

AG/RES. 2064 (XXXV-O/05)

**THE ROLE OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH IN
COMBATING CORRUPTION AND IMPUNITY IN THE HEMISPHERE**

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 7, 2005)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the importance of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and its ratification by 33 OAS member states, 29 of which are participating in the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC);

EMPHASIZING that the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Mérida Convention) has been signed by numerous states of the Hemisphere and is being ratified by a growing number of countries of the Americas and the rest of the world, which will allow its entry into force;

WELCOMING the work done since its inception by the Committee of Experts of the MESICIC, especially with regard to the adoption of country reports in the context of the first round of review to follow up on the recommendations that they contain;

RECALLING that the legislative branch in the majority of member states has among its functions the adoption of international treaties and conventions, and also performs, *inter alia*, legislative and oversight functions;

RECOGNIZING the important role of the legislative branch in ensuring, within states, full compliance with their international commitments regarding the fight against corruption and impunity;

REAFFIRMING that the fight against corruption is a commitment by all member states to strengthening their respective democratic institutions; and

UNDERSCORING the valuable efforts in the international sphere of global and regional organizations of Latin American and Caribbean legislators working to combat corruption, the purpose of which is to promote parliamentary, political, and legislative action against all forms of corruption, as an important means of safeguarding institutional stability and the ethical values of democratic society,

RESOLVES:

1. To underscore that it is important for the legislative branch of the states parties to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, when carrying out its legislative and, as appropriate, oversight functions, to continue to move forward in:

- a. Implementation of the commitments under the Inter-American Convention against Corruption; and
- b. Consideration and adoption of the necessary measures to expedite the entry into force and ensure the effective implementation of the United

Nations Convention against Corruption (Mérida Convention), in order to help bring about more effective reciprocal cooperation and assistance in the fight against corruption and impunity.

2. To encourage the legislatures of the states parties to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption that participate in its follow-up mechanism to strengthen cooperation with one another, to redouble their efforts geared toward full implementation of the recommendations made in the context of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC), in particular those recommendations requiring legislative action, and to exchange information periodically on the activities carried out in support of the Convention, in keeping with their legislative and oversight functions.

3. To urge the states parties to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption that participate in the MESICIC to publicize in their legislatures the purposes and activities of the Follow-up Mechanism, taking into account its importance in the fight against corruption in the Hemisphere.