Report of the Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) (CP/doc.2913/97); and

REITERATING that partnership for development is one of the basic objectives of the Organization,

RESOLVES:

1. To note, with satisfaction, the Report of the Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), as well as the report of the Chair on the successful informal dialogue that took place during said meeting.

2. To entrust CIDI with intensifying its efforts to reinforce approved programs, projects, and activities.

3. To instruct the Secretary General to support, under the coordination of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development and with the participation of the other appropriate offices of the General Secretariat, the work of CIDI and its subsidiary bodies and to strengthen the coordination and modernization functions required by the new structure of the General Secretariat.

4. To request CIDI to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1510 (XXVII-O/97)

PROCEDURES FOR PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Articles 93, 94, and 97 of the Charter of the Organization of American States;

The Statutes of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) [AG/RES. 1443 (XXVI-O/96)];

Executive Order No. 96-1, "Creation of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development and Necessary Transition Measures," issued by the Secretary General on January 31, 1996;

The resolutions approved by CIDI at its Second Regular Meeting, held in Mexico City, particularly: CIDI/RES. 15 (II-O/97), "Special Multilateral Fund of CIDI"; CIDI/RES. 8 (II-O/97), "Rules of Procedure of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI); CIDI/RES. 10 (II-O/97), "Inter-American Program to Combat Poverty and Discrimination"; and CIDI/RES. 11 (II-O/97), "Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development and Follow-up to the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development";

The report of the Chair of the Second Regular Meeting of CIDI on the informal dialogue on "The Partnership for Development in the Hemisphere," which is included in the Annual Report of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development to the General Assembly (CP/doc.2913/97); and

The Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001, adopted by the General Assembly through resolution AG/RES. 1511 (XXVII-O/97); and

CONSIDERING that the member states, by establishing the Inter-American Council for Integral Development with the power conferred on it by Article 94.a of the Charter to "formulate and recommend to the General Assembly the strategic plan which sets forth policies, programs, and courses of action in matters of cooperation for integral development, within the framework of the general policy and priorities defined by the General Assembly," have defined partnership for development as an integrated and concerted system, within the ambit of CIDI,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the resolutions approved by the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) at its Second Regular Meeting.

2. To request CIDI, through its Permanent Executive Committee (CEPCIDI), to review the report of the Chair of the Second Regular Meeting of CIDI on the informal dialogue, to ensure that the ideas and concepts expressed therein guide the work of the various subsidiary bodies of CIDI and that information on progress in this area is included in the Council's report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

3. To reaffirm that the programs, projects, and activities in the area of partnership for development carried out by the Organization over the next four years should take place within the framework of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001.

4. To request the Secretary General to ensure full compliance with the procedures adopted to carry out cooperation activities, keeping in mind that the approval of the programs, projects, and activities in the area of partnership for development must follow the provisions established in the "Statutes of the Special Multilateral Fund of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development and Provisions regarding Other Partnership for Development Resources."

AG/RES. 1511 (XXVII-O/97)

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT 1997-2001

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN resolution CIDI/RES. 9 (II-O/97) of the Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, "Proposed Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001"; and

CONSIDERING that, in accordance with Article 94 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) must formulate and recommend to the General Assembly a strategic plan which sets forth policies, programs, and courses of action in matters of cooperation for integral development, within the framework of the general policy and priorities defined by the General Assembly,

RESOLVES:

To adopt the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001, recommended by the Inter-American Council for Integral Development at its Second Regular Meeting, as set forth in the appendix to this resolution.

APPENDIX

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT 1997-2001

The American states have agreed to step up their efforts within the framework of the Organization of American States (OAS) to promote development in the Hemisphere. To that end, they have agreed to reinforce their work in order to strengthen peace and security; to overcome poverty and discrimination; to promote and strengthen the exercise of democracy and respect for all human rights; to support the areas of education, science and technology, labor, health, and culture; to foster integration and free trade; and to preserve the environment in a context of sustainable development, all in recognition of the interdependence between the issues on the Hemisphere's agenda and the importance of an integral sustainable effort aimed at development.

Through its various organs, agencies, and entities, the OAS has the responsibility to promote a political dialogue renewed by the meetings of heads of state and government in the Hemisphere and other high-level meetings, and to strengthen inter-American cooperation in a framework of partnership for development, in support of member states' efforts on each issue on the Hemisphere's agenda and on global challenges in the coming century.

Partnership for development embraces all member states, regardless of their level of development. This entails overcoming the traditional aid-oriented approach and developing instead forms of cooperation based on a partnership which, without attempting to impose models, would support economic and social measures taken by countries in their development, particularly those to combat extreme poverty. This concept of cooperation also means that the OAS limited resources must be effectively targeted at the most pressing needs of the member states, especially the relatively less developed countries and those with the smaller economies.

As the OAS works on its agenda, it will consider the measures that regional and global agencies and financial institutions, as well as public and private entities, are undertaking in the Hemisphere. Where possible, the OAS will engage them in joint activities, in order to pool efforts and make the best possible use of resources, and promote an increasing harnessing of external resources.

Within that framework, it is up to the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) to steer the dialogue and the cooperation toward integral and sustainable development, with particular emphasis on the effort to overcome poverty within the general policy and priorities that the General Assembly establishes and taking into account the responsibilities and functions of the various organs of the OAS.

CIDI reinforces the OAS' role as the major forum for inter-American dialogue, as an agent facilitating exchange of experiences and information, joint action, and mutual support among the institutions of the member states; as a promoter of responsive and efficient mechanisms to strengthen horizontal cooperation; and as a catalyst for mobilizing human, technical, and financial resources.

The actions of CIDI and of other organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS are complementary

in addressing priority subjects of common interest, including issues such as the strengthening and development of international law at the hemispheric level; support to institutions dealing with public administration and the administration of justice; full participation by women and vulnerable groups in the development process and in political decisions; the struggle against drugs, terrorism, and corruption; public safety; and mine-clearing.

1. CIDI's Role

CIDI will serve as a forum for inter-American dialogue, foster the formulation of policies, and develop national and multilateral programs and projects, valuing direct participation by communities, including the public and private sectors, in solving the problems they face in their efforts to achieve sustainable development. It will also encourage the participation of the permanent observer states and promote mechanisms for coordination with cooperation agencies and international financial institutions.

CIDI will operate as a catalyst in promoting new types of cooperation among OAS member states institutions and between them and other institutions of the inter-American system, by giving preference to multilateral projects, supporting project implementation through appropriate national institutions. National projects should continue to be supported when they have a significant impact in terms of strengthening the development of the country in question, especially if they permit it to participate more actively in multinational projects or increase the chance that other international cooperation agencies, including the relevant financial institutions, will participate, or if the project also benefits other member states.

2. Objectives

CIDI's current Strategic Plan, which will last four years (1997-2001), articulates the policies, programs, and measures in the area of cooperation for development, in accordance with the following objectives:

- To strengthen hemispheric dialogue for development;
- To strengthen cooperation for development among institutions operating in the Hemisphere;
- To increase the exchange of knowledge, information, and experiences;
- To strengthen and diversify the financing for partnership for development; and
- To strengthen regional and subregional integration.

3. Components of the Cooperation Strategy

CIDI's strategy operates on three mutually-reinforcing levels: as a forum for inter-American

dialogue on development; as a catalyst for and promoter of programs, projects, and other cooperation activities; and as a mechanism to facilitate the exchange of information, experiences, and knowledge.

3.1 Forum for Inter-American Dialogue

The ministerial and high-level meetings held within the framework of CIDI will orient the activities to be implemented and will serve as the principal means for the governments to share their experiences and exchange information in their search for answers to the development problems of the countries of the Hemisphere and to find concrete opportunities for partnership for development in action.

As for the process of preparing for and following up on the inter-American summits and other high-level meetings, CIDI, like the other organs of the OAS, will develop mechanisms that make it a useful resource for preserving the institutional memory of that process and for lending its support to efforts to fulfill the commitments undertaken, especially for those issues that have been or will be referred to by the OAS.

The fora that will shape the design and execution of inter-American cooperation for development within the framework of the OAS are the following:

- The General Assembly;
- CIDI's regular and sectoral meetings, at the ministerial level or its equivalent; and
- High-level or expert ministerial meetings convened for specific topics.

CIDI will also promote the exchange of information among the sectoral inter-American fora in order to facilitate integral and sustainable action.

3.2 Programs, Projects, and Activities

In partnership for development, the institutions of the member states should collaborate in actions promoted and facilitated by CIDI, via programs, projects, and activities aimed at institution building; training of human resources, through a strategy which includes the current system of fellowships and the participation of universities and research institutes; exchange of information and experiences; horizontal cooperation; and development of pilot projects. CIDI will foster the sustainability of joint cooperation, strengthening the development of institutional conditions that will ensure that the impact of its results persists over time.

The nonpermanent specialized committees (CENPES), as technical bodies, will support CIDI by evaluating cooperation proposals and making recommendations within the framework of CIDI's priorities. The CENPES will bear in mind the need to maintain an adequate regional balance. They will also make appropriate technical policy recommendations.

3.3 Information Resources

CIDI will contribute to the exchange of knowledge and specialized information related to its priorities, such as relevant sources of project financing, identification of supply and demand for

horizontal cooperation, and official documents, by making innovative use of OAS resources, including the national offices, the Columbus Memorial Library, and electronic systems.

4. Priorities

Over the next four years, CIDI, via partnership for development, will strive for innovative impact focusing on integral and sustainable development which contributes in particular to the struggle to overcome poverty, through efforts in the following fields:

- Social development and creation of productive employment;
- Education;
- Economic diversification and integration, trade liberalization, and market access;
- Scientific development, and exchange and transfer of technology;
- Strengthening of democratic institutions;
- Sustainable development of tourism;
- Sustainable development and the environment; and
- Culture.

5. Guidelines for Action

CIDI's efforts to address its priorities are complementary with those of other organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system, such as the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), the Inter-American Indian Institute (IIN), the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN), the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF), and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

To make progress in achieving CIDI's priorities and, given the mandates of each of the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system, the following guidelines for action are identified:

5.1 Social Development and Creation of Productive Employment

CIDI will follow the four issues set forth in the Inter-American Program to Overcome Poverty and Social Discrimination, prepared at the First High-Level Meeting on Social Development, held in February 1997: development and modernization of public institutions and social management; strengthening mechanisms for participation by civil society in overcoming poverty and discrimination; promotion and financing of social investment; and strategies and programs to combat marginalization of and discrimination against indigenous populations and other groups at risk. In the areas of social development, CIDI will place special emphasis on promoting the role of women. Also, it will continue to support the Social Network of Latin America and the Caribbean, which includes social investment funds and similar institutions in the region.

The efforts to overcome poverty and discrimination, in the context of integrated social policies, should center on health, nutrition, employment, and education, with a special focus—as appropriate according to each country's laws—on children, youth, women, especially heads of household and teenage mothers, indigenous communities, migrant workers and their families, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and other priority social groups.

CIDI will assign priority to promoting policies that generate employment and income, allocating more resources to human resources training and retraining, with a view to enhancing productivity and supporting small business and micro enterprise as a matter of priority. Low-income workers and small producers, particularly those in the groups most at risk, should have preferential access to adequate financing, training, and technical cooperation.

CIDI will support preparation and follow-up of the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (CIMT) and the working groups established in its X Conference, which was held in 1995: Economic Integration and Its Impact on Employment and Labor Migrations; Social Dialogue and Collective Bargaining; Modernization of the Ministries of Labor and Information on Labor Markets; and the Labor Force of the Future: Productive Restructuring and Vocational Training; or others formed in the future.

Promoting development must also include special attention to marginal rural areas and those areas that have been cleared of mines, particularly in the Central American region.

5.2 Education

In education, the General Assembly decided that the priorities should be social development programs and projects concerned with the formulation of policies and initiatives that deal with children in an integrated way, which contribute to expanding basic education and help enhance its quality through improved management practices in educational systems and training for teachers and other educational personnel, and those that link education to the productive sectors.

It also recommended development and, when possible, the harmonization of mechanisms for the international recognition of certificates, diplomas, and degrees so as to facilitate economic integration and the mobility of the labor force within the Hemisphere.

Therefore, within CIDI's institutional framework, it is imperative that the dialogue of ministers of education be renewed, so that they can identify relevant areas and activities for OAS action.

5.3 Economic Diversification and Integration, Trade Liberalization, and Market Access

Pursuant to the pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly, which established the Special Committee on Trade (CEC), its Advisory Group, and the OAS General Secretariat Trade Unit, and incorporated the agreements emanating from the Miami Summit of the Americas and from the hemispheric meetings of the ministers of trade, CIDI will continue considering trade issues and related matters, giving special support to the efforts toward economic integration, trade liberalization, and

market access and to the process of creating the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA).

Accordingly, given the need to coordinate the various tasks carried out by the areas of the Organization with entities which are not part of the inter-American system and are involved in these topics, CIDI will support national and multilateral projects and activities that further promote the sharing of experiences and information, especially those that promote technical cooperation on issues related to the creation process of the FTAA. Also, within its area of competence, CIDI will foster actions related to this priority area, in subjects such as science, technology, ports, and customs.

The Trade Unit, in compliance with the agreed annual work programs, will continue providing technical support to and preparing studies requested by the working groups which were formed within the framework of the FTAA creation process. This should be carried out in a manner consistent with the work of the other members of the Tripartite Committee set up within the framework of the follow-up on the agreements adopted at the Miami Summit of the Americas.

5.4 Scientific Development, and Exchange and Transfer of Technology

The OAS member states have agreed to foster actions which will promote the development of their scientific and technological capacities, and particularly to strengthen research and assimilation of technological knowledge, as well as the linkage between science, technology, and development in compliance with the mandates established in the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted at the Meeting of Ministers responsible for Science and Technology, which took place in Cartagena, Colombia, in March 1996.

CIDI will give support to meetings on science and technology and work with the Permanent Committee responsible for the Common Market of Scientific and Technological Knowledge (MERCOCYT) program to coordinate the follow-up of recommendations of the Cartagena Plan of Action. Special emphasis will be given to the implementation of MERCOCYT, as well as to access by the member states to the telecommunications and information services and infrastructure. It will continue bolstering efforts to promote the use and exchange of environmentally sound technologies and will take into account the work done by the Hemispheric Inter-University Scientific and Technological Information Network (RedHUCyT) and the Inter-American System of Metrology and continue regional efforts to improve science and technology indicators, as well as subregional efforts, such as the ones carried out by the Commission for the Scientific and Technological Development of Central America and Panama (CTCAP).

5.5 Strengthening of Democratic Institutions

CIDI will support the efforts of the member states and of the competent organs of the OAS to strengthen democratic institutions in the Hemisphere, particularly by conducting educational programs that promote democratic values, respect for all human rights, and the fight against corruption; exchange of information and experiences, in order to improve national electoral systems and the administration of justice; and modernization of public institutions.

The General Secretariat, through the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD), in compliance with the agreed annual work programs, will continue to provide support to member states

that request it, within available resources and according to the criteria to be established by the General Assembly, in their efforts to strengthen democratic institutions, giving priority to institution building in the legislative and judicial branches of government. It will also help the states strengthen their electoral systems and conduct educational programs, encouraging analysis and research in the field of democratic development and other projects approved in its annual program of activities. At the interested member state's request, the UPD will continue to conduct electoral observation missions, in accordance with the specific provisions that the General Assembly approved to that end.

5.6 Sustainable Development of Tourism

The member states have stressed the importance of strengthening dialogue among the ministers of the Hemisphere on matters related to tourism, such as education and training, data systems, taxation, and other measures that provide support to the development of the tourism industry.

In this area, CIDI will support tourism cooperation activities, taking into account the need to preserve the national heritage, including cultural and environmental aspects. In this context, it will strengthen the Inter-American Travel Congress to ensure full participation by the private sector and other productive actors; to reinforce existing links with subregional, regional, and global tourism organizations; and to promote the exchange of knowledge and joint activities.

5.7 Sustainable Development and the Environment

The OAS, through CIDI and with the support of the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development (CIDS), will promote execution of the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development, which identifies the activities through which the OAS will contribute to implementation of the agreements reached at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, particularly those in Agenda 21, as well as the agreements reached at the Miami Summit of the Americas and at the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development, held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, in the areas of health and education; sustainable agriculture and forestry; sustainable cities and communities; water resources and coastal areas; and energy and mining. Similarly, the OAS, through the Program, will address aspects related to technology transfer, financing, and public participation in efforts to achieve sustainable development.

CIDS will give the highest priority to coordination and follow-up of the decisions of the Summit of Santa Cruz that were entrusted to the OAS, as well as to those of regional and subregional high-level meetings to be held within the framework of that summit. This will include reviewing progress on the Plan of Action and recommending the establishment of effective collaboration and coordination mechanisms between the OAS and the relevant instances of the inter-American and United Nations systems, as well as other fora in the Hemisphere which are involved in these matters.

5.8 Culture

In compliance with the mandates of the General Assembly, CIDI will strengthen and improve the Inter-American Cultural Program, in order to support the efforts of OAS member states, especially in topics such as preservation, enrichment, and promotion of cultural and linguistic identity in the Hemisphere, fostering of the arts, and conservation of historical and archaeological sites.

Member states should update and implement the Inter-American Cultural Program, in the framework of the agreements of the Miami Summit of the Americas and of meetings of ministers and authorities responsible for cultural policies in the Hemisphere, as well as of global meetings, particularly those sponsored by UNESCO.

All cultural activities of the OAS, including those carried out by the Art Museum of the Americas, the Columbus Memorial Library, through *Américas* Magazine, and through electronic means of dissemination, will be undertaken in the framework of the Inter-American Cultural Program.

6. Guidelines for the Formulation and Integration of Inter-American Cooperation Programs and Work Plans in Each of the Priority Areas

The inter-American programs and work plans developed in the framework of the Strategic Plan will further OAS member states' cooperation efforts and will be geared to:

- Facilitating inter-American dialogue and promoting cooperation, with the emphasis on multilateral activities that give the necessary priority to those areas in which the OAS has comparative advantages;
- Focusing efforts on a limited number of lines of actions aiming for a significant qualitative impact on areas critical to member states' development, and fostering participation of all sectors of society;
- Encouraging analysis and development of areas in which partnership for development can contribute significantly toward solving development-related problems;
- Promoting collaborative effort in areas that, by their nature and given the scale of the technical or economic resources needed, will require a pooling of talents and efforts;
- Promoting the exchange of knowledge about and experience with policy implementation, institution building and technical development, by such means as meetings, advisory services, exchanges of information, and the transfer of technology;
- Promoting the training of human resources under fellowship, exchange, and internship programs and other modalities;
- Ensuring coordination and complementarity with the other organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system that are conducting cooperative activities in areas related to each program; and
- Promoting collaboration among governmental and nongovernmental organizations and institutions of the OAS member states and of other member states of the United Nations, especially OAS observer states, as well as with similar international organizations and institutions that wish to participate in cooperation.

The inter-American programs will be periodically updated and will be part of this Strategic Plan.

7. Financing of the Strategic Plan

Insofar as their means and their legal domestic requirements allow, member states will endeavor to contribute more resources toward funding the activities of CIDI. Implementation of projects and activities of the Strategic Plan will involve resources from OAS member states and other sources, based on the concepts of partnership and burden-sharing. Decisions taken at sectoral meetings of CIDI which affect its resources will be incorporated into the annual Integral Programming Proposal for consideration by CEPCIDI and/or, as appropriate, by the Permanent Council.

7.1 Special Multilateral Fund of CIDI (FEMCIDI)

OAS member states' voluntary contributions for activities undertaken to implement the Strategic Plan will be deposited by FEMCIDI into sectoral accounts associated with the priorities of this plan and/or the Integral Development Account, in compliance with the Statutes.

7.2 Specific or Trust Funds

Contributions or grants made for a specific objective by any state or public or private entity to carry out partnership for development projects or activities may be deposited in specific or trust funds, managed by the OAS General Secretariat and will be allocated according to the terms of written agreements between the contributor and the OAS, in compliance with the General Standards.

7.3 Regular Fund

OAS Regular Fund resources shall be used to finance CIDI and its subsidiary bodies and the regular operations of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development, as well as technical supervision and administrative support of programs and multilateral integral development programs, as specifically approved by the General Assembly in the program-budget.

7.4 Other Sources of Financing

CIDI will develop a strategy for mobilizing additional financial resources with public and private entities to increase the amount available for cooperation. This strategy will seek new forms of co-financing, promote direct participation of communities—including the public and private sectors—in the process of solving development problems and encourage the use of specific funds to strengthen cooperation among member states. The strategy should also focus special attention on establishing innovative and self-sustaining mechanisms, such as seed funds, capital formation funds, and the use of OAS mechanisms to mobilize additional resources for cooperation and enhance opportunities for cooperation.

Institutions executing projects and activities in the member states will be encouraged to share the costs and partake of the benefits of the cooperation. To that end, the activities, projects, and inter-American programs of cooperation presented to CEPCIDI for an evaluation of what FEMCIDI can contribute in the way of resources will identify what the national contribution of financial, human, and material resources will be for optimum partnership for development.

8. Role of the Actors in Partnership for Development

8.1 Member States

The member states make decisions at the political level on the issues in which CIDI undertakes partnership for development. Decisions regarding resources to be assigned to actions in each priority area and the duration of support for such actions are taken by the General Assembly, CIDI, or their competent subsidiary bodies, as appropriate (the Permanent Council and CEPCIDI).

OAS member states will establish, within the framework of CIDI, mechanisms to identify, prepare, program, budget, implement, and evaluate technically sound activities, so as to promote effective joint action by the institutions involved in each specific activity.

The proposals for cooperation from member states will be channeled through their respective representatives to the OAS.

Member states pledge their voluntary contributions to FEMCIDI annually.

8.2 Participating National Institutions

To strengthen the role of participating institutions in the design, organization, and implementation of joint cooperation activities and to promote joint activities, interested institutions will:

- Identify needs and opportunities for cooperation in the framework of the policies, inter-American programs, and guidelines for action established by the member states;
- Generate, promote, and facilitate preferably multilateral projects and activities;
- Prepare project proposals and progress reports;
- Provide complementary financial, human, or material resources; and
- Strengthen the presentation of projects by member states.

8.3 OAS General Secretariat

In order to promote cooperation among the member states, the General Secretariat will support the implementation of the Strategic Plan and, to that end, will coordinate, through the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development, the contributions made by the units, offices, and other sections of the General Secretariat, in order to:

- Provide support to policy discussions of the various fora of CIDI;
- Serve as a catalyst and promoter of programs and projects to attract and/or raise external resources:

- Promote coordination with the cooperation and financial institutions that operate in the Hemisphere; ascertain the possibility of these institutions' providing complementary financial, human, or material resources; and develop joint action plans with such institutions, as is now being done by the OAS-IDB liaison group;
- Develop a program for marshaling additional financial resources for development that envisages participation by the member states and permanent observers and that will encourage participation by international organizations and other governmental and nongovernmental organizations;
- Prepare, through the Executive Secretariat for CEPCIDI's consideration, evaluation criteria which contribute to increase effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability of results of the projects and activities;
- Participate increasingly as a promoter rather than an executor of technical cooperation projects;
- Publicize the activities that the OAS promotes in the area of partnership for development, paying particular attention to the results achieved;
- Develop a program of support for human resources training and development that includes the OAS system of fellowships and encourages universities and research institutes to participate, according to the cooperation priorities set by the member states;
- Compile up-to-date information on the cooperation activities completed in recent years or in execution, including the resources used and their status, for consultation by member states; establish and maintain a database to serve as a clearing house for the matching of offers and requests for cooperation, as well as for the exchange of experiences and information on policies and programs in the areas identified as priorities in this strategic plan;
- Present cooperation proposals to competent organs of CIDI, with the consent of the permanent missions to the OAS of the participating member states; and
- Prepare studies and supporting documents for CIDI meetings.

AG/RES. 1512 (XXVII-O/97)

INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM TO COMBAT POVERTY AND DISCRIMINATION

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution AG/RES. 1424 (XXVI-O/96), "Inter-American Program for Overcoming Poverty";

The Inter-American Program to Combat Poverty and Discrimination, approved by the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) at its Second Regular Meeting through resolution CIDI/RES. 10 (II-O/97); and

The report of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) on the Inter-American Program to Combat Poverty and Discrimination (CEPCIDI/doc.69/97 rev.),

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the Inter-American Program to Combat Poverty and Discrimination, approved by the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) as part of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001.

2. To entrust CIDI with continuing to give high priority to partnership activities and projects aimed at overcoming poverty and discrimination in the Hemisphere.

3. To reiterate its request to the Secretary General that he submit to the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI) by September 30, 1997, for its approval, the 1998 annual program of activities for the Unit for Social Development and Education, and that he present quarterly progress reports on said program.

4. To entrust CIDI, through CEPCIDI, with supporting the execution of the Inter-American Program to Combat Poverty and Discrimination with the collaboration of the General Secretariat. To this end, the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development shall coordinate the necessary support tasks with the relevant offices of the General Secretariat and, in particular, with the Unit for Social Development and Education.

5. To request CIDI to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1513 (XXVII-O/97)

INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution AG/RES. 1440 (XXVI-O/96), "Sustainable Development," and the mandates contained therein directed at the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) and at its Permanent Executive Committee (CEPCIDI);

Resolution CIDI/RES. 11 (II-O/97), "Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development and Follow-up to the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development";

Resolution CIDI/CIDS/RES. 1 (I/97), "Coordination and Follow-up to the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development"; and

The report of CIDI, presented through CEPCIDI, on the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development (CEPCIDI/doc.70/97 rev.); and

CONSIDERING:

That human beings have the right to a healthful and productive life in harmony with nature and hence are the focus of concerns related to sustainable development, and that it is necessary for development strategies to include sustainability as a vital factor in attaining economic, social, and environmental objectives in an equitable, interdependent, and integral manner; and

That the OAS should serve as a hemispheric forum to promote dialogue and the coordination of advances in the area of sustainable development; support the exchange of information on topics related to sustainable development and facilitate the direct sharing of experience among the countries, institutions, and organizations taking action in these areas; and offer to work in partnership in matters of sustainable development where it has a comparative advantage,

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development as part of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001.

2. To entrust the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) with supporting the execution of the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development, as well as with coordinating and following up on the various decisions of the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development. To this end, the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development shall coordinate the necessary support tasks with the relevant offices of the General Secretariat and in particular with the Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment.

3. To reiterate its request to the Secretary General that he submit to the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development by September 30, 1997, for its approval, the 1998 annual program of activities for the Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment, and that he submit quarterly progress reports on said program.

4. To entrust CIDI with reporting on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1514 (XXVII-O/97)

COORDINATION AND FOLLOW-UP OF THE DECLARATION OF
SANTA CRUZ DE LA SIERRA AND THE PLAN OF ACTION
FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) on coordination and follow-up of the Declaration of Santa Cruz de la Sierra and the Plan of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Americas (AG/doc.3540/97);

BEARING IN MIND:

Resolution CIDI/RES. 11 (II-O/97), "Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development and Follow-up to the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development"; and

Resolution CIDI/CIDS/RES. 1 (I-97), "Coordination and Follow-up to the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development"; and

RECALLING:

Resolution AG/RES. 1440 (XXVI-O/96), "Sustainable Development"; and

The Declaration of Santa Cruz de la Sierra and the Plan of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Americas, adopted by the heads of state and government at the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development, held in Bolivia, in December 1996,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) on coordination and follow-up of the Declaration of Santa Cruz de la Sierra and the Plan of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Americas.

2. To assign high priority to the tasks of coordination and follow-up of the decisions of the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development entrusted to the Organization of American States, and to study the progress made in the implementation of the Plan of Action, in compliance with the agreements contained in the Declaration of Santa Cruz de la Sierra and the Plan of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Americas, as well as those in CIDI's Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001.

3. To note with satisfaction the efforts made by CIDI, the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development, and the Working Group of the Permanent Executive Committee of CIDI (CEPCIDI) to support coordination and follow-up of the programs and activities that the Organization develops in this area.

4. To support the convening of the Special Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development (CIDS) and the ministerial meeting of CIDI on sustainable development, to take place before the Summit of the Americas in Santiago, to follow up on the implementation of the Declaration and Plan of Action of Santa Cruz and the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development.

5. To recommend to CIDI that, through CEPCIDI, it establish immediately an ad hoc committee on sustainable development to support the preparation of the meetings mentioned in the preceding paragraph, including the development of the respective draft agendas and consideration of the pertinent documents, and that it support coordination and follow-up of the decisions of the Declaration and Plan of Action of Santa Cruz and other mandates entrusted to CIDS and to the Working Group on Sustainable Development through CIDI/RES. 11 (II-O/97).

6. To instruct the General Secretariat to give its full support to the ad hoc Committee in carrying out the mandates entrusted to it. To this end, the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development shall coordinate the necessary support tasks with the pertinent entities within the General Secretariat and, in particular, with the Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment.

7. To support the Secretary General's efforts to prepare the report on progress made in implementing the decisions of the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development, to be made available prior to the 1998 Summit of the Americas.

AG/RES. 1515 (XXVII-O/97)

REQUEST TO TRANSFORM THE INTER-AMERICAN PORT AND HARBOR
CONFERENCE INTO AN INTER-AMERICAN PORTS COMMISSION

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Articles 121 and 122 of the Charter of the Organization of American States and resolution AG/RES. 85 (II-O/72), "Standards for Inter-American Specialized Conferences";

Article 3.e of the Statutes of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI);

Resolution CIDI/RES. 19 (II-O/97), "Proposal to Transform the Inter-American Port and Harbor Conference into the Inter-American Ports Commission"; and

The report of the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development on the request to transform the Inter-American Port and Harbor Conference into an Inter-American Ports Commission (CEPCIDI/doc.75/97); and

CONSIDERING:

The importance of port and harbor systems for the processes of economic and social development and, particularly, for communications, transportation, trade, and regional integration; and

Operative paragraph 1 of resolution CIDI/RES. 18 (II-O/97), "Specialized Conferences," in which CIDI resolves "to instruct the Permanent Executive Committee of CIDI (CEPCIDI) to study those Specialized Conferences whose topics correspond to the areas of inter-American cooperation within the purview of CIDI, with a view to making recommendations, as appropriate, to adapt and reorient their work and structure in accordance with the Strategic Plan,"

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) to carry out, through its Permanent Executive Committee (CEPCIDI), pertinent studies on the possible implementation of the resolution adopted by the Ninth Inter-American Port and Harbor Conference on its transformation into an Inter-American Ports Commission [CIDI/PUERTOS/RES. 18 (IX-O/96)]. Those studies should take into account the budgetary, regulatory, and administrative-institutional

implications for the Organization.

2. To instruct CEPCIDI to prepare, on the basis of the above-mentioned studies, a proposal on the topic for presentation to CIDI at its Third Regular Meeting.

3. To request CEPCIDI to instruct the Permanent Technical Committee on Ports of the Inter-American Port and Harbor Conference to submit to it the Final Report of the Ninth Inter-American Conference, so that CEPCIDI will have all the pertinent information with which to prepare the studies mentioned in operative paragraph 2 of this resolution.

4. To instruct CIDI to present a report with recommendations to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1516 (XXVII-O/97)

TRADE AND INTEGRATION IN THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council and the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council on Integral Development on the implementation of AG/RES. 1430 (XXVI-O/96) (AG/doc.3527/97);

RECALLING:

Resolution AG/RES. 1430 (XXVI-O/96), "Trade and Integration in the Americas";

Resolution AG/RES. 1438 (XXVI-O/96), "Relationship Between the Special Committee on Trade and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development";

Resolution AG/RES. 1349 (XXV-O/95), "Inter-American Summits Management"; and

Resolution AG/RES. 1220 (XXIII-O/93), "Establishment of the Special Committee on Trade (CEC)," in which member states noted that the Organization of American States (OAS) is an appropriate hemispheric forum for dialogue on trade matters;

BEARING IN MIND the Declaration of Montrouis: A New Vision of the OAS, in which the General Assembly expressed support for the member states' efforts in the areas of economic integration and promotion of free trade in the region, in keeping with the objective of concluding negotiations on establishment of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) by the year 2005, as agreed to at the Summit of the Americas;

TAKING NOTE with satisfaction of the joint declaration adopted by the ministers responsible for trade at the Third Trade Ministerial Meeting in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, in which they reiterated their commitment to conclude negotiations on the FTAA by the year 2005, and acknowledged and expressed again their appreciation for the technical and logistical support provided to the working groups established within the framework of the FTAA by the Tripartite Committee, composed of the OAS, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

CONSIDERING that economic diversification and integration, trade liberalization, and market access constitute one of the priorities established in the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001 and that the process of creating the FTAA is a fundamental element in this context; and

REAFFIRMING the commitment of the Organization of American States to support the process of free trade and economic integration in the Hemisphere and to reiterate the importance of the technical contribution of the General Secretariat and in particular the Trade Unit to this process,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Permanent Council and the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI) on the implementation of resolution AG/RES. 1430 (XXVI-O/96), "Trade and Integration in the Americas."

2. To request the Permanent Council and CEPCIDI to jointly examine the way in which the OAS responds to the concerns of member states on trade matters, particularly in the context of increasing trade and economic integration in the Hemisphere, and to instruct the Permanent Council and CEPCIDI, on the basis of the conclusions of this examination and for the purpose of clearly defining the future contribution of the OAS in this area, to take action in their respective areas of competence and to formulate, as appropriate, further recommendations to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

3. To reiterate that, in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 1220 (XXIII-O/93), the CEC "shall hold one regular meeting each year" and to recommend that the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) convoke a meeting of the CEC, either in Washington, D.C. or on the margins of an already scheduled trade vice-ministerial meeting, before the end of 1997, with a view to considering the way in which the OAS is addressing the issue of trade and, in particular, the roles of the CEC and its Advisory Group in light of the FTAA process.

4. To instruct the General Secretariat to provide assistance to individual member states, on request, as agreed to by the ministers responsible for trade in the Joint Declaration of Belo Horizonte.

5. To instruct CIDI to support projects, programs, and activities related to the priority area of economic diversification and integration, trade liberalization, and market access, in keeping with the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001.

6. To reiterate its support for the collaborative activities on trade and integration of the Tripartite Committee, and to recognize the contributions to those activities of other specialized regional, subregional, and multilateral organizations and of regional and subregional institutions.

7. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue providing, through the Trade Unit, analytical support and technical assistance and conducting related studies, as part of the Tripartite Committee process or as requested by the respective working groups established under the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) process, and to report on an ongoing basis to the Permanent Council, CEPCIDI, and the CEC on its activities in this area.

8. To instruct the General Secretariat to submit, by October 31, 1997, the 1998 annual program of activities of the Trade Unit to the CEC for its consideration and approval or, in the event the CEC does not meet, to CEPCIDI for approval *ad referendum* to the next regular meeting of CIDI.

9. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue providing quarterly written progress reports on the activities of the Trade Unit, including information on its level of budget execution, to the Permanent Council and CEPCIDI for their review.

10. To recognize the important achievements of the Foreign Trade Information System (SICE) and in particular the measures taken to broaden its trade and trade-related information and its client base and to support its continued operations, specifically the establishment of an official Internet home page for the FTAA process.

11. To instruct the General Secretariat to ensure coordination between the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development and the appropriate offices of the General Secretariat, particularly the Trade Unit, in their activities supporting the implementation of this resolution.

12. To direct that the mandates in the preceding paragraphs be executed within the allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

13. To request the Permanent Council and CEPCIDI to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

AG/RES. 1517 (XXVI-O/97)

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution AG/RES. 1426 (XXVI-O/96), "Support for OAS Tourism Activities," in which the General Assembly considered the declaration and agreements of various subregional entities in the area of tourism and called upon the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) to support the Inter-American Travel Congress in the preparation of a plan of action for integral and sustainable development in the Hemisphere; and

Resolution CIDI/RES. 17 (II-O/97), "Sustainable Development of Tourism," in which CIDI instructed its Permanent Executive Committee (CEPCIDI) to analyze and review the Plan of Action for the Sustainable Development of Tourism in Collaboration with the Private Sector (TURISMO/doc.35/97 rev. 1), approved at the Seventeenth Inter-American Travel Congress, and the Declaration of San José (TURISMO/doc.34 rev. 1) and requested the General Secretariat to continue supporting CEPCIDI's efforts in the tourism area;

RECOGNIZING the important role tourism plays in the economic development strategy of the member states and the need to sustain economically viable, environmentally sound tourism development for the benefit of present and future generations; and

CONSIDERING:

The Plan of Action for the Sustainable Development of Tourism in Collaboration with the Private Sector, which seeks to strengthen the Inter-American Travel Congress and its Permanent Secretariat in order to make them more dynamic and relevant, and encourage greater public/private sector coordination in the development of coherent policies and collaborative activities; and

That sustainable development of tourism is a priority of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm the importance of tourism for the integral and sustainable development of the member states and to support the implementation of resolution CIDI/RES. 17 (II-O/97), "Sustainable Development of Tourism."

2. To instruct the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI): (a) to establish a working group to prepare a draft Inter-American Program on the Sustainable Development of Tourism within the framework of the Strategic Plan and taking into account, *inter alia*, the need to strengthen horizontal cooperation and to promote greater public- and private-sector collaboration in this area; (b) to convene a meeting of tourism experts to contribute to the preparation of the draft Inter-American Program on the Sustainable Development of Tourism; and (c) to present the draft Inter-American Program to CIDI for consideration at its next regular meeting.

3. To instruct CEPCIDI to give special attention to the sustainable development of tourism and to promote and execute cooperation activities in this area within the framework of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001.

4. To instruct the General Secretariat to provide support, through its appropriate entities, in particular the Intersectoral Tourism Unit, and under the coordination of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development, for the preparation and follow-up of the various CIDI and CEPCIDI decisions in this area.

5. To request the General Secretariat to present the 1998 annual program of activities of the Intersectoral Tourism Unit to CEPCIDI by September 30, 1997, for its approval, and to present quarterly progress reports on the said program.

6. To direct that the mandates in the preceding paragraphs be executed within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

7. To request CIDI to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1518 (XXVII-O/97)

INTER-AMERICAN CULTURAL PROGRAM

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN Article 2.f of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which establishes the promotion, by cooperative action, of the economic, social, and cultural development of the member states as one of the essential purposes of the Organization;

BEARING IN MIND:

Resolution AG/RES. 1434 (XXVI-O/96), "Inter-American Cultural Program," wherein the General Assembly reaffirmed the importance of culture for the integral development of the member states and the need for the OAS to strengthen and enrich the Inter-American Cultural Program, and gave instructions for the preparation and adoption of a work plan to support the preservation, enhancement, and awareness of cultural and linguistic identity in the Hemisphere, the promotion of the arts, and the conservation of historical and archeological sites;

Resolution CIDI/RES. 23 (II-O/97), "Inter-American Cultural Program," wherein the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) instructs the Permanent Executive Committee of CIDI (CEPCIDI) to convene a meeting of high-level experts to prepare an Inter-American Cultural Program, to be presented to CIDI for consideration at its Third Regular Meeting; and

The Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001, which includes culture among its priorities and in which agreement is reached to strengthen and enrich the Inter-American Cultural Program in support of member states' efforts in this area; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

Document CP/doc.2881/97 corr. 1, "Creation of the Office of Cultural Affairs," and the creation of that office; and

The Annual Report of the General Secretariat on the Inter-American Cultural Program (AG/doc.3472/97), presented pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1434 (XXVI-O/96),

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm the importance of culture for the integral and sustainable development of the member states and to support the implementation of resolution CIDI/RES. 23 (II-O/97), adopted at the Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), in particular

the preparation of an Inter-American Cultural Program.

2. To instruct the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI) to review the General Secretariat documents "Creation of the Office of Cultural Affairs" and the "Annual Report of the General Secretariat on the Inter-American Cultural Program" (AG/doc.3472/97).

3. To instruct the General Secretariat to provide support, through the appropriate entities, in particular the Office of Cultural Affairs, and under the coordination of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development, for the preparation of and follow-up to the various decisions on this matter.

4. To reiterate its request to the General Secretariat that it present the 1998 annual program of activities of the Office of Cultural Affairs to CEPCIDI by September 30, 1997, for its approval, and that it present quarterly progress reports on the said program.

5. To direct that the mandates set out in the preceding paragraphs should be implemented within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

6. To instruct CIDI to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1519 (XXVII-O/97)

ART MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

Resolution AG/RES. 651 (XIII-O/83), which charged the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Education, Science, and Culture (CEPCIECC) to examine the legal, economic, administrative, and programming implications of reincorporating the "Museum of Modern Art of Latin America" into the Regional Program for Cultural Development; and

Resolution AG/RES. 694 (XIV-O/84), which extended the mandate given to CEPCIECC by AG/RES. 651 (XIII-O/83);

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

Decision CP/SA. 626/85 (6), which asked the Secretary General to establish the necessary mechanisms in order to strengthen the ties between the Museum and the Regional Program for Cultural Development and report to the General Assembly at its fifteenth regular session on the progress made in this regard;

Executive Order No. 76-7, in which the Secretary General set the objectives, characteristics, and activities of the "Museum of Modern Art of Latin America" and decided to establish a board of trustees;

Executive Order No. 78-4, which amended Executive Order 76-7 in part but not in respect to the mandate of the Museum, its objectives, and the requirement to constitute a board of trustees;
and

Executive Order No. 90-1, which recognized that the Organization of American States must strengthen its cultural activities and ensure the artistic presence of all member states of the Americas;
and

CONSIDERING:

That the membership of the Organization of American States has significantly increased since the aforementioned documents were issued;

That the mandate of the Art Museum of the Americas states that the Museum should promote

exclusively the contemporary art of Latin America and the Caribbean;

That member states feel that this mandate no longer represents the real mandate of integration of all member states of the Organization of American States; and

That member states expressed their will to establish mechanisms to ensure that all member states and subregions of the Hemisphere are adequately represented in the management of this important instrument of cultural integration in the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To amend the mandate of the Art Museum of the Americas and make it the policy of the Organization of American States to promote equally the culture of all member states of the Organization.

2. To request the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI) to examine the documents relevant to the operation of the Museum in order to develop the guidelines for the composition and work of an advisory board appointed by the member states, with due consideration for geographic balance, to oversee the work of the Museum within the framework of the Inter-American Cultural Program.

3. To request the General Secretariat to present a report to CEPCIDI on the Museum's activities.

4. To encourage the Museum to continue its efforts in obtaining external resources for the implementation of its programs and activities.

AG/RES. 1520 (XXVII-O/97)

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE ORGANIZATION
OF AMERICAN STATES AND THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF
THE TROPICAL AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTER

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas held in 1994, and in particular the agreement "to support the Central American Alliance for Sustainable Development, which seeks to strengthen those democracies by promoting regional economic and social prosperity and sound environmental management";

BEARING IN MIND the recent signing of the Interagency Cooperation Agreement between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the Office of the Director General of the Tropical Agriculture Research and Training Center; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT resolution CIDI/RES. 20 (II-O/97), which instructs the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development to conduct a detailed review of all agreements currently in effect that relate to cooperation activities within the purview of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development,

RESOLVES:

To instruct the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development to give the highest priority to reviewing the agreement between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the Office of the Director General of the Tropical Agriculture Research and Training Center (CATIE), in keeping with the importance of the work of the Office of the Director General of CATIE and the relationship with the priority areas approved in the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001.

AG/RES. 1521 (XXVII-O/97)

REINFORCEMENT OF STATISTICAL AND COMPUTER SCIENCE SERVICES
FOR PARTNERSHIP AND INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE HEMISPHERE

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution AG/RES. 1354 (XXV-O/95), which establishes that the Organization must strengthen its capacity to exchange information, knowledge, and experiences;

The Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001, which includes the exchange of knowledge, information, and experiences as one of its five objectives; and

General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 1084 (XXI/O-91), establishing the Organization Plan for the Inter-American Statistical Conference (CIE), which specifies its nature, purposes, composition, and subordinate bodies; and

CONSIDERING:

That statistical information is a substantive component of that exchange of knowledge, information, and experiences, which furthers the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001;

That, in order to make this exchange of information duly effective and efficient, it is necessary to harmonize the concepts, procedures, coverage, and reference periods of the information available in the member countries;

That renewed efforts at research and the development of methodology must be made in the member countries to produce the information required in such priority areas of the Organization as the promotion of democracy, the alleviation of poverty, the development of productive employment, trade and integration, sustainable development, tourism, and drug abuse control, as well as to provide data to support policies designed for groups at risk;

That, in order to move ahead in this area, it is necessary to strengthen and modernize the national statistical systems of the member countries and that partnership in this field is a useful and efficient instrument for supporting the modernization of those systems;

That the CIE serves as the inter-American forum at which the national statistical systems of the member countries can exchange experiences in order to harmonize their statistical definitions, nomenclatures, and methodologies and agree upon mechanisms for partnership in the area of statistics and computer science; and

That, as provided in the CIE Organization Plan, this Conference is represented by its Permanent Executive Committee (COM/CIE),

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Statistical Conference (COM/CIE) to prepare a presentation on the activities of the Conference, to be taken into account by the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI) in its examination of the specialized conferences requested in resolution CIDI/RES. 18 (II-O/97), "Specialized Conferences."

2. To request CEPCIDI to present to the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) any recommendations it deems advisable and to report on the measures adopted in this area to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

AG/RES. 1522 (XXVII-O/97)

THE INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE AND CONCERTED ACTION
ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN IN THE AMERICAS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That the overall social situation in the Americas is marked by persistent indicators of inequity and that poverty, which threatens the consolidation of democracy and regional economic development, continues to be the most important factor in social imbalances, despite the improved outlook;

That children constitute the most vulnerable group, and that urgent action must be taken by government and by civil society to reestablish a proper balance among the components of society;

That the deteriorating quality of urban life has resulted in a street culture that is leading ever more children, at ever younger ages, into crime, alcoholism, sexual exploitation, prostitution, early pregnancy, child labor, and similarly negative situations;

That the lack of appropriate and up-to-date educational policies and inadequate public expenditure on education give cause for concern, as reflected in the fact that the Latin American and Caribbean region spends less per student than any other region of the world;

That the Convention on the Rights of the Child constitutes a new paradigm of rules and standards that transcend the strictly juridical realm and that require the development of social policies for integrating all children and youth, on a basis of equal opportunity, and for encouraging private sector participation in such policies, so as to promote public welfare;

That the international convention has been signed by all the region's governments and ratified by nearly all member states;

That the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN), established by the Fourth Pan American Child Congress in 1924 and founded in 1927, with its headquarters in Montevideo, is a specialized organization of the Organization of American States, the purpose of which is to study problems relating to children and the family;

That the Inter-American Children's Institute has accomplished significant work over seven decades, through programs, projects, and activities aimed at children in the Americas;

That in June 1963 the Council of the Organization approved the Statutes of the Inter-American

Children's Institute, which confirm its status as a specialized organization and ratify that its Office functions as part of the General Secretariat of the OAS;

That the strength of this agency and of its important programs is reinforced by the underlying policies that guide and inspire its action, including those directed at linking the work of the IIN to the processes of democratic consolidation, emphasizing that the best interests of the child are also the best interests of the democratic system, at facilitating the transition from recognition and promotion of the rights of the child to immediate protection, and at encouraging the development of horizontal cooperation mechanisms among countries in the region, all of which were agreed upon by the Directing Council;

That other agencies in the inter-American system are pursuing activities that address, directly or indirectly, the problems described as they relate both to the rights of children and to their social and economic development; and

That, furthermore, the subject of children has assumed growing importance on the regional agenda and is to be addressed at the "Second Regional Summit on Childhood in South America and the Caribbean," to be held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from March 1 to 3, 1998,

RESOLVES:

1. To recognize the important progress achieved by the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) during its 70 years of work.

2. To call upon the member states, the organizations of the inter-American system, the international community, and society as a whole, including both the public and private sectors, to make a concerted effort to promote observance of and respect for the rights of all children in the Americas, so as to integrate and promote universal attention to their specific interests and enhance the political visibility of this group, which is strategically so important to human progress.

3. To instruct the IIN to compile an inventory of all activities of the organs and agencies of the inter-American system relating to the situation of children.

4. To instruct the IIN to submit to the General Assembly for consideration at its twenty-eighth regular session, on the basis of the inventory mentioned in the previous paragraph, a plan of concerted action for children in the Americas to improve living conditions for all children in the region, on the social as well as on the economic, educational, scientific, and technological levels, and to promote strict observance of all their rights.

5. To instruct the IIN to promote the fullest participation at the Second Regional Summit on Childhood in South America and the Caribbean, and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the deliberations held and recommendations adopted at this summit.

6. To direct that activities under this resolution should be executed within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.

AG/RES. 1523 (XXVII-O/97)

INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR EDUCATION

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

The importance attached by member states to improving information technology in strategic areas such as science and technology, educational and social development, and protection of the environment;

The concern shown by member states to strengthen scientific and technological data networks, such as the Hemispheric Inter-University Scientific and Technological Information Network (RedHUCyT); and

The priority attached by member states to educational programs and projects as part and parcel of the process of social development and the struggle to overcome poverty,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), acting through the Permanent Executive Committee of CIDI (CEPCIDI) and within the framework of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001, to support projects related to development of information infrastructure and designed to strengthen and modernize the educational sector.

2. To instruct the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development, with a view to implementing the previous paragraph, to coordinate studies on the possible extension of the activities of the Hemispheric Inter-University Scientific and Technological Information Network (RedHUCyT) to the field of education, within the framework of the initiatives to be examined by the next meeting of ministers of education, convoked by CIDI.

AG/RES. 1524 (XXVII-O/97)

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES
WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL
FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001, which reiterates the role of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) as a forum for hemispheric dialogue, as a catalyst for and promoter of cooperation activities, and as a mechanism for facilitating the exchange of information, experiences, and knowledge; indicates the need for the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) to increase their resources for cooperation activities, insofar as their means and their legal domestic requirements allow; and gives special attention to the needs of countries with smaller or relatively less developed economies; and

The Statutes of the Special Multilateral Fund of CIDI (FEMCIDI), which promote the diversification of financing mechanisms by highlighting the possibility that the permanent observers and other member states of the United Nations, as well as national or international public and private entities, may participate in the financing of partnership for development activities through specific funds and trust funds;

BEARING IN MIND:

The opinions expressed by the countries at the Second Regular Meeting of CIDI and at this regular session of the General Assembly regarding the need for more active participation by a larger number of countries to increase partnership for development activities within the framework of the Strategic Plan and the working mechanisms of CIDI; and

That some member states have decided to move toward becoming net providers of cooperation by strengthening their participation in multilateral programs and projects; and

RECOGNIZING:

That the increase in the number of net providers of cooperation in order to reinforce the Organization's partnership activities will make it possible to consolidate the OAS as an inter-American forum, as a mechanism for the exchange of experiences and information, and as a promoter of multilateral cooperation programs; to create favorable conditions to meet the partnership for development needs of the countries with smaller or relatively less developed economies; to promote

more active participation by the permanent observers and other countries and multilateral cooperation institutions; and to contribute to the attainment of greater political balance within the Organization,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the member states to:
 - a. Promote the use of CIDI mechanisms, particularly its regular and specialized ministerial meetings, to follow up on the decisions adopted at the Summit of the Americas in Miami in 1994, Santa Cruz de la Sierra in 1996, and Santiago in 1998, in accordance with the priorities established in the Strategic Plan, as well as to formulate and develop initiatives that facilitate the implementation of these decisions;
 - b. Make contributions in a timely manner to the voluntary fund, in accordance with the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat, the Strategic Plan, and the FEMCIDI Statutes;
 - c. Explore alternative methods to increase their contributions in human, technical, and financial resources in support of cooperation programs, through CIDI's working mechanisms; and
 - d. Identify methods of participation in cooperation activities that will allow them to play a more active role in this area and to promote the progressive increase in the number of net providers of cooperation, within the framework of CIDI;
2. To call upon the permanent observers and the technical and financial cooperation agencies working in the Hemisphere to support implementation of the Strategic Plan and the resulting inter-American programs, particularly through the mechanism of the specific funds established in the FEMCIDI Statutes and in the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat.
3. To request the General Secretariat to adopt, through the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development and with the support of its corresponding areas, the measures needed to facilitate and support execution of the previous operative paragraphs, and to report thereon to CIDI, through CEPCIDI.
4. To request the General Secretariat to cooperate, through the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development and with the support of the corresponding areas, in education proposals related to the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas, as well as other areas of education on the agenda of the second Summit of the Americas.

AG/RES. 1525 (XXVII-O/97)

PERSONNEL POLICY

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council on personnel policy, which contains the report of the Working Group on Personnel Policy of its Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CP/doc.2912/97); and

CONSIDERING that, in resolution AG/RES. 1381 (XXVI-O/96), the General Assembly requested the Permanent Council "to establish a working group that shall define, in conjunction with the General Secretariat, a single coherent global personnel policy, in accordance with the actual needs of the Organization,"

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Permanent Council to conclude, through its Working Group on Personnel Policy, its study of the document "Creation of New Categories of Temporary Employment: Temporary Professional Staff Consultants and Temporary Support Personnel" (CP/doc.2884/97) by July 30, 1997.

2. To authorize the Permanent Council to adopt and implement the amendments to the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat that it deems appropriate with regard to that document by July 30, 1997.

3. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session on the amendments adopted and on the outcome of their application.

4. To take note of the proposal by the General Secretariat to reestablish a staff performance evaluation system in the Organization; and to instruct it to implement the system as soon as possible, according to the schedule presented to the Working Group, and to report on the functioning of the new system to the General Assembly at its next regular session.

5. To request the Permanent Council, through the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs, to study the categories of employment of support personnel of the Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States; and to adopt any changes it deems appropriate, sufficiently in advance for them to be included in the program-budget for 1998.

6. To reiterate the importance of appropriate geographical distribution of General Secretariat staff, and to urge the General Secretariat to implement this mandate, set forth in Article

119 of the Charter of the Organization.

7. To urge the General Secretariat to recognize the importance of contracting and hiring women and members of minority groups, particularly at high levels of the General Secretariat.

8. To take note of the report of the Permanent Council on personnel policy, and to extend the mandate given to the Permanent Council through resolution AG/RES. 1381 (XXVI-O/96) until the twenty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly.

AG/RES. 1526 (XXVII-O/97)

AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Permanent Council entitled "Proposed Draft Amendments to the Statute of the Administrative Tribunal" (AG/doc.3504/97); and

CONSIDERING:

That, through resolution AG/RES. 1318 (XXV-O/95), the General Assembly instructed the Permanent Council "to study the merits of including within the Statute of the Administrative Tribunal additional provisions for: (i) a second instance of review; (ii) the assessment of attorneys' fees and costs; (iii) the requirements of the posting of a bond or refundable filing fee to discourage frivolous actions; (iv) the implementation of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, including conciliation; (v) the implementation of preliminary summary proceedings that will permit disposition of suits on procedural grounds to avoid the expense of trial on the substantive merits; and (vi) an increase in the number of judges or other measures to guarantee representation on each panel of judges from the common law tradition and the civil law tradition";

That the Permanent Council has completed the aforementioned study and has recommended to the General Assembly the corresponding amendments to the Statute of the Administrative Tribunal; and

That the amendments proposed by the Permanent Council shall (i) implement a limited instance of review of Tribunal decisions with regard to its jurisdiction and competence and proceedings under its Statute; (ii) provide guidelines and set limits on the award of attorneys' fees and costs; (iii) require any complainant who is not a staff member and whose claim has been found to be without merit by a Reconsideration Committee or other conciliation body to post a filing fee or a bond or provide any other similar security to the Tribunal as a prerequisite for filing a complaint; (iv) require the Tribunal to recognize the finality of all settlement agreements, agreements to arbitrate, and arbitration awards, and authorize the Tribunal to encourage dispute resolution through arbitration, mediation, and conciliation; and (v) establish a procedure for resolving prior motions to dismiss a complaint for lack of jurisdiction or failure to comply with admissibility requirements,

RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the amendments to the Statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the OAS set out in the appendix to this resolution.
2. To instruct the General Secretariat to publish the full Statute of the Administrative Tribunal as amended herein.

APPENDIX

AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

1. Article I shall be titled "Establishment and General Principles."
2. Article II shall be titled "Jurisdiction."
3. Article III shall be titled and amended to state as follows:

ARTICLE III

Election, Qualification, and Service of Members

1. The Tribunal shall be composed of six members elected by the General Assembly to serve for terms of six years, such terms to be staggered so that one new member is elected each year.
2. Each member must be a national of an OAS member state, but no two members may be nationals of the same member state. All members shall be experienced lawyers, law professors, or judges by profession and shall serve strictly in their personal capacity.
3. A member's term shall begin on the first day of January following the member's election. If a member resigns or otherwise separates from the Tribunal before the expiration of his term, a substitute member shall be elected by the General Assembly, or the Permanent Council if the General Assembly is not in session, to serve for the remainder of that member's term, but the substitute member shall not assume the seniority of the member being replaced.
4. A member may be reelected, but may serve no more than two consecutive terms in office. A member so reelected shall lose all the seniority accumulated in his prior term.
5. The Tribunal shall have a President and a Vice President. These offices shall be held successively for one year by each member of the Tribunal, beginning with the two members having the most and second most seniority, respectively.
6. The Tribunal shall meet in sessions in panels of three members.
 - a. Two panels shall be chosen by lot from amongst the six members. The most senior member of each panel shall act as the President of that

panel.

- b. After each panel has completed sitting in one session, the President of the Tribunal shall announce the names of the members chosen by lot to constitute the panels for the next two sessions. In the event one of those members resigns or is otherwise unable to serve, he will be replaced by another member of the Tribunal not already serving on the panel, that replacement member to be chosen by the President by lot.
- c. The following persons are ineligible to serve as members of the Tribunal: permanent representatives of the governments on the organs, agencies, or entities of the Organization; persons who serve permanently on those bodies in any capacity; and staff members of the General Secretariat.

7. The composition of the Administrative Tribunal shall reflect the two major legal traditions of the Hemisphere — the common-law tradition and the civil-law tradition.

4. Article IV shall be titled "Frequency of Sessions."

5. Article V shall be titled "General Secretariat Support."

6. Article VI shall be titled "Admissibility of the Complaint." The following paragraph 7 shall be added to Article VI of the Statute:

7. Before admitting the complaint of a person who is not a staff member, the Tribunal shall require that person to submit a filing fee, a bond, or other legally enforceable security equivalent to one month's remuneration (salary and post adjustment) at the P-4, step 6 level on the "with dependent" salary scale for headquarters, unless the Secretary General has expressly waived the reconsideration requirement, or unless a Reconsideration Committee or other formal conciliatory organ constituted by the Secretary General to advise him on the matter has found by a majority vote of its members that the person's claims are meritorious, or unless the Secretariat has failed to respond to a request for a hearing and request for reconsideration presented by the complainant in accordance with the requirements under the Staff Rules and other dispositions of the General Secretariat. Nonetheless, if the person is a former staff member, the amount so required will be the lesser of the former staff member's last full monthly remuneration (salary and post adjustment) or one month's remuneration (salary and post adjustment) at the P-4, step 6 level on the "with dependent" salary scale for headquarters.

7. The following new article shall be added as Article VII, and the present Article VII shall become Article IX.

Article VII

Arbitration, Conciliation, Mediation, and Settlements

1. Except as otherwise stated below, the Tribunal shall recognize the finality of all settlement agreements, releases, and agreements to arbitrate, and agreements to seek conciliation or mediation, and may not reopen, review, or adjudicate the issues finally resolved by those agreements or procedures, absent the express consent of all parties thereto.

2. Notwithstanding the above, the Tribunal may vacate and remand an otherwise binding arbitration decision and award, in whole or in part, where a party proves by clear and convincing evidence that:

- a. The arbitration award exceeds the maximum indemnities that may be imposed by the Tribunal under its Statute or the limit otherwise agreed to by the parties;
- b. The award was procured through corruption or misconduct of the arbitrators;
- c. The arbitrators failed to follow the material provisions of the rules of procedure, if any, agreed to by the parties, or otherwise exceeded their authority; and where the Tribunal decides not to vacate and/or remand the award, it shall confirm it.

3. Also notwithstanding paragraph 1 above, the Tribunal may, at the request of either party, correct an otherwise binding arbitration decision and award where it is clear that:

- a. There was an evident miscalculation of figures or an evident mistake in the description of any person, thing, property, or amount referred to in the award;
- b. The arbitrators have awarded upon a matter not submitted to them and the award may be corrected without affecting the merits of the decision on the issues submitted; and where the Tribunal decides not to correct the award, it shall confirm it.

4. In disputes over the classification level of a post, the President of the Tribunal, upon the request of the parties concerned, shall request an audit of the post in question from a qualified independent job classification expert selected by him and, absent clear and convincing evidence of corruption or misconduct on the part of the classification expert, the Tribunal shall confirm the results of the classification expert's audit as final and binding on the parties.

5. The Tribunal may recommend that the parties to a claim over which it otherwise has jurisdiction submit to binding or non-binding arbitration, conciliation, or mediation. If the parties accept that recommendation, the Tribunal shall suspend further proceedings before the Tribunal in that matter pending the conclusion of the arbitration, conciliation, or mediation process recommended. No statements made by a party in the binding or non-binding arbitration, conciliation, or mediation proceedings shall be admissible against a party in the proceedings before the Tribunal on the matter absent that party's written consent.

8. The following new article shall be added as Article VIII, and the present Article VIII shall become Article X.

Article VIII

Disposition of Preliminary Questions

1. Within twenty days after receiving the complaint, the respondent may submit a motion requesting that the Tribunal dismiss the entire complaint, or any part thereof, based on lack of jurisdiction under Articles I and II of the Tribunal's Statute, failure to satisfy the requirements of admissibility under Article VI of the Statute, or failure to make a claim upon which relief can be granted.

2. Upon receipt of that motion, the complainant shall have twenty days to file with the Tribunal a written response in opposition. The respondent may file a reply to the response in opposition within twenty days of his receipt of same.

3. Within thirty days of receiving the last of the pleadings to be submitted under paragraph 2 above, the members scheduled to constitute the panel at the next session shall consult by telephone or other expeditious means and, based on those consultations, shall issue an order either granting the motion in whole or in part, denying it, or suspending all further proceedings in the action until the Tribunal can meet in session to consider it. During those thirty days, the President of the panel may submit written interrogatories to the parties for clarification, and copies of the interrogatories and answers shall be served on all parties and the corresponding Tribunal members.

4. The filing of a motion to dismiss under paragraph 1 shall suspend the time for filing an Answer under the Tribunal's Rules of Procedure until the Tribunal rules on the motion.

5. Either party shall have the right to request that the Tribunal reconsider its decision to grant the motion to dismiss in whole or in part, or deny it, at the Tribunal's next session. The requesting party shall file the motion for reconsideration within twenty days of receiving the Tribunal's decision. The filing of the motion for reconsideration will suspend

further proceedings in the action pending the Tribunal's decision in reconsideration.

6. For good cause shown, the President of the panel may extend the time limits for filing the pleadings and taking the decisions provided for under this Article.

7. Failure of the respondent to make a Motion to Dismiss under this Article shall not bar or otherwise preclude the respondent from challenging the admissibility of the Complaint, the Tribunal's jurisdiction, and the legal merits of the claim in the Answer.

8. The Tribunal shall establish other summary procedures within its Rules of Procedure for the disposition of evidentiary questions and other pretrial issues consistent with its authority under Article XIII of this Statute.

9. The present Article VII, which is now Article IX under these Amendments, should be entitled "Damages, Indemnities, and Liabilities," and a new paragraph 5 shall be added to that Article, which states:

5. The Tribunal may order the losing party to pay the prevailing party an indemnity for attorney's fees and costs incurred by the prevailing party when the losing party has brought a clearly frivolous claim or objection, did not have solid grounds for litigating, has been totally defeated, or has been proven to have acted with actual malice. The maximum amount that can be awarded for the total of attorneys' fees and costs so incurred by the prevailing parties or party shall not exceed the equivalent of one month's remuneration (salary and post adjustment) at the P-4, step 6 level on the "with dependent" salary scale for headquarters in a judgment involving up to ten complainants, and twice that amount in a judgment involving more than ten complainants. The Tribunal may require a party seeking attorneys' fees and costs to prove actual costs and fees incurred up to the above-corresponding maximum amount established under this Article.

10. Article VIII of the present Statute, which becomes Article X under these Amendments, shall be amended as follows:

a. **The title of the Article shall be "Judgments."**

b. **Paragraph 2 shall be modified to state:**

Except as provided in Articles XI and XII, judgments shall be final and without appeal.

c. **The remainder of that Article shall remain unchanged.**

11. Article IX of the present Statute, which becomes Article XI under these amendments, shall be titled "Correction of Clerical Errors and Revision Based on the Discovery of Previously Unknown Facts."

12. The following text shall be added as a new Article XII of the Statute:

Article XII

Review of Judgments

1. Judgments of the Tribunal may be reviewed by an *ad hoc* Administrative Tribunal Review Panel (Review Panel) only in instances where the Tribunal's judgment is alleged to be *ultra vires* because it exceeds the Tribunal's authority in relation to its jurisdiction, competence, or procedures under this Statute. The Review Panel shall not have competence to reexamine the merits of the underlying dispute.

2. A petition for review may be perfected by presenting it to the Chair of the Permanent Council. Each such petition shall set forth the legal and factual bases supporting the allegation that the Tribunal's decision in the first instance was *ultra vires*. That petition must be presented to the Chair of the Permanent Council within forty-five days of the appellant's receipt of the Tribunal's judgment.

3. Upon receipt of the petition, the Chair of the Permanent Council shall constitute a Review Panel. The Review Panel shall be composed of three members. One of the members of the Review Panel shall be chosen by lot from amongst those Tribunal members who did not in the first instance hear the case being reviewed. Two members shall be chosen *ad hoc* from amongst the members of other administrative tribunals of other international organizations whose tribunal secretariats have their headquarters in Washington, D.C. The two *ad hoc* members shall be selected by the Chair of the Permanent Council, in consultation with the duly appointed representatives of the Secretary General and of the opposing parties. The Chair of the Permanent Council shall designate one of the *ad hoc* members to serve as President of the Review Panel, and shall determine the compensation paid to members, in consultation with the Secretary General and subject to the availability of resources.

4. Simultaneous with petitioning for review, the appellant must notify the appellees directly or through their duly authorized representatives of the petition by sending them a copy of the petition. The appellees shall have forty-five days from the date of receipt of the petition to submit in writing any observations they may have on the petition. Those observations shall be submitted directly to the Review Panel, with a copy to the appellant. Upon receipt of these observations, the appellant shall have twenty days to file a written response with the Review Panel and the appellee. The Review Panel may, at its discretion, request additional submissions of the parties. Appeals shall be decided based upon the written submissions, and without oral argument before the Review Panel, except in extraordinary circumstances as the President of the Review Panel deems appropriate.

5. The Review Panel shall follow the principles of law and procedures set out in this Statute. With prior notice to the parties, and in order to facilitate an orderly review process, the President of the Review Panel may adopt additional *ad hoc* procedures based on

generally accepted principles of due process and consistent with the rules of procedure adopted by the Inter-American Commercial Arbitration Commission.

6. For good cause shown, the President of the Review Panel may extend the time limits for filing the pleadings provided for under this article.

7. The decision of the Review Panel on the questions presented in the petition for review shall be binding on the Organization and all other parties, provided it is supported by a majority of the Review Panel's members. Otherwise, the Tribunal's original decision shall control.

8. Pending the conclusion of the review process, the obligation to make payment under the Tribunal's judgment shall be suspended; however, if the decision of the majority of the members of the Review Panel conclusively reaffirms the Tribunal's judgment, the appellant shall owe interest on the judgment amount beginning sixty days after the date of the original judgment at the average money-market rate for commercial banks in Washington, D.C., for the period running from the date interest begins to accrue until the date of payment.

9. The Review Panel may order the appellant to pay the appellee an indemnity for attorney's fees, the costs incurred by the appellee in defending the Tribunal's judgment, and the costs of constituting the Review Panel, when the appellant has brought a clearly frivolous appeal, did not have solid grounds for litigating, has been totally defeated, or has been proven to have acted with actual malice. The maximum amount that can be awarded for the total of attorney's fees and costs so incurred by the appellee shall not exceed the equivalent of six months' remuneration (salary and post adjustment) at the P-4, step 6 level on the "with dependent" salary scale for headquarters.

10. Before admitting the petition for review of a person who is not a staff member, the Chair of the Permanent Council shall require that person to submit a filing fee, a bond, or other legally enforceable security in the amount equivalent to six months' remuneration (salary and post adjustment) at the P-4, step 6 level on the "with dependent" salary scale for headquarters. This fee shall be held by the Secretary General in escrow pending the outcome of the review and the award by the Review Panel of any costs or attorney's fees against the appellant.

11. The General Secretariat shall provide secretariat services to the Review Panel through the Secretariat of the Administrative Tribunal. The estimated costs of those services shall be included in the proposed program-budget of the Administrative Tribunal, and monies paid by an appellant for the cost of those services pursuant to a Review Panel order shall be available to cover or reimburse the cost of those secretariat services.

13. Article X of the present Statute, which becomes Article XIII under these amendments, shall be titled "Rules of Procedure."

14. Article XI of the present Statute, which becomes Article XIV under these amendments, shall be titled "Amendments to the Statute."

15. The following text shall be added as a new Article XV of the Statute:

Article XV

Gender

The use of the masculine pronoun in this Statute shall be interpreted to connote either the masculine or feminine gender, as circumstances may require.

16. The Transitory Provisions set out in the current Statute shall be deleted.

AG/RES. 1527 (XXVII-O/97)

REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The report of the Permanent Council on the reports of the Board of External Auditors (AG/doc.3503/97);

The reports of the Board of External Auditors on the audit of the accounts and financial statements for the biennium ended December 31, 1995, and for the year ended December 31, 1996;

The comments and recommendations of the Board of External Auditors for the year ended December 31, 1996, with the General Secretariat's comments (CP/CAAP-2327/97); and

The Inspector General's comments on the report of the Board of External Auditors for the year ended December 31, 1996 (CP/CAAP-2325/97),

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the reports of the Board of External Auditors for the biennium ended December 31, 1995, and for the year ended December 31, 1996, and of the report of the Permanent Council on the reports of the Board of External Auditors.
2. To endorse the recommendations presented by the Board in the aforesaid reports.
3. To instruct the General Secretariat to take the appropriate steps to implement the recommendations of the Board of External Auditors.

AG/RES. 1528 (XXVII-O/97)

REVIEW OF ARTICLE 74 OF THE GENERAL STANDARDS TO GOVERN
THE OPERATIONS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN resolution CP/RES. 703 (1122/97), "Amendments to the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat"; and

CONSIDERING:

That, during the process of amending the General Standards referred to in resolution CP/RES. 703 (1122/97), it was deemed necessary to determine whether to maintain the contributions to the Regular Fund for technical supervision and administrative support, as established in Article 74 of the General Standards, and, if so, to decide on an appropriate amount and method for the calculation thereof; and

That any decision in this regard requires the preparation of a technical study containing all necessary information to enable the political bodies to reach the conclusion that best reflects the interests of the Organization,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Permanent Council to define, through the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs, the contents of the study on contributions to the Regular Fund for technical supervision and administrative support.
2. To instruct the General Secretariat to conduct such a study and submit it to the Permanent Council.
3. To entrust the Permanent Council, on the basis of that study and the opinions of member states, with an analysis of the budgetary and program implications of the possible changes proposed.
4. To empower the Permanent Council to amend Article 74 of the General Standards if it concludes that such action is needed, and, if so, to authorize it to introduce any necessary adjustments in the Organization's program-budget for 1998.

AG/RES. 1529 (XXVII-O/97)

QUOTA PAYMENTS

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING that Article 9 of the Charter of the Organization of American States establishes that "states are juridically equal, enjoy equal rights and equal capacity to exercise these rights, and have equal duties" and that Article 54 establishes that each government is to contribute to the maintenance of the Organization, "taking into account the ability to pay of the respective countries and their determination to contribute in an equitable manner";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

Document CP/doc.2848/97, "Report of the General Secretariat on the Status of Quotas and Voluntary Contributions as of December 31, 1996";

Resolution CP/RES. 541 (816/90), which stipulates that member states must make their quota payment to the Regular Fund by April 30 of each year for it to be considered a valid payment for the current calendar year; and

Resolution AG/RES. 1381 (XXVI-O/96), Table B of which indicates that only eight member states qualified for the 2% rebate of their 1997 quotas for full payment of their 1996 quotas by April 30, 1996; and

BEARING IN MIND:

That other organizations of the inter-American system and the United Nations have mechanisms to sanction member states which do not pay their annual quotas in full to the Organization;

That the nonpayment of quotas threatens the viability of OAS programs and the proper functioning of the General Secretariat, while member states are still entitled to receive benefits from the Regular Fund; and

That, under the Statutes of the Special Multilateral Fund of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (FEMCIDI), member states may receive benefits only if they have made their contributions to the voluntary fund,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Permanent Council to study, through its Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs, the merits of including additional provisions for the establishment of a comprehensive system of measures designed to encourage member states to pay their Regular Fund quotas to the Organization in full and on time and to prepare a report, including specific recommendations, for presentation to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session.

2. To implement paragraph 4.b of resolution CP/RES. 541 (816/90) prior to holding any elections for offices or positions to be decided on by the Permanent Council or the General Assembly.

AG/RES. 1530 (XXVII-O/97)

OFFICES OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT IN THE MEMBER STATES

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The joint report of the Permanent Council and the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI) on the Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States (CP/doc.2938/97); and

Resolutions AG/RES. 1231 (XXIII-O/93), AG/RES. 1276 (XXIV-O/94), and AG/RES. 1340 (XXV-O/95), which extended the mandate to study the issues relating to the Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States;

CONSIDERING that resolution AG/RES. 1174 (XXII-O/92) urged the General Secretariat to continue providing support, through its offices in the member states, for the execution of technical cooperation projects and fellowship programs, as well as the dissemination of news and information on the activities of the Organization;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

That resolution AG/RES. 1174 (XXII-O/92) also instructed the General Secretariat to present annual reports to the Permanent Council on the operation of its offices in the member states, indicating their budgets and the execution thereof;

That resolution AG/RES. 1388 (XXVI-O/96) requested the Permanent Council to finalize its consideration of the General Secretariat study and requested CEPCIDI to examine that study, particularly those proposals which fall within its mandate;

That the General Secretariat presented to the Permanent Council at its meeting of December 12, 1996, a document entitled "Follow-Up Proposal for Restructuring the Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States" (CP/doc.2818/96), which was forwarded for study by joint meetings of CEPCIDI and the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs of the Permanent Council; and

That the member states have agreed by consensus that the offices should remain in those states that so desire, but that they should focus on the Organization's cooperation activities in the member states; and

TAKING NOTE of the support provided by the General Secretariat in the coordination of the offices in the member states,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the joint report of the Permanent Council and the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI) on the Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States.

2. To reaffirm:

a. That the basic function of the Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States should be to support the technical cooperation activities of the OAS; and

b. That the offices should also provide:

- i. Administrative support for fellowships;
- ii. Public information about the Organization;
- iii. An institutional presence for the Organization;
- iv. Support for the activities of the General Secretariat's units, departments, and other offices in the implementation of the functions and mandates assigned to them.

3. To request the General Secretariat to consult, prior to September 30, 1997, with the member states on the possibility of closing or maintaining the Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States.

4. To instruct the General Secretariat to examine, prior to September 30, 1997, with those member states that expressed a desire to keep their national offices, the possibility of their paying the rent for those offices—currently paid by the OAS—or their providing alternative premises, or making other contributions to help maintain the offices.

5. To request the General Secretariat to consult, when necessary, with other inter-American organizations on the possibility of sharing space and other services with a view to reducing current expenditures in the offices of the General Secretariat in those member states that are not in a position to incur these expenses.

6. To request the General Secretariat to maintain its commitment regarding the interconnection of the offices and the computerization of their administrative and day-to-day operations, with a view to increasing their efficiency and reducing staffing requirements.

7. To request the General Secretariat to simplify the activity, monitoring, and reporting of the Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States, with appropriate supervision by the Office of the Inspector General of the Organization, who should see to it that basic standards of transparency and sound administration are met.

8. To instruct the General Secretariat to:

- a. Reclassify the post of the official in charge of the office in each duty station on the basis of the responsibilities and functions assigned to each post and in view of applicable regulations. This classification shall take into account the guidelines set forth in this resolution and shall be uniformly applied in all the offices.
- b. Recommend the number of employees needed in each office for efficient performance of the tasks assigned, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget; and
- c. Prepare a study on alternative means of obtaining administrative support services on the basis of local conditions in each state.

9. To instruct the General Secretariat to report to the Permanent Council and CEPCIDI by September 30, 1997, on the fulfillment of the mandates set out in this resolution. This report should include a firm proposal for the restructuring of the Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States, which should be implemented, unless the Permanent Council and CEPCIDI decide otherwise, by October 30, 1997, within allocated resources approved in the 1998 program-budget.

AG/RES. 1531 (XXVII-O/97)

PROGRAM-BUDGET OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR 1998,
1998 QUOTAS AND PLEDGES TO THE VOLUNTARY FUND

(Resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session,
held on June 5, 1997)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The proposed program-budget of the Organization for fiscal year 1998, submitted by the Secretary General (AG/CP/doc.593/97); and

The report of the Preparatory Committee on the proposed program-budget of the Organization for 1998 (AG/doc.3530/97 corr. 1); and

CONSIDERING:

That, thus far, not all pledges have been made to finance 1998 appropriations for the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI); and

That, pursuant to Article 59.b of the Charter, the Preparatory Committee transmitted to the General Assembly a working document on the proposed program-budget of the Organization for 1998,

RESOLVES:

I. BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

1. To approve and authorize—with the changes and observations made by the Third Committee, the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters—the program-budget of the Organization for the fiscal period starting January 1 through December 31, 1998, financed by the following funds at the corresponding levels:

	(US\$1,000)
a. Regular Fund	79,990.1
b. Voluntary fund	11,215.2

for a total appropriation of US\$91,205.3, except with respect to programs relating to personnel and other contractual obligations to which reference is made in the General Provisions of this resolution.

2. To approve the specific levels of appropriation by chapter, program, and subprogram^{2/} with the recommendations, instructions, or mandates detailed below in each case:

	1998 (US \$1,000)
CHAPTER 1 — GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND OTHER ORGANS	<u>14,380.1</u>
10A General Assembly (twenty-eighth regular session)	327.0
10B Administrative Tribunal sessions	164.6
10C Inter-American prizes (education, science, culture, and environment)	0.0
10D Board of External Auditors	164.0
10E Permanent Council	1,243.8
10F Office of Protocol	456.7
10G Secretariat of Conferences and Meetings	4,306.5
10H Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission	1,632.4
10I Special Committee on Trade	25.2
10J 50th Anniversary of the Organization of American States	217.5

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2. The purpose of this note is to briefly explain the process which resulted in the allocations to these subprograms. A specific sum for each subprogram was first determined. Subsequently, these sums were adjusted to account for two decisions: first, to reduce object 4 (travel) in all subprograms by 10% and, second, to reduce object 9 (other costs) in all subprograms by 5%. In particular instances, where the total of a subprogram was allocated to a single object code, these adjustments were modified to reflect actual programmed costs in objects 4 and 9.

	1998 (US \$1,000)
10K Meetings of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development	412.7
10L Regional and subregional programming meetings	86.5
10M Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development	190.8
10N Nonpermanent Specialized Committees	140.6
10O Inter-American Commission on Human Rights	2,846.8
10P Inter-American Juridical Committee	470.4
10Q Inter-American Court of Human Rights	1,120.0
10V Committee on Social Development	49.8
10W Unprogrammed OAS conferences	475.0
10Y Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development	49.8
10Z Center for Studies on Democracy	0.0
 CHAPTER 2 — SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER ENTITIES	 <u>5,924.7</u>
20A Inter-American Defense Board	2,192.5
20B Inter-American Children's Institute	1,685.3
20C Inter-American Commission of Women	1,094.7
20D Pan American Development Foundation	192.8
20J Inter-American Telecommunication Commission	759.4
 CHAPTER 3 — EXECUTIVE OFFICES OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT	 <u>8,410.4</u>
30A Office of the Secretary General	2,266.0
30B Office of the Assistant Secretary General	759.3
30C Department of Public Information	1,760.1

	1998 (US \$1,000)
30D Department of Legal Services	843.0
30E Office of the Inspector General	624.2
30F Museum of Art of the Americas	478.9
30G Columbus Memorial Library	1,044.7
30H <i>Américas</i> Magazine	634.2
CHAPTER 4 — UNITS AND SPECIALIZED OFFICES	<u>19,261.7</u>
40A Trade Unit	1,461.1
40B Foreign Trade Information System (SICE)	597.7
41C Unit for the Promotion of Democracy	3,382.1
42D Intersectoral Tourism Unit and Caribbean Tourism Organization	697.2
44E Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment	1,373.6
46F Unit for Social Development and Education	1,100.1
47G Office of Cultural Affairs	646.7
48H Office of Science and Technology	990.7
49M Department of Fellowships	9,012.5
CHAPTER 5 — EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT	<u>13,836.6</u>
Regular Fund	2,621.4
Voluntary fund	11,215.2
55A Office of the Executive Secretary for Integral Development	910.5
56A Division of Operations and Technical Support Services	633.4
57A Division of Planning and Evaluation	303.2
58A Division of Program and Project Coordination	774.3

	1998 (US \$1,000)
59X Unprogrammed CIDI cooperation activities	11,215.2
CHAPTER 6 — OFFICES OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT IN THE MEMBER STATES	<u>6,658.6</u>
60G Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States	6,658.6
CHAPTER 7 — SECRETARIAT FOR LEGAL AFFAIRS	<u>1,848.3</u>
70A Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs	325.2
70B Department of International Law	1,059.5
70G Secretariat of the Administrative Tribunal	176.9
70H Department of Legal Cooperation and Information	286.7
CHAPTER 8 — SECRETARIAT FOR MANAGEMENT	<u>9,456.6</u>
80M Office of the Assistant Secretary for Management	327.2
80N Department of Financial Services	2,196.2
80P Department of Program-Budget	1,119.4
80Q Department of Material Resources	2,676.0
80R Department of Human Resources	1,507.4
80S Department of Management Systems and Information	1,630.4
CHAPTER 9 — COMMON SERVICES	<u>11,428.3</u>
90A Official functions (SG/ASG/PC)	76.1
90B Computer equipment and supplies	775.0
90C Equipment and supplies	300.4
90D Building management and maintenance	5,621.3
90E General insurance	248.4

		1998 (US \$1,000)
90F	Post audits	50.0
90G	Recruitments and transfers	225.0
90H	Terminations and repatriations	1,531.3
90I	Home leave	211.5
90J	Education and language allowance, medical examinations	283.3
90K	Pension for retired executives and health and life insurance for retired employees	1,377.5
90L	Human resources development	161.8
90M	Contribution to the Staff Association	15.5
90Q	Management systems and studies on documents	551.2

II. FINANCING OF THE BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

1. To set the quotas with which the governments of the member states will finance the 1998 program-budget of the Organization corresponding to the Regular Fund, in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 1073 (XX-O/90) and the decision of January 19, 1955, (doc. C-i-269) on income tax reimbursements, using the scale and amounts shown in Table B.

2. To finance the 1998 budget of the Regular Fund with the quotas of the member states, estimated interest income, rental income from space in the General Secretariat Building, and administrative and technical support contributions from the voluntary and specific funds, and all other miscellaneous income.

3. To authorize funding for the voluntary fund portion of the program-budget of the Organization for 1998 at the level of the total collections received by September 30, 1997.

III. GENERAL PROVISIONS

A. BUDGETARY

1. Personnel limits

- a. To maintain at 470 the ceiling on the number of approved posts (object 1) financed by the 1998 program-budget of the Organization.
- b. To maintain the limit of 50% for personnel costs in objects 1 and 2 of the total of the Regular Fund and voluntary fund appropriations.
- c. To instruct the Secretary General to ensure that, in executing the budget, early separations, transfers, and reassignment of personnel are carried out in such a manner as to not adversely affect the approved programs.

2. Travel

To reiterate to the General Secretariat that no funds entrusted to the Organization shall be used to pay travel costs other than for travel on behalf of the Organization and in accordance with Article 47 of the General Standards and Staff Rule 104.2 (b). Any exceptions granted by the Secretary General shall be the subject of an annual special report to the Permanent Council.

3. Fellowships

To authorize any unused or deobligated funds at the end of the fiscal year from the original appropriation to the Fellowship Program, object 3, to be deposited into the Capital Fund that will be set up pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1460 (XXVII-O/97), on fellowship and training programs.

4. Secondment of staff members to other international organizations or government entities

Should the Secretary General decide to allow a staff member to be on secondment at another international organization or government entity, he shall make arrangements previously for such entity to reimburse the full cost of salary and benefits of the staff member as well as any other expenses incurred in relation to such secondment.

5. Seed Fund - Museum

The balance of unobligated and unexpended resources in the Seed Fund on December 31, 1997, shall remain in the Seed Fund for obligations in 1998 in accordance with guidelines in section III.12 of resolution AG/RES. 1381 (XXVI-O/96).

6. Inter-American centers

To instruct the General Secretariat to submit by August 15, 1997, a financial plan for execution of the mandate established in resolution AG/RES. 1381 (XXVI-O/96), section III.14, in accordance with current provisions and rules of the Organization, for the purpose of resolving the situation regarding the staff of the inter-American centers by December 31, 1997.

7. Sustainable development

To instruct the General Secretariat to give priority, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, to the activities conducted by the pertinent bodies to ensure the coordination and follow-up of the agreements reached at the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development.

8. Conference language services

To instruct the General Secretariat to give preference to contracting interpreters and translators locally, insofar as possible, when selecting such personnel for conferences away from headquarters, provided they meet the necessary requirements established by the General Secretariat.

9. Real estate

To request the General Secretariat to conduct a study of the real estate owned by the Organization so as to identify options for maximizing the benefits to the Organization from the real estate, and to present this study to the Permanent Council for its consideration by November 30, 1997.

10. Center for Studies on Democracy

To authorize an amount of up to \$190,000 from the budget allocated to the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy for possible co-financing with the Inter-American Development Bank of a Center for Studies on Democracy. Should the Center not be established, the Permanent Council shall decide on the use of these funds and should give priority to programs for strengthening democratic institutions in the member states.

11. Américas Magazine

- a. To instruct the General Secretariat to use any contribution it receives to produce the magazine in the four official languages of the Organization, as a matter of priority.
- b. To instruct the General Secretariat to give prior approval for all the magazine's activities that require use of the franking privilege;
- c. To instruct the General Secretariat to report all proceeds from the sale of the magazine during 1998 as income of the Organization and to include it in the proposed program-budget;

- d. To determine that the editorial policy of the magazine shall be established by its Editorial Board, which shall ensure that the magazine, as an official publication of the OAS, gives particular attention to promoting the activities of the Organization, as outlined in Article 110 of the Charter.

12. Official functions

To recommend that the entire amount allocated to the Permanent Council under subprogram 90A be distributed in four equal parts for use in each quarter of the year, with necessary flexibility to respond to the requirements of the Permanent Council in order to guarantee that the Chair of the Permanent Council can carry out the representational functions of that office.

13. Report of the Board of External Auditors

To urge the General Secretariat to work closely with the Board of External Auditors to ensure that appropriate documents and records are available early enough to allow the Board to comply with Article 124 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat.

14. General Assembly

To instruct the General Secretariat to prepare for review by the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs an analysis of the costs of the General Assembly over the past five years. This analysis should indicate, by object of expenditure, which costs were paid for by the OAS and which by the host country, including in-kind contributions, as well as the staff employed and the functions performed.

15. Pensions for retired executives and health and life insurance for retired employees

To request the General Secretariat to provide to the Permanent Council by October 15, 1997, a detailed breakdown of all costs under this subprogram.

16. Contribution for technical supervision and administrative support from the voluntary and other funds

To request the General Secretariat to prepare a study comparing the administrative costs for technical supervision and administrative support to the voluntary and other funds of the OAS with those of other organizations and international cooperation agencies since 1990. This analysis should include all direct and indirect costs and should be presented to the Permanent Council by October 31, 1997.

17. Costs of meetings

The General Secretariat shall prepare and present a report, for consideration by the Committee on Meetings and Organizations, that includes:

Information on United Nations practice with respect to the use of languages at meetings and in working groups or subcommittees and an analysis of cost savings which would result from implementing a similar system at the OAS;

Available planning techniques, including the use of scheduling software, to maximize the use of space and interpretation services;

Guidelines for the use of OAS funds for travel and per diem expenses of governmental experts at meetings;

Potential institutional arrangements with airlines and local hotels to provide lower-cost options for the Organization and the member states; and

Draft policies on cost-sharing that will clearly indicate the amount the Organization will finance when a member state or organization offers to host a meeting.

18. Specialized conferences

To instruct the General Secretariat to identify the necessary resources, within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, for implementing the recommendations arising from the review to be conducted by CEPICIDI of the future structure and functions of the Specialized Conferences.

19. Integral development programs and projects

To request the General Secretariat, in consultation with interested member states, to conduct, by November 15, 1997, an evaluation on the volume of funds in the program-budget of the Regular Fund set aside for multilateral projects over the past five years, with a view to deciding on the amounts that should be allocated to comply with the provisions of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 1997-2001, on the basis of CIDI's proposal in this regard.

20. Model OAS General Assembly

To request the Permanent Council to continue to support the Model OAS General Assembly Program currently being carried out in the context of activities performed by the Office of the Director of Public Information; and within allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources, to provide funding that will allow the Program to be expanded, with increasing participation by the relevant agencies and organizations in the member states. To that end, an effort will be made to secure financing and external collaboration. Also to request the General Secretariat to provide all the support needed for this activity in the area of systems and information.

21. Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States

From the total amount appropriated for subprogram 90H, Terminations and repatriations, \$459,900 shall be allocated to the plan to restructure the Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States, in accordance with resolution AG/RES. 1530 (XXVII-O/97). Should these funds not

be used, they shall be earmarked to finance the 1999 budget, as decided by the Permanent Council on the basis of the recommendations of the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs.

22. MERCOCYT

To request the General Secretariat to continue to support the MERCOCYT program through the competent organs and mechanisms in an effort to assist in the development of its plans and programs.

23. Unprogrammed conferences

To instruct the Permanent Council to consider the resolutions sent to the Third Committee by the other General Assembly committees and to distribute the appropriation under subprogram 10W.

B. OTHER FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

1. Program-Budget for 1999

To instruct the Secretary General to submit a proposed program-budget for the Regular Fund for 1999 at a level no higher than that approved for 1997, US\$84,333,500, provided that the General Secretariat can finance it with revenues as defined in section II.2. of this resolution. Should the General Secretariat obtain financing over the level approved for 1997, these funds should go into the Working Capital Subfund until it reaches the level prescribed by the General Standards.

Table A
PROGRAM-BUDGET OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR 1998,
QUOTAS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE VOLUNTARY FUND
(US\$1,000)

<u>A. BUDGETARY APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>REGULAR FUND</u>	<u>VOLUNTARY FUND</u>
1. GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND OTHER ORGANS	14,380.1	14,380.1	
2. SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER ENTITIES	5,924.7	5,924.7	
3. EXECUTIVE OFFICES OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT	8,410.4	8,410.4	
4. UNITS AND SPECIALIZED OFFICES	19,261.7	19,261.7	
5. EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT	13,836.6	2,621.4	11,215.2
6. OFFICES OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT IN THE MEMBER STATES	6,658.6	6,658.6	
7. SECRETARIAT FOR LEGAL AFFAIRS	1,848.3	1,848.3	
8. SECRETARIAT FOR MANAGEMENT	9,456.6	9,456.6	
9. COMMON SERVICES	11,428.3	11,428.3	
 TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	 <u>91,205.3</u>	 <u>79,990.1</u>	 <u>11,215.2</u>

Table A - (cont.)
PROGRAM-BUDGET OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR 1998
QUOTAS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE VOLUNTARY FUND, 1998
(US\$1,000)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Regular Fund</u>	<u>Voluntary Fund</u>
1. <u>Regular Fund</u>			
a. Quotas	73,727.1	73,727.1	
b. Contribution for technical supervision and administrative support from voluntary and specific funds, interest, and rental income	6,263.0	6,263.0	
2. <u>Voluntary Fund</u>			
a. Pledges received			
b. Pledges pending	11,215.2		11,215.2
TOTAL	<u>91,205.3</u>	<u>79,990.1</u>	<u>11,215.2</u>

TABLE B
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
REGULAR FUND
1998 QUOTA ASSESSMENTS

(US\$1,000)

MEMBER STATES	PERCENTAGE	QUOTAS FOR THE YEAR			TOTAL
		BUDGET	INCOME TAX REIMBURSEMENTS	CREDIT a/	
Antigua and Barbuda	0.02	14.9			14.9
Argentina	4.90	3,658.0			3,658.0
The Bahamas, Commonwealth of	0.07	52.3			52.3
Barbados	0.08	59.7	7.0 c/		66.7
Belize	0.03	22.4			22.4
Bolivia	0.07	52.3			52.3
Brazil	8.55	6,382.8			6,382.8
Canada	12.36	9,227.1		(184.5)	9,042.6
Chile	0.54	403.1		(8.1)	395.0
Colombia	0.94	701.7			701.7
Costa Rica	0.13	97.0			97.0
Dominica, Commonwealth of	0.02	14.9			14.9
Dominican Republic	0.18	134.4			134.4
Ecuador	0.18	134.4			134.4
El Salvador	0.07	52.3		(1.0)	51.3
Grenada	0.03	22.4			22.4
Guatemala	0.13	97.0			97.0
Guyana	0.02	14.9			14.9
Haiti	0.07	52.3			52.3
Honduras	0.07	52.3			52.3
Jamaica	0.18	134.4			134.4
Mexico	6.08	4,538.9	14.9 c/		4,553.8
Nicaragua	0.07	52.3			52.3
Panama	0.13	97.0			97.0
Paraguay	0.18	134.4			134.4
Peru	0.41	306.1			306.1
St. Kitts and Nevis	0.02	14.9			14.9
Saint Lucia	0.03	22.4			22.4
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.02	14.9			14.9
Suriname	0.07	52.3			52.3
Trinidad and Tobago	0.18	134.4		(2.7)	131.7
United States	59.47	44,395.9	8,068.0		52,463.9
Uruguay	0.26	194.1			194.1
Venezuela	<u>3.20</u>	<u>2,388.9</u>			<u>2,388.9</u>
Subtotal	98.76	73,727.1	8,089.9	(196.3)	81,620.7
Cuba	<u>1.24 b/</u>	925.7			925.7
TOTAL	<u>100.00</u>	<u>74,652.8</u>	<u>8,089.9</u>	<u>(196.3)</u>	<u>\$82,546.4</u>

a/ 2% of 1997 quota for full payment of 1997 quota by April 30, 1997.

b/ Shown only to establish the percentage corresponding to each member state.

c/ Amount paid to the member state by staff members subject to income taxes.

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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 over 41 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 regular sessions 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 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 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 is 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, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela.

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