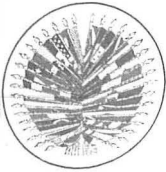


ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES



PERMANENT COUNCIL

CP

OEA/Ser.G
CP/RES. 719 (1151/98)
4 March 1998
Original: Spanish

CP/RES. 719 (1151/98)

REQUEST TO THE INTER-AMERICAN JURIDICAL COMMITTEE
FOR AN OPINION ON THE DRAFT PROTOCOL OF AMENDMENT
TO THE OAS CHARTER AND THE DRAFT RESOLUTION
ON AMENDMENT OF THE AMERICAN
DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MAN

THE PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES,

BEARING IN MIND that the Permanent Council appointed a coordinator for the topic "Situation of Women in the Americas" to follow up on the various activities being carried out at the international level for the benefit of women;

HAVING SEEN the report presented by the coordinator for this topic at the regular meeting of the Permanent Council on March 4, 1998;

MINDFUL that the report proposes:

- a. that a draft protocol of amendment to the OAS Charter be prepared, introducing the term "human being" to replace "man," both in the introduction and in any article in which that term appears. A general provision for the replacement of "man" with "human being" or "person", as appropriate, in all inter-American treaties would also be included; and
- b. that a draft resolution be prepared, providing for amendment of the title of the *American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man* to read *American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of the Human Being*, and that the term "man" be changed to "human being" in the text.

CONSIDERING, moreover, that the aforementioned document, submitted by the coordinator, proposes that the Permanent Council advance this initiative by presenting a query to the Inter-American Juridical Committee (CJI) so that, at its next regular session, which begins in the second week of March, it will issue its expert opinion on the required legal form (i.e., draft of the article of the protocol of amendment and draft of the resolution) and necessary procedure for adoption, if appropriate, of the proposal submitted by the Permanent Council coordinator for the topic "Situation of Women in the Americas";

CONSIDERING that Article 99 of the OAS Charter provides that "the purpose of the Inter-American Juridical Committee is to serve the Organization as an advisory body on juridical matters; to promote the progressive development and the codification of international law; and to study juridical problems related to the integration of the developing countries of the Hemisphere and, insofar as may appear desirable, the possibility of attaining uniformity in their legislation"; and

CONSIDERING that Article 100 of the Charter of the Organization provides that "the Inter-American Juridical Committee shall undertake the studies and preparatory work assigned to it by the General Assembly, the Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, or the Councils of the Organization,"

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Inter-American Juridical Committee to issue, as a matter of priority, during its next regular session, in March 1998, its legal opinion on the proposal presented to the Permanent Council by the coordinator for the topic "Situation of Women in the Americas," as described in the fourth preambular paragraph.

2. To request that the Inter-American Juridical Committee forward the legal opinion to the Permanent Council.