

CONSEJO PERMANENTE



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ACTA  
DE LA SESIÓN EXTRAORDINARIA  
CELEBRADA  
EL 19 DE JULIO DE 2010

Aprobada en la sesión del 27 de octubre de 2010

## ÍNDICE

	<u>Página</u>
Nómina de los Representantes que asistieron a la sesión .....	1
Palabras del Presidente del Consejo Permanente .....	2
Ceremonia de investidura del Secretario General Adjunto .....	3
Palabras del Secretario General Adjunto .....	3

## CONSEJO PERMANENTE DE LA ORGANIZACIÓN DE LOS ESTADOS AMERICANOS

### ACTA DE LA SESIÓN EXTRAORDINARIA CELEBRADA EL 19 DE JULIO DE 2010

En la ciudad de Washington, a las tres y dieciocho de la tarde del lunes 19 de julio de 2010, celebró sesión extraordinaria el Consejo Permanente de la Organización de los Estados Americanos con motivo de la toma de posesión del Secretario General Adjunto. Presidió la sesión el Embajador Francisco Proaño, Representante Permanente del Ecuador y Presidente del Consejo Permanente. Asistieron los siguientes miembros:

Embajador Joaquín Alexander Maza Martelli, Representante Permanente de El Salvador  
y Vicepresidente del Consejo Permanente  
Embajador Izben C. Williams, Representante Permanente de Saint Kitts y Nevis  
Embajadora María del Luján Flores, Representante Permanente del Uruguay  
Embajador Graeme C. Clark, Representante Permanente del Canadá  
Embajador Jacques R. C. Kross, Representante Permanente de Suriname  
Embajador Denis Ronaldo Moncada Colindres, Representante Permanente de Nicaragua  
Embajador Gustavo Albin, Representante Permanente de México  
Embajador Cornelius A. Smith, Representante Permanente del Commonwealth de las Bahamas  
Embajador José Enrique Castillo Barrantes, Representante Permanente de Costa Rica  
Embajador Jorge Skinner-Klée, Representante Permanente de Guatemala  
Embajador Héctor Virgilio Alcántara, Representante Permanente de la República Dominicana  
Embajador José E. Pinelo, Representante Permanente de Bolivia  
Embajador Ruy Casaes, Representante Permanente del Brasil  
Embajador Guillermo Cóchez, Representante Permanente de Panamá  
Embajadora Gillian M. S. Bristol, Representante Permanente de Grenada  
Embajadora Carmen Lomellin, Representante Permanente de los Estados Unidos  
Embajador Hugo de Zela, Representante Permanente del Perú  
Embajador Darío Paya, Representante Permanente de Chile  
Embajador Hubert J. Charles, Representante Permanente del Commonwealth de Dominica  
Ministro Consejero Omari Seitu Williams, Representante Interino de San Vicente y las Granadinas  
Ministro Martín Gómez Bustillo, Representante Interino de la Argentina  
Clenie Greer-Lacascade, Representante Interina de Santa Lucía  
Ministra Consejera Ann-Marie Layne Campbell, Representante Interina de Antigua y Barbuda  
Consejera Deborah Yaw, Representante Interina de Guyana  
Lynen Ann Scott, Representante Alterna de Jamaica  
Embajador Antonio Rodrigue, Representante Alterno de Haití  
Primer Secretario Ricardo Kellman, Representante Alterno de Barbados  
Ministra Consejera Carmen Luisa Velásquez de Visbal, Representante Alterna de Venezuela  
Ministro Carlos Iván Plazas, Representante Alterno de Colombia  
Agustín Ignacio Fornell Vintimilla, Representante Alterno del Ecuador  
Consejera Cherie Nisbet, Representante Alterna de Belize  
Ministro Consejero Francisco María Barreiro Perrotta, Representante Alterno del Paraguay  
Consejera Avianne Conyette Boney, Representante Alterna de Trinidad y Tobago

También estuvieron presentes el Secretario General de la Organización, doctor José Miguel Insulza, y el Secretario General Adjunto, Embajador Albert R. Ramdin, Secretario del Consejo Permanente.

## PALABRAS DEL PRESIDENTE DEL CONSEJO PERMANENTE

El PRESIDENTE: Me complace declarar abierta esta sesión extraordinaria del Consejo Permanente de la Organización de los Estados Americanos.

Señores Representantes Permanentes, señor Secretario General, señor Secretario General Adjunto, distinguidos invitados, señoras y señores:

Es un gran honor para mí, como Presidente del Consejo Permanente, dirigirme a ustedes en esta sesión extraordinaria, convocada para la toma de posesión del Embajador Albert R. Ramdin como Secretario General Adjunto de la Organización de los Estados Americanos, cargo para el cual fue reelecto por unanimidad durante el trigésimo noveno período extraordinario de sesiones de la Asamblea General.

La reelección por unanimidad del Embajador Ramdin es un testimonio no solo del reconocimiento de los Estados Miembros a su gestión en los últimos cinco años sino también del apoyo al liderazgo que estamos seguros continuará ejerciendo.

Es innegable que los últimos cinco años en la vida de la Organización se han caracterizado por complejos desafíos. Ante ellos, el Embajador Ramdin ha trabajado continuamente para establecer nuevas relaciones de cooperación a fin de promover los principios y valores de la Organización, valores que han propiciado la visión común para el logro de resultados tangibles.

Recientemente nuestro hemisferio ha sufrido los embates de la naturaleza tales como los devastadores terremotos ocurridos en Chile y Haití, las torrenciales lluvias que han afectado al Brasil y a varios Estados Miembros de Centroamérica. La OEA ha desempeñado importante papel al facilitar el aprovechamiento y coordinación de las operaciones de socorro inmediatamente después de que tales desastres ocurrieran y, precisamente, como resultado de las labores realizadas bajo la coordinación del Embajador Ramdin, han mejorado notablemente los mecanismos de respuesta y socorro en casos de desastres naturales así como de su mitigación.

Como Presidente del Grupo de Amigos de Haití y del Grupo de Trabajo sobre Haití, el Embajador Ramdin ha trabajado y sigue trabajando incansablemente para cumplir con el compromiso de la Organización y de sus miembros con el hermano pueblo de Haití.

Una de las facetas de la labor del Secretario General Adjunto dignas de destacar es su compromiso con el fortalecimiento de la democracia en nuestro hemisferio. Ha ocupado, al respecto, la jefatura de varias misiones de observación electoral durante las cuales su experiencia ha sido útil para facilitar el diálogo político.

Sus esfuerzos para renovar la visibilidad política y la atención al desarrollo de los miembros de la Organización son también muy conocidos. Ha encabezado el diálogo sobre la reforma para el desarrollo, dentro de la Organización, reforma tendiente a asegurar que las prioridades políticas incluyan aquellas del desarrollo, dada la relación que existe entre democracia, desarrollo y seguridad.

El Embajador Ramdin ha trabajado con los Estados Miembros para dar prioridad a la educación, habiendo conseguido el establecimiento de una alianza educativa interregional en la que participan escuelas y universidades del Caribe y Centroamérica. Su labor ha incluido también la

atención a los jóvenes de nuestro hemisferio y se ha enfocado en la inclusión de la juventud en la agenda de la OEA, habiendo creado el Grupo Interdepartamental de la Secretaría sobre la Juventud.

En marzo pasado, al presentarse ante este mismo Consejo, el Embajador Ramdin prometió generosamente continuar dedicando sus esfuerzos a esta Organización, a sus Estados Miembros, al personal de la Secretaría y a todos los ciudadanos de nuestro hemisferio. No me cabe duda de que así será.

Como Presidente del Consejo Permanente estoy seguro de que expreso el sentir de todos los Estados Miembros al renovar nuestra confianza en que su experiencia, su compromiso y su visión serán fundamentales para que la Organización preserve su integridad política e institucional así como su eficiencia operativa.

#### CEREMONIA DE INVESTIDURA DEL SECRETARIO GENERAL ADJUNTO

El PRESIDENTE: Ahora me complace y me honra darle posesión de su cargo como Secretario General Adjunto. Agradeceré a todos ponerse de pie.

[Los miembros del Consejo se ponen de pie.]

La Asamblea General de la Organización, reunida en su trigésimo noveno período extraordinario de sesiones el 24 de marzo del 2010, reeligió por unanimidad al Embajador Albert R. Ramdin como Secretario General Adjunto, de conformidad con el artículo 114 de la Carta de la Organización de los Estados Americanos.

Embajador Ramdin, en nombre del Consejo Permanente de la Organización de los Estados Americanos, me complace anunciar que queda Vuestra Excelencia investido de su cargo como Secretario General Adjunto de esta Organización.

Embajador Ramdin, le ruego tenga a bien aceptar mis felicitaciones al desearle los mejores éxitos en el desempeño de sus responsabilidades como Secretario General Adjunto de la Organización de los Estados Americanos durante los próximos cinco años.

[Aplausos.]

#### PALABRAS DEL SECRETARIO GENERAL ADJUNTO

El PRESIDENTE: Señoras y señores, me complace ahora ceder la palabra al Embajador Albert Ramdin, Secretario General Adjunto de la Organización. Tiene la palabra, señor Secretario General Adjunto.

El SECRETARIO GENERAL ADJUNTO: Chairman of the Permanent Council, Ambassador Francisco Proaño, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Ecuador; Secretary General José Miguel Insulza; distinguished permanent representatives; distinguished alternate representatives; distinguished permanent observers; representatives of international and regional

organizations; specially invited guests, especially my family present; colleagues and friends of the Organization of American States; ladies and gentlemen:

Today, I am pleased to stand before you to accept the honor of serving this institution for a second term. As I did during my first term, I pledge to work untiringly on behalf of the member states and the peoples of the Western Hemisphere.

I believe that the fundamental questions we should ask ourselves today are:

- How will we strengthen and transform this organization in the next five years to respond more effectively to the changing needs of our member states?
- How can we tangibly improve the lives of the peoples of the Americas?
- What can we do to inspire the youth of the Americas with hope and confidence to get them to realize their full potential and aspirations?
- How do we further consolidate and deepen our democracies to strengthen development, security, and human rights in our member states?

Throughout my life, I have been inspired and driven by what I call the three critical Ps: I believe in people, I believe in peace, and I believe in prosperity. It is in this context that I pledge my dedication and commitment in carrying forward the work of this organization throughout my second term in office to the benefit of all peoples in the Americas.

Distinguished Chairman, permanent representatives, sustainable development can only be achieved through inclusive and equitable social and economic policies. Therefore, we cannot allow temporary setbacks or differences in approach to undermine or diminish what has been achieved over the past 62 years. We must build on this foundation of established democratic institutions, shared values, and principles and work harder to deliver the promised and therefore legitimately expected benefits of democracy to all peoples in the Americas.

Unfortunately, there are still peoples in the Americas who are not yet benefitting from what this institution can offer. I believe every effort should be made to ensure that suspended member states and all the peoples of the Americas benefit from being part of this hemispheric family. I remain fully committed to a united hemisphere in which all member states can work together to advance equitable development and the well-being of our citizens. This can only become a reality if we can engage and communicate with these members of the family in a structured manner.

Experiences of the past and current realities make me believe that the traditional development framework must be reconsidered to incorporate greater emphasis on equity, equality, and reduction of poverty. What is needed is a more comprehensive development framework that recognizes the vulnerabilities of countries, especially smaller economies; one that places greater focus on combating extreme poverty and social injustice; and one that aims at achieving social inclusion and equality and a new development paradigm that will fulfill the promise of providing more equitable opportunities for all.

A region with our level of development should not have one third of its inhabitants living below the poverty line. This is unacceptable and disturbing if we want to work towards social stability and sustained security in the Western Hemisphere. It is therefore important to continue social protection programs to protect human capital in our societies.

Allow me to say here a few words about our sister country of Haiti, which has faced historic challenges and was recently devastated by a major earthquake. The international community has demonstrated exemplary solidarity with and commitment to the people of Haiti. Now, the international community must make good on pledges made toward Haiti's social and economic development.

Whatever efforts are undertaken by the international community and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) worldwide must be done with Haitian input and under Haitian leadership. We should be guided by agreed principles of the OAS and its partners: ownership by the people of Haiti, coordination, sustainability, effectiveness, inclusiveness, and accountability.

As the country prepares for constitutionally prescribed presidential and parliamentary elections by the end of this year, it is critical that we continue to support the progress achieved in Haiti over the last several years, as well as its current recovery and reconstruction efforts. That comprehensive and long-term commitment is essential to maintain social and political stability and security and to bolster long-term development.

I believe that we need to make a commitment to what I call "next-generation measures" to strengthen and deepen democracy in our hemisphere. Next-generation measures must go beyond elections and the formal establishment of democratic institutions. As a reflection of this new path, governments and multilateral organizations must be willing to:

- Modernize political systems and relevant institutions;
- Improve efficiency, transparency, and accountability of representative bodies and civil service;
- Incorporate human rights as a fundamental part of the education and governance framework;
- Emphasize development and equality as integral to democratic strengthening;
- Promote greater citizen participation by providing effective mechanisms through which ordinary citizens have a voice in decision making; and
- Encourage more public-private partnerships for progress.

Ladies and gentlemen, undoubtedly, vibrant and stable democracies help to promote greater security. The reality, however, is that the leaders of our region are confronted every day by a range of traditional and nontraditional security threats, many of which are cross-border in nature. As a hemispheric community, we have a collective responsibility to work toward the security and safety of our citizens.

In this context, I believe governments must review how they can create better conditions for stability and security through greater cooperation with respect to judicial reform, law enforcement, and information sharing. I also believe that we must maintain our commitment to the fight against illegal drugs, human and arms trafficking, organized crime, and terrorism. The growing challenges of environmental degradation, climate change, and natural disasters make hemispheric collaboration a must.

I continue to believe that we should pay greater attention to the epidemic of crime and violence that threatens the security of our citizens. If we are to find real solutions to crime and violence, it is important to not only focus on law enforcement but also to understand the underlying social and economic causes. We also need to establish targeted intervention at all levels and promote violence prevention methods in partnership with governments, the private sector, families, schools, and communities.

The OAS must remain a unique vehicle for resolving differences and building consensus. I believe that we should engage proactively, employing structural peace-building efforts and quiet diplomacy as effective tools for assisting member states to resolve disputes before they evolve into larger conflicts. That process of engagement is essential if we want to be fully responsive to the purpose and goals of the OAS stated in the founding Charter and in the Inter-American Democratic Charter.

During my second term, I will continue efforts to strengthen this organization. I will continue to work with all member states to build a more relevant, efficient, and effective Organization of American States, and I look forward to a continued and strengthened working relationship with Secretary General José Miguel Insulza.

The OAS is an historic institution that is a trusted principal political space to inspire the nations of the Americas to reach consensus on collective action and to move forward a positive agenda for fostering equality and equity for all. Like you, I continue to have faith in the vision of the Great Liberator Simón Bolívar of a united and peaceful Americas. If this organization is to fulfill the promise and the premise of that early and inspiring vision and be able to respond in a decisive way to both challenges and emerging opportunities, I believe that:

- The future requires an organization that is appropriately staffed, effectively managed, and well funded;
- The OAS of the 21st century must retain its dynamism, insight, and capacity and become more adept at responding to evolving ideas and the changing needs and priorities of member states in a global environment;
- We must place greater emphasis on revitalizing the inter-American system through the Summits of the Americas process, as well as strengthening partnerships with other international institutions and permanent observer states; and
- The OAS must continue to be the main political hub for consultation, negotiation, and partnership in the Americas, while recognizing the valuable work carried out by subregional integration entities.



Additionally, as we seek to strengthen the OAS, I fully intend to continue the modernization of our institution and the implementation of sustainable policies that, among other things, will result in a “green” OAS that complies with sound environmental policies and generates increased efficiency and timeliness in the delivery of services.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is my firm belief that the relevance of this institution will be enhanced when we focus equally on dialogue, action, and results. We must live up to the expectations of the peoples of the Americas, who expect that OAS actions will ultimately provide them and their children with a safe and stable environment with economic opportunities to improve their lives in a meaningful way.

Let us not forget that whatever we do, it is always in the service of people, peace, and prosperity.

I thank you very much.

[Aplausos.]

El PRESIDENTE: Muchas gracias por sus palabras, señor Secretario General Adjunto.

Señoras y señores, en nombre de los miembros del Consejo Permanente, quiero agradecerles habernos acompañado para dar posesión de su cargo al señor Secretario General Adjunto en su segundo período.

Para celebrar esta feliz ocasión, deseo invitarles ahora a que acompañemos al Embajador Ramdin a un brindis que gentilmente es ofrecido por la Misión Permanente de Suriname.

Muchas gracias.

Se levanta la sesión.

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