**WG 3 Topic 3**

**“MEASURES TO MITIGATE THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19 AND JOINT ACTIONS TO REVIVE THE ECONOMY AT THE REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS AFTER THE PANDEMIC”**

Resolution presented by the Delegations of Peru, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela

**THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,**

**DEEPLY CONCERNED** that there have been more than 2.5 million deaths (over 41%) in the Americas compared to approximately 6 million deaths around the world due to COVID-19 and the dramatic impact on the economy of all Member states which affects the life and stability of every citizen in the Americas and can lead to poverty;

**RECOGNIZING** that the leaders of OAS member states have a responsibility, as outlined in Articles 11 and 12 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, to acknowledge the economic situations, which are widely impacted by multiple factors including, but not limited to, in some instances, questionable political leadership, pre-COVID-19 overwhelmed health systems, unemployment rates, and other underlying social conditions the COVID-19 Pandemic has created, what researchers and publishers have come to refer to as a '*Crisis Within a Crisis’;*

**COGNIZANT** with articles 2(f) and (g) respectively, the Charter of the Organization of American States, it is the prerogative of member states to foster their economic, cultural and social development by engaging in cooperative action and contributing to the eradication of extreme poverty which poses as a hindrance to the wholesome democratic development of their people;

**NOTING** that in article 43 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) the member states agreed to give adequate priority to the preparation and carrying out of multinational projects and to their financing, as well as to encourage economic and financial institutions of the inter-American system to continue giving their broadest support to regional integration institutions and programs in order to strengthen and accelerate integration in all its aspects;

**NOTING FURTHER** that in article 34 of the Organization of American States (OAS) member states agreed that, among other things, the abolition of extreme property, equitable distribution of wealth and income, and full participation of the people in decisions affecting their own (economic) development are all basic goals of integral development;

RESOLVES:

1. To suggest member states to stimulate “Foreign Direct Investment” (FDI) inflows, that will provide them with capital investment, transfer of knowledge (know-how) in management and technology, employment, speed up international collaboration, increasing economic activity and increasing the “Gross Domestic Product” (GDP).  This can be achieved on the following ways:

* Firstly, member states must ensure that approximately more than 70 % of the local population is vaccinated, so that the COVID-19 restrictions policies on free movement like border closures and lockdowns can slowly be eased and lifted. These two measures can have a negative impact on FDI inflows;
* Secondly, members states must sign Tax treaties with important trading partners and emerging economies with high growth. The Tax treaties will prevent the foreign investors from double taxation (taxation on the profit that has been achieved will only take place by one of the countries, either the country of origin or the country where the investment has taken place);
* Finally, member states must ensure that their national investment and fiscal legislation are up to date and auspicious for FDI’s.

2. To ensure a stability in the economic system by mitigating the economic impact of COVID-19 and reviving the economy at regional and national levels after the pandemic throughout the member states, by providing COVID Relief stimulus packages through debt- financing from the World Bank.

1. Introducing Industry bailouts, which will be targeted at individual companies or an entire sector. These can take the form of low-interest loans, loan guarantees and direct subsidies;
2. Providing Tax incentives for both businesses and citizens;
3. Providing direct payment to the citizens through tax- free stimulus checks.

This will stimulate the economy by providing spending cash to the citizens and prevent businesses from entering into bankruptcy so a complete collapse of the financial system can be avoided.

3. To call all member states to re-examine and, where practical, abandon all international sanctions that negatively impact the economy, focusing primarily on the causes and necessary remedial actions.

1. Re-examine sanctions imposed on other member states that impede the trade of natural resources, which in-turn negatively impacts the economy;
2. Re-examine the sanction that prohibits the member states from accessing the Financial Markets and engaging in debt purchasing transactions;

Member states should immediately initiate these discussions, especially with the current feud between Russia and Ukraine, which has already affected the region.

4. To recommend Member States to, as a body and independently, lobby multilateral financial institutions/organizations of the region to offer additional external financial assistance (humanitarian aid). This financial assistance should focus primarily on the investment in revitalizing the employment market, improving health systems, Sanitation Programs, and enhancing and developing Social Programs. These additional financial assistance programs will aid in promoting economic and political stability, encourage growth and development, and aid in promoting peace, partnership, and the protection of each member state.

5. To urge member states to support common interests and lobby international financial institutions to provide assistance through the disbursement of Public Health Grants to address the additional needs (ARV/Antibiotics) for minority groups (LGBTQ), to control the spread of HIV/AIDS, and to strengthen member state public health sectors to equip member state governments to provide special care for vulnerable people (people living with comorbidities, underlying chronic conditions). These funds are critical and will help member states develop their Maternal Health Sectors by delivering universal and high-quality prenatal and postnatal care during public health crisis.

6. To mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19, which is necessary to revive the economy, by the following joint actions of OAS member states:

1. Strengthen information systems, digital transformation of health systems, to produce empirical data in order to improve access, quality, response capacity, disease surveillance and outbreak response;
2. Strengthen the exercise of public health functions and combining prevention activities;
3. Contribution of economic policy by rebuilding through progressive fiscal and public spending that is efficient, effective, equitable and prioritizes the needs of the region’s societies;
4. Increase public expenditure to improve its effectiveness and efficiency
5. Promoting social inclusion through access to a quality education system, access to basic services and expanded access to information and community technologies, in particular the internet;
6. Investing in a green recovery;
7. Strengthening interregional solidarity through improved regional frameworks and financing mechanisms to address the immediate shocks caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and pave the way to long term economic recovery.