

**2014 Washington Model Organization of
American States General Assembly**

Electronic Packet

Special Committee on Migration



REGIONAL INTEGRATION AND EDUCATION ABOUT MOBILE MONEY SYSTEMS

Special Committee on Migration
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of the Dominican Republic

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

That the preamble to the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) declares that the OAS “contribution to the progress and the civilization of the world will increasingly require intensive continental cooperation;”

UNDERSTANDING:

That the Inter-American Development Bank reports that the volume of remittances transferred to Latin American countries reached \$61 billion in 2012, which is higher than the combined total of net FDI flows and official development assistance to the region, and that remittances are increasingly transferred via Mobile Money technologies, including cell phone transfers;

BEARING IN MIND:

That the Multilateral Investment Fund of the Inter-American Development Bank reported in 2000 that the average transaction cost to Latin American countries was 15% of the value of the transaction and that its goal was to reduce this by 50% by 2010;

That the Multilateral Investment Fund started a Remittance Project in 2000 with “the aim of addressing the following goals by 2010: a) Reduce the cost of remittance transfers; b) Decrease transaction costs to remittance recipients and improve access to transfers; c) Mobilize some portion of remittances into savings in financial institutions; d) Mobilize some part of remittances into productive investments (i.e., businesses) for migrants;”

REITERATING:

The commitments made at the Special Summit of the Americas in Monterrey, México in January of 2004 and the resulting Declaration of Nuevo Leon, in which the Heads of State and Government expressed their commitment to “work together to eliminate regulatory obstacles that affect the cost of these transfers and reduce their average costs by at least half by 2008;”

The specific commitment within the Declaration of Nuevo Leon, to “adopt, as needed or appropriate, measures such as: the promotion of competition between the providers of these services, the elimination of regulatory obstacles and other restrictive measures that affect the cost of these transfers, as well as the use of new technologies, while maintaining effective financial oversight;”

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION:

That the Multilateral Investment Fund 2009 Report stated that region met its target goal of reducing the transaction cost of remittances by 50% by 2010 with an average transaction cost of 5.6% of the value of the transaction;

ACKNOWLEDGING:

That the Inter-American Development Bank reports that only 15% of the rural population of Latin America and the Caribbean has access to formal financial services, and that roughly 60% of adults in Latin America do not have a bank account; and

AFFIRMING:

That the Technologies for Financial Inclusion Program of the Inter-American Development Bank, “supports projects that seek to improve access to financial services for low-income populations in Latin America and the Caribbean, through the innovative application of technology solutions,”

RESOLVES:

1. To commend the OAS member states for meeting the goal set at the Summit for halving remittance transaction costs.
2. To encourage additional member states to take advantage of the opportunity to implement projects through the Technologies for Financial Inclusion Program.
3. To propose:
 - i. At the next OAS meeting of finance ministers there be discussion of strategies and technologies for integrating the Mobile Money systems currently used in member states.
 - ii. Expanded collaboration with the Multilateral Investment Fund and Inter-American Development Bank to encourage development of financial education programs covering Mobile Money and targeted to rural populations.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____ (Signature of Delegate) _____ (Country Represented)

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**ENCOURAGE THE CREATION OF A PATH TO CITIZENSHIP
FOR UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS IN MEMBER STATES**

Special Committee on Migration
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago

Topic No. 2 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 30 of the Charter of the Organization of America States (OAS), which states that “The Member States, inspired by the principles of Inter-American solidarity and cooperation, pledge themselves to a united effort to ensure international social justice in their relations and integral development for their peoples, as conditions essential to peace and security”;

Article 32 of the Charter, which reaffirms that “Inter-American cooperation for integral development should be continuous and preferably channeled through multilateral organizations, without prejudice to bilateral cooperation between Member States”;

Article 37 of the Charter, which emphasizes that “Member States agree to join together in seeking a solution to urgent or critical problems that may arise whenever the economic development or stability of any Member State is seriously affected by conditions that cannot be remedied through the efforts of that State”;

Article 111 of the Charter, which states that “The General Secretariat shall promote economic, social, juridical, educational, scientific, and cultural relations among all the Member States of the Organization, with special emphasis on cooperation for the elimination of extreme poverty”;

RECALLING:

The attempts made by the United States of America in 2001, 2006, and 2012 to pass legislation that would have provided a path to residency, and potentially citizenship, to those immigrants who arrived undocumented and showed serious interest in furthering their education;

That in establishing the Migration and Development Program (managed by the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development), one of its specific objectives being to “facilitate cooperation and the exchange of best practices,” the OAS has made a continuous and clear effort to “contribute to the promotion and development of public policies that will lead to improved migration management in the Americas”; and

CONSIDERING:

That migration has been and will continue to be a part of the history of the Western Hemisphere;

That when people migrate, families migrate, and that when families migrate, they may include members who are too young to understand that their move is an undocumented one;

That education is essential to creating opportunities for gainful employment,

RESOLVES:

1. To encourage Member States to consider creating a path to citizenship for those undocumented immigrants who arrived as minors younger than the age of 13 years.

2. That these programs for citizenship fall under the following recommended guidelines, whereby the migrant will have:
 - a. Lived in the country continuously for at least 4 years.
 - b. Completed high school or the equivalent, and thereafter be enrolled in a four-year degree program or a two-year trade school.
3. To suggest that Member States make available scholarships, as many as financially feasible, for those immigrants who came as minors and who are on the path to citizenship, such that:
 - a. The recipients of these scholarships study abroad a minimum of one semester in their country of origin with the guarantee to be able to return to their country of migration.
 - c. Funding for these scholarships be requested from a, or several, third party international organizations or non-profit non-governmental organizations.
 - d. The scholarship be used to fund the first two years of higher education and the travel to the country of origin.
4. To request that Member States report to the General Assembly in 2015 on whether or not this program creating a path to citizenship as outlined in resolve 2 was established.
5. That Member States participating in creating a scholarship program as outlined in resolve 3 provide a report on the progress of the program to the General Assembly in 2018.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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**PROMOTING COLABRATIVE EFFORTS TO REDUCE COSTS AND INCREASE
EFFECTIVENSNS OF REMITTANCES AND TO BANK THE UNBANKED
PEOPLE OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Special Committee on Migration
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Mexico

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECOGNIZING:

That Article 36 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) states that one of the purposes of the organization is to seek “a solution to urgent or critical problems that may arise whenever the economic development or stability of any Member State is seriously affected by conditions that cannot be remedied through the efforts of that State”;

That Article 12 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter emphasizes that “The OAS member states are committed to adopting and implementing all those actions required to generate productive employment, reduce poverty, and eradicate extreme poverty” throughout the Hemisphere;

That in the Independent Review of the Multilateral Investment Fund Remittance Portfolio, Ten Years of Innovation in Remittances: Lessons Learned and Models for the Future, it is noted that “On a macroeconomic level, the volume of remittances transferred to Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) countries dwarfs the combined total of net foreign direct investment flows and official development assistance to the region. In many countries remittances also represent double-digit portions of gross domestic product” and that “at the local level, remittances are vitally important to the families receiving them” and that “families that receive remittances are better off than their non-remittance-receiving neighbors”;

That the Summit of the Americas in the Declaration of Nuevo León, at the Special summit in Monterrey, Nuevo León, Mexico 2004 declared “that remittances are an important source of capital in many countries of the Hemisphere. We commit to take concrete actions to promote the establishment, as soon as possible, of necessary conditions”;

CONSIDERING:

That the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF), a member of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) states that “in 2011 only 39% of adults in Latin America and the Caribbean have a bank account” and that there are approximately 250 million transfers a year sending more than US\$61 billion of remittances to Latin America and the Caribbean;

That Article 40 of the Charter of the OAS reminds Member States that they “shall promote improvement and coordination of transportation and communication in the developing countries and among the Member States”;

That Article 14 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter calls member states “to promote dialogue, cooperation for integral development, and the fight against poverty in the Hemisphere, and to take the appropriate measures to further these objectives”;

That the Independent Review of the Multilateral Investment Fund Remittance Portfolio, Ten Years of Innovation in Remittances: Lessons Learned and Models for the Future, states that the MIF was able to help achieve “approximately a 75 percent drop in remittance sending costs since 2000” but also notes that “the

potential of remittances for development is greater than their current impact” and if remittance senders and recipients were to be linked with bank accounts many financial opportunities would become available, helping to reduce poverty;

That the MIF’s Remittances and Savings Program Brochure, May 2013, referring to remittances, states that “more than two thirds of these transfers are paid out in cash on the receiving end” and that this is a “costly and unsafe practice” which needs to be replaced with options that help “the reduction of household vulnerability among remittance clients in Latin America and the Caribbean through the design and distribution of financial products and services adapted to the needs and preferences of remittance clients”; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The report, Remittances in LAC: Their Impact on Local Economies and the Response of Local Governments, by the OAS’ Department of State Modernization and Governance, Secretariat for Political Affairs, states the importance of the increased involvement by more banks in offering remittance services and the need to “offer financial literacy programs aimed at remittance recipients, financial product design or marketing, and modernization of payment systems” in order to increase the effectiveness of remittances;

That the report, Remittances to Latin America and the Caribbean: Issues and Perspectives on Development, Special Summit of the Americas in Monterrey Mexico January 2004, commissioned by the Office for the Summit Process OAS, speaks to the need to reduce costs of remittances so that “more money is freed up for Latin American and Caribbean families and communities, thus enhancing the developmental potential of remittances”;

That the OAS must address and reduce problems that hinder development and that this includes the complications and lack of options for senders and recipients of remittances,

RESOLVES:

1. To commend the work of the IDB, MIF, and the various entities of the OAS in collecting information on remittances and implementing programs to reduce various costs for senders and receivers or remittances.
2. To request the IDB, MIF, Special Committee on Migration Issues of the Permanent Council and the Department of Economic and Social Development jointly create a Working Group on Remittances and Banking Access to investigate and make proposals to address:
 - a. More affordable means of sending and receiving remittances.
 - b. Methods that encourage and reduce the cost for unbanked people to open bank accounts.
 - c. Ways to create a more competitive market of remittance service providers in order to increase options for senders and receivers.
 - d. A process for sending remittances that has fewer fees, more methods for receiving money, and more monitored and regulated transfers.
 - e. Educating remittance senders and recipients about the various options for transferring funds.
 - f. Promote and inform unbanked individuals about the benefits of opening a bank account.

3. To Request that the Working Group on Remittances and Banking Access report its findings and recommendations to the Permanent Council quarterly.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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**THE REDUCTION OF BARRIERS TO REMITTANCES AND INTERNATIONAL
MONETARY TRANSFERS BETWEEN MEMBER STATES**

Special Committee on Migration
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Colombia

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

REAFFIRMING:

That according to the Charter of the Organization of American States, member-states “agree that technical and financial cooperation that seeks to promote regional economic integration should be based on the principle of harmonious, balanced, and efficient development, with particular attention to the relatively less-developed countries, so that it may be a decisive factor that will enable them to promote, with their own efforts, the improved development of their infrastructure programs, new lines of production, and export diversification”;

That the Charter of the Organization of American States determines that the member-states “agree 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”;

That the Inter American Charter states that the “promotion and observance of economic, social, and cultural rights are inherently linked to integral development, equitable economic growth, and to the consolidation of democracy in the states of the Hemisphere”;

RECOGNIZING:

The Declaration of Nuevo Leon, signed at the 2004 Summit of the Americas held in Monterrey, Mexico, in which Heads of State and Government declared: “We recognize that remittances are an important source of capital in many countries of the Hemisphere... We will adopt, as needed or appropriate, measures such as: the promotion of competition between the providers of these services, the elimination of regulatory obstacles and other restrictive measures that affect the cost of these transfers, as well as the use of new technologies, while maintaining effective financial oversight”;

AG/RES. 2729 (XLII-O/12), which “encourage[s] states to facilitate the safe and expeditious transfer without restrictions of remittances, earnings, goods, and pensions of migrants to their countries of origin or to any other country, in accordance with applicable legislation, bearing in mind that the funds belong to the migrants themselves, and to consider, as appropriate, measures to overcome other obstacles to such transfers”;

and

BEARING IN MIND:

That the 2011 *International Migration in the Americas* (SICREMI) report, commissioned by the Organization of American States, in association with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, stated that, “Remittances play an important role in the region as a source of foreign currency but also to fight poverty as well as to foster households’ investments in education and health...” and that for each percentage point increase in the share of remittances in gross domestic product, the fraction of the population living in poverty is reduced by about 0.4 percent on average;

CREATION OF THE PROGRAM “COMMUNICATION, CONNECTION AND INTERRELATION” FOR THE PROTECTION OF REFUGEES IN THE HEMISPHERE

Special Committee on Migration
Resolution Presented by the Delegation of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

Topic No: 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The Preamble of The Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 1951, which states that “The grant of asylum may place unduly heavy burdens on certain countries, and a satisfactory solution of a problem of which the United Nations has recognized the international scope and nature cannot therefore be achieved without international cooperation”;

BEARING IN MIND:

The Preamble of The Mexico Declaration and Plan of Action (2004) which reaffirms “The principles of the indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights and the need to provide comprehensive protection to refugees that guarantees the full enjoyment of their rights, in particular, civil, economic, social and cultural rights”;

The Preamble of The Mexico Declaration and Plan of Action (2004) which reminds “To States, international organizations and civil society the importance of fully involving uprooted populations in the design and implementation of assistance and protection programmes, recognizing and valuing their human potential”;

EMPHASIZING:

The incorporation of refugees’ issues within national and regional development agendas, which may help to reduce the gap between humanitarian assistance and development efforts, making a positive contribution to the longer term welfare of host communities and making protection-based solutions more sustainable;

APPEALING TO:

The Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) to consider the importance that the promotion of social and economic development has for the persons who are in need of international protection and local hosting communities alike, considering that the international protection includes a local integration and a basic assistance that only can be given if the refugee-receiving country has the proper conditions to secure the quality of life of their population; and

RECALLING:

The Preamble of AG/RES. 2047 (XXXIV-O/04) “To promote enhanced protection for refugees, comprehensive strategies and coordinated actions are needed that include, among other aspects, voluntary repatriation and, when appropriate and feasible, local integration or resettlement in a third country, in a context of increasing solidarity and effective cooperation among all states”;

Article 5 of AG/RES. 2047 (XXXIV-O/04) “To call on Member States and the international community to increase technical and economic cooperation to the countries of the Hemisphere that receive

**TOWARDS A FINANCIAL STRUCTURE TO FACILITATE AND ENHANCE
THE TRANSFER OF REMITTANCES AMONG NATIONS**

Special Committee on Migration
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Chile

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND:

That Article 3 of the Charter of the Organization of the American States (OAS) states “economic cooperation is essential to the common welfare and prosperity of the peoples of the continent”;

That Article 32 of the OAS Charter states that the “Inter-American cooperation for integral development should be continuous and preferably channeled through multilateral organizations, without prejudice to bilateral cooperation between Member States and the Member States shall contribute to inter-American cooperation for integral development in accordance with their resources and capabilities and in conformity with their laws”;

HAVING SEEN:

Article 3 of the OAS Social Charter, which reaffirms the imperative need for the hemispheric community to support national development efforts consistent with the principles of the OAS Charter and the commitment of member states to deepen solidarity and inter-American cooperation on development;

Article 35 of the OAS Social Charter, which states, “In hemispheric cooperation, member states will promote inclusive mechanisms that favor the development of horizontal, South-South, and triangular cooperation actions, complementing traditional cooperation mechanisms”;

RECALLING:

The United Nations A/RES/65/170 which recognizes "that remittance flows constitute sources of private capital, complement domestic savings and are instrumental in improving the well-being of recipients"; additionally remittances are an important source of central bank reserves that nations use satisfy their international obligations and in some countries are used by the sender as a form of public investment;

The United Nations A/RES/65/170 "Reaffirms that there is a need to further address and promote conditions for cheaper, faster and safer transfers of remittances in both source and recipient countries and, as appropriate, to encourage opportunities for development-oriented investment in recipient countries by beneficiaries";

AWARE:

According to a report by the United Nations, more than 230 million people were living outside their countries of birth in 2013. International migration boosts world incomes because it allows workers to move to where they are more productive, which result in an increase of aggregate output and income;

Based on World Bank research, remittances in the receiving country has been associated with a lower level and severity of poverty, higher human capital accumulation by children, greater health of family members, more education expenditures, better access to information and communication technologies, improved access to formal financial sector services, enhanced small business investment, more entrepreneurship, better preparedness for natural disasters; and reduced child labor;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The World Bank's Remittance Prices World-wide (Q4 2013) estimated the costs to send remittances from Chile to Peru using remittance transfer operators. The estimated costs to send remittances using Western Union and MoneyGram were 8.11% and 5.76% respectively;

The Central Bank of Chile estimates that the average amount of remittance sent from Chile to Peru is \$170. When the World Bank's remittance price percentages are applied to this amount, it costs \$13.79 if the sender uses Western Union or \$9.79 if the sender uses MoneyGram. These costs represent a significant loss of funds especially when the receiving person and sending person are of low income;

ACKNOWLEDGING:

Western Union reported \$5.5 billion in revenue in 2013 and a network of more than 43,300 locations spanning over 40 countries and territories in the Latin American region. MoneyGram reported \$1.5 billion in revenue in 2013 and a network of approximately 35,000 locations in Latin America;

The United States' Federal Reserve Bank has an electronic system to transfer money called the FedGlobal Automatic Clearing House system (FedGlobal ACH). This system, which is in place in 11 Latin American countries, provides low cost, safe, efficient, flexible delivery options of transfer funds including remittance;

The United States' Federal Reserve Bank and the Central Bank of Mexico (Banco de México) have put in place a remittance system called *Directo a México* offering a low-cost, efficient cross-border payments through participating commercial banking institutions. This system includes the transfers of remittances without an exchange rate fee helping to decrease the cost of sending remittance; and

CONSIDERING:

An estimate by The World Bank found that, if the cost of sending remittances can be decreased by 5 percentage points, this decrease will represent an increase in an additional \$16 billion dollars per year to the

receiving country, contributing to an increase in savings and buying power, and investment in local economies;

That AG/RES. 2790 (XLIII-O/13) which resolves to encourage states to facilitate the safe and expeditious transfer of remittances without restrictions,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states of OAS to take steps to fulfill the United Nations A/RES/65/170 and AG/RES. 2790 (XLIII-O/13) resolutions which reaffirm and encourage the need to further address and increase the efficiency of sending remittances.
2. To request that the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) create a committee that would investigate how an electronic system to transfer funds like the FedGlobal ACH and *Directo a México* can be incorporated within the existing financial structure in Latin America to increase the efficiency in the transfer of remittance.
3. To request that the committee consider, but not be limited to:
 - a. Work with Latin American Central Banks' officials to explore how they may be able to participate in the FedGlobal ACH and/or implement a system similar to *Directo a México*.
 - b. Identify the factors that are limiting the participation of central banks in Latin America and other financial institution in the FedGlobal ACH and in a system like *Directo a México*.
 - c. Explore how remittance transfer operators (RTO), such as Western Union and MoneyGram, can be incorporated within the FedGlobal ACH system.
 - d. Seek the cooperation of the central banks in Latin America in order to determine the factors that limit domestic financial institutions to take advantage of international transfer of payments like the FedGlobal ACH system.
 - e. Determine the cost-benefit that would arise if remittance transfer operators were incorporated into the central bank system.
 - f. In Cooperation with Economic Development Agencies, explore the potential of developing an incentive program designed to encourage the spending of remittances on public investments, such as school, parks, and hospitals, given the higher human capital and better health associated with remittances recipients
4. To seek funding for the committee to be provided by organization such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), The World Bank's Global Remittance Working Group, Inter-American Development Bank, Central Bank of Chile, The United States Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Central Bank of México, Centro de Estudios Monetarios Latinoamericanos (CEMLA), Banco Rendimiento, MicroFinance International Corporation (MFIC), MoneyGram, Western Union.

5. To distribute and present the findings of the committee in the next General Assembly, 2015

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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PROVIDING MICROLOANS TO INTER-CONTINENTAL REFUGEES

Special Committee on Migration
Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Uruguay

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 3 of the Organization of American States' Charter that affirms, "The elimination of extreme poverty is an essential part of the promotion and consolidation of representative democracy and is the common and shared responsibility of the American States";

Article 3, section k of the Organization of American States' Charter encouraging, "The promotion and observance of economic, social, and cultural rights are inherently linked to integral development, equitable economic growth, and to the consolidation of democracy in the states of the Hemisphere";

Article 33 of the Organization of American States' Charter expressing that "Development is a primary responsibility of each country and should constitute an integral and continuous process for the establishment of a more just economic and social order that will make possible and contribute to the fulfillment of the individual";

Article 43 of the Organization of American States' Charter that states, "In order to strengthen and accelerate integration in all its aspects, the Member States agree 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";

Article 13 of the Organization of American States' Democratic Charter advocating "The promotion and observance of economic, social, and cultural rights are inherently linked to integral development, equitable economic growth, and to the consolidation of democracy in the states of the Hemisphere";

CONSIDERING:

The Inter-American Development Bank's 2013 Latin American and Caribbean Macroeconomic Report that indentified "[Latin America and the Caribbean] will be unable to close its deep infrastructure gaps... Indeed, if the relatively poor stock of infrastructure is a barrier to growth ... then growth in the region may be even lower than projected";

The Cartagena Declaration on Refugees, which resolved to "ensure that programs and projects are set up with a view to ensure the self-sufficiency of refugees";

RECOGNIZING:

The Summits of the Americas Joint Summit Working Group of the World Bank recognizes, "In 2007, in accordance with its commitment to the microfinance industry and regional leadership in promoting it, CAF approved 57 operations with 38 agencies that provide

micro financial institutions with funding in 11 countries, in the amount of USD \$112.5 million, and, at the same time, it worked to incorporate new clients into its existing portfolios”;

The research by Dr. Hiatt and Dr. Woodworth of BrighamYoungUniversity, published in the 43rd edition of *the Social Science Journal*, discovered, “Microcredit appears to improve the lives of those who are poor by increasing their buying and investing capability, thus lifting them onto a higher economic plane. Accordingly, these small loans seem to positively affect poverty by creating entrepreneurship and greater self-reliance among the poor”;

The 2004 UNHCR ‘Mexico Plan of Action’ that acknowledges “microcredit projects for refugee women were shown to be a key element in the integration of refugee families”; and

RECALLING:

OAS resolution AG/RES. 2082 (XXXV-O/05) drafted by the Delegation of Venezuela that developed a resolution “To invite governments to design, promote, and develop microfinance and micro financing systems and institutions, especially for lending, tailored to specific national and regional realities, and to set up special funds for that purpose, in order to create assets to help reduce the economic vulnerability of families and persons who are excluded from the formal banking system”,

RESOLVES:

1. To advise the Organization of American States drafts the creation of an Inter-American Refugee Settlement and Repatriation Micro Financial Fund (IARSRMF) to be:
 - a. Funded through existing donors and non-governmental organizations, and the Inter-American Development Bank.
 - b. Utilized in the settlement of permanently displaced peoples, the temporary settlement of displaced peoples, and the voluntary repatriation of peoples to their nation of origin.
 - c. Utilized in providing refugees with short and long term microloans to be used towards resettlement and repatriation, including but not limited to, lodging, nutrition, education, communication, and travel.
 - d. Adverse to seeking profit on loans.
 - e. Self-sustaining in providing loan/grant sums after six years.
2. To assign the creation and management of the fund to the Organization of American States’ Inter-American Committee on Microfinancial Aid to Refugees (IACMAR) based on the best practices of and in cooperation with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the International Monetary Organization (IMF), and the United Nations Humans Rights Commission (UNHCR).
3. To encourage IACMAR to coordinate with private, public, and non-governmental organizations to identify and support those seeking and attaining microloans.
 - a. Non-governmental organizations are to be encouraged to work alongside IACMAR in providing, appropriating, and distributing individual or joint funds.
 - b. Governments of Member States are strongly encouraged to aid IACMAR in making loan information freely and widely available, as well as providing other structural support as needed.
 - c. Private firms wishing to work with IACMAR must abide by IACMAR’s vision in providing microloans for the primary benefit of the loanee.

- 4. To promote fiscal transparency by making microloan data freely available through quarterly publications based upon the practices of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and in conjunction with all participating public, private, and non-governmental organizations.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____ (Signature of Delegate) _____ (Country Represented)
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**CONFERENCE ON THE PROTECTION OF MIGRANTS’
HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE AMERICAS**

Special Committee on Migration

Topic No. 2 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The Preamble of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which affirms that the States’ “welfare and their contribution to the progress and the civilization of the world will increasingly require intensive continental cooperation” and that “the historic mission of America is to offer to man a land of liberty, a favorable environment for the development of his personality and the realization of his just aspirations”;

Article 2 (f) of the OAS Charter, which establishes as one of its main purposes “To promote, by cooperative action, their economic, social, and cultural development”;

Article 3 (l) of the OAS Charter, which states that “The American States proclaim the fundamental rights of the individual without distinction as to race, nationality, creed, or sex”;

Article 45 of the OAS Charter, which declares that “All human beings, without distinction as to race, sex, nationality, creed, or social condition, have a right to material well-being and to their spiritual development, under circumstances of liberty, dignity, equality of opportunity, and economic security”;

Article 9 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which asserts that “The elimination of all forms of discrimination, especially gender, ethnic and race discrimination, as well as diverse forms of intolerance, the promotion and protection of human rights of indigenous peoples and migrants, and respect for ethnic, cultural and religious diversity in the Americas contribute to strengthening democracy and citizen participation”;

Article 15(a) of the Social Charter of the Americas, which stresses that “Member States recognize the contributions of indigenous peoples, afro-descendants, and migrant communities to the historical process of the Hemisphere and will promote recognition of their value”;

RECALLING:

AG/RES 2738 (XLII-0/12), “Strengthening the Topic of Migration in the OAS: Establishment of the Committee on Migration Issues”, which creates the Committee on Migration Issues as the main forum of the OAS in charge of the migratory subject under the Inter-American Council of Integral Development;

AG/RES. 2729 (XLII-O/12), “The Human Rights of Migrants, Including Migrant Workers and Their Families”, which reaffirms the importance of guaranteeing the protection of migrants’ human rights, including migrant workers and their families;

AG/RES. 2608 (XL-O/10), “Migrant Populations and Migration Flows in the Americas”, which emphasizes not only the importance of the discussion of migrant populations and migration flows in the Americas, but also the need for the analysis of migration causes and its impact on Member States;

APPLAUDING:

The efforts made by the OAS Migration and Development Program (MIDE) to promote migrants' rights through the fostering of public policies, legislation and the exchange of better practices among Member States;

The progress made by the OAS Special Committee on Migration Issues (CEAM) in educating and promoting the benefits of migration for development, in respecting migrants' human rights, and enhancing cooperation among Member States regarding migration issues;

The work developed by the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Migrants, of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), through the promotion and generation of awareness among Member States on migrants' human rights;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The American Declaration on Rights and Duties of Man, which proclaims that all persons are equal under the law and have the same rights and duties yielded in such Declaration, without distinction as to race, sex, language, creed or nationality;

The American Convention on Human Rights, which recognizes that "the essential rights of man are not derived from one's being a national of a certain State, but are based upon attributes of the human personality";

The Plan of Action of the Fourth Summit of the Americas, held in Mar del Plata, Argentina in 2005, which states to strengthen and establish collaboration mechanisms among countries of origin, transit and destination of migrant workers in the Hemisphere in order to disseminate information about the labor rights of migrant workers;

The Declaration of the Fifth Summit of the Americas, held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago in 2009, which reaffirms the importance of fully protection of human rights of migrants regardless of their immigration status, and observance of the labor laws applicable to them, including the principles and labor rights embodied in the International Labor Organization (ILO) Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work;

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that "everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state" and that "everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country" according to his will;

CONSIDERING:

That migration is a universal phenomenon, which constitutes a manifestation of integration processes and globalization, and should be examined from a multilateral and multidimensional perspective, including the social, economic, political and cultural spheres;

That Member States should work together in order to seek an effective solution for illegal migration, which constitutes one of the most serious and controversial concerns currently faced by the nations of the Americas;

That migrant workers usually move to countries with higher levels of development, in searching of better job opportunities, a better quality of life and to overcome adversity;

That the OAS plays a substantial role in the protection and promotion of migrants workers' rights, providing support to the integration process; and

EMPHASIZING:

That every country in the Hemisphere is a country of origin, transit, destination, and/or return for migrants and has the authority to regulate the migration of persons entering its territory in accordance with its obligations under applicable international law, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law;

That migration policies and initiatives should promote comprehensive approaches that take into account the causes and consequences of the phenomenon of illegal migration in the Hemisphere, as well as the full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants;

The importance of Member States to count on accurate information about migrant workers, which constitutes the base for the formulation of public policies, cooperation activities and better exchange practices,

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) for the efforts and accomplishments made to promote genuine cooperation among Member States to achieve integral development, through the Committee on Migration Issues (CAM).
2. To encourage Member States to renew the commitments endorsed in the Cooperation Agreement signed in October 2009, between the OAS and the International Organization for Migration, regarding International Migration Law, Labor Migration, Combat Human Trafficking; Human Rights of Migrants; Democracy Strengthening, Education for Migrant Youth and Children;
3. To convene an "Inter-American Conference on the Protection of Migrants' Human Rights in the Americas", that shall be arranged by the Department of Conferences and Meetings Management within six months from the approval of the present draft resolution.
4. To suggest that the Conference address but not be limited to:
 - a) An in-depth discussion of the current situation of migration in the Hemisphere, recognizing the magnitude of migration on citizens and its development impacts in both home and host Member States.
 - b) The importance of the application of effective instruments to ensure the protection of migrants' human rights, including migrant workers and their families, with special emphasis on migrant women, children, and adolescents, regardless of their immigration status, in accordance with international human rights law.
 - c) The urgent need of cooperation among Member States, through treaties and institutions involved, towards a future harmonization of legislation on migration, as means of assuring the respect for immigrants' rights across the continent.

- d) The significance of database design for accurate and updated information on migration to foster the strengthening of institutional capacities, cooperation activities, and the exchange of best practices among States.
 - e) The relevance of ensuring the elimination of prejudices based on nationality or race, through the implementation of policies to combat xenophobia, racism, and other manifestations of intolerance toward foreigners.
 - f) Member States' support to the Temporary Work Programs and Education of Migrant Children and Youth, both initiatives of the MIDE, by facilitating migrants and their families an easy access to work without distinction and ensuring migrants' children access to a satisfactory education in order to strengthen their human capacity.
 - g) Promoting public policies that facilitate the voluntary return of migrants to their country of origin, by reinserting them into their communities.
5. To request the IACHR participate in the preparation of the Conference by offering its experience in this field.
 6. To instruct the CEAM to prepare a report about the main causes of migration in order to understand international flows of people by identifying the connections between the social, economic, political and cultural factors related to them and to discuss it in the proposed Conference.
 7. To invite all Member States, Permanent Observers, Governmental Organizations (GO's) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) dealing with these issues to participate in this Conference.
 8. To request the Secretary General to produce a report on the Conference results that will be presented to the next General Assembly and to publish it in the OAS website.
 9. To fund this Conference with resources allocated in the CIDI's budget.

Approved for form and substance

(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories:

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| 1. | _____ | _____ |
| | (Signature of Delegate) | (Country Represented) |
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**FACILITATING LABOR MIGRATION THROUGH COOPERATION
AND SYSTEMS OF EDUCATION**

Special Committee on Migration
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of El Salvador

Topic No. 2 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

That Article 106 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) promotes the observance and protection of human rights through the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights;

CONSIDERING:

That the International Labour Organization (ILO) works to strengthen workers' rights, employment opportunities, and promote discussion on work-related issues;

NOTING:

The accomplishments of the ILO in managing labor migration to contribute positively to the growth and development of individuals and societies;

The International Organization for Migrations (IOM) endeavors to protect migrant workers and to optimize the labor benefits of migration by offering advice and support to state governments and training potential migrants before their departure;

The model set by the Colombo Process in South and Southeast Asia as well as the practices of the European Union (EU), which forms connections among countries, guarantees informed decisions for potential migrants by providing information on legal migration and the dangers of illegal migration, and implements educational programs;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

That facilitating labor migration reduces the complexity of transnational movement of migrant workers and achieves cooperation among the governments of OAS Member States towards a coherent migration process; and

RECALLING:

Resolution AG/RES. 2738 (XLII-O/12), "Strengthening the Topic of Migration in the OAS: Establishment of the Committee on Migration Issues," which established the Committee on Migration Issues (CAM) as a forum for exchanges of experiences and lessons learned in the Member States facilitating the regularization of migration flow and cooperation;

Resolution AG/RES. 2777 (XLIII-O/13), "Strengthening the Topic of Migration in the OAS," which instructed CAM in coordination with OAS Member States to initiate a report regarding specific activities of the OAS in the area of migration,

HEMISPHERIC STRUCTURES FOR INTERNATIONAL REMITTANCE TRANSFERS

Special Committee on Migration
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Guatemala

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 33 of the Charter of the Organization of American States which emphasizes that “development is a primary responsibility of each country and should constitute an integral and continuous process for the establishment of a more just economic and social order that will make possible and contribute to the fulfillment of the individual”;

RECOGNIZING:

Article 64 of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights that states that “the States Parties concerned shall as appropriate consult and co-operate with a view to promoting sound, equitable and humane conditions in connection with international migration of workers and members of their families”;

RECALLING:

CE/AM-180/11 in which the Special Committee on Migration Issues (CEAM) proposes a methodology regarding migration and productive remittances, and allows for identifying “mechanisms to encourage and develop the productive use of remittances by studying the relevant initiatives being implemented in the member countries”;

RECOGNIZING:

The Least Development Countries Report 2012 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development which leads to initiatives “to harness remittances and diaspora knowledge” to build productive capacities though “targeted policies, incentive measures and institutional improvements aimed at reducing the cost of remittances sent through formal remittance service providers”;

CONSIDERING:

The 3x1 initiative established by the Republic of the United States of Mexico which aims to expand migrant Home Town Associations’ (HTA) community development funds by matching every dollar contributed by HTA by the different government levels in order to develop communities projects; and

EMPHASIZING:

The importance for Members states of being able to rely on transparent and valid data regarding remittance flows that is a growing source of income in the Americas having a positive impact on global poverty reduction,

FACILITATING REMITTANCES FROM MIGRATORY WORKERS

Special Committee on Migration
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of St. Kitts and Nevis

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

That Article 34 of the Charter of the OAS states “The Member States agree that equality of opportunity, the elimination of extreme poverty, equitable distribution of wealth and income and the full participation of their peoples in decisions relating to their own development are, among others, basic objectives of integral development”;

That Article 41 of the Charter of the OAS states “The Member States, in order to accelerate their economic development, regional integration, and the expansion and improvement of the conditions of their commerce, shall promote improvement and coordination of transportation and communication in the developing countries and among the Member States”;

That Article 45 of the Charter of the OAS recognizes, among other provisions, “Work is a right and a social duty, it gives dignity to the one who performs it, and it should be performed under conditions, including a system of fair wages, that ensure life, health, and a decent standard of living for the worker and his family, both during his working years and in his old age, or when any circumstance deprives him of the possibility of working”;

That Article 12 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter states that Member States are committed to generating productive employment as a means to eradicate extreme poverty, underscoring “the importance of maintaining macroeconomic equilibria and the obligation to strengthen social cohesion and democracy”;

The importance of facilitation and reduction of cost of transfer of migrant remittances, as well as the benefits of such remittances towards social cohesion and integral development highlighted in resolution AG/RES. 2669 (XLI-O/11) of the OAS, and resolutions A/RES/65/170 and A/RES/60/206 of the United Nations;

ACKNOWLEDGING:

That the World Bank (WB) estimates “global remittances [are] expected to reach \$594 billion by 2014, of which \$449 billion will flow to developing countries”;

That the WB considers global remittances one of the largest sources of external financing in developing countries, nearly triple the amount of official developmental assistance, and one of the best sources of capital for developing countries, while also acknowledging that inflated transfer costs seriously impact the benefits of remittances in developing countries;

That the WB estimates these transfer costs are typically around 9% of the total remittance, and while these prices have been falling, they are still too high for low-income migrant workers;

That the inter-governmental Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has recognized the misuse of remittance transfers as a potential source of terrorist funding (FATF-GAFI Report, February 2008, pg 4,21,22); and

REFORMING THE PROCESS OF REMITTANCES

Special Committee of Migration
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Peru

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That Article 9 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter recognizes the promotion and protection of human rights of indigenous people and migrants with respect for ethnic, cultural and religious diversity in the Americas to strengthening democracy and citizen participation;

BEARING IN MIND:

That the International Organization for Immigration states that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society;

RECOGNIZING:

The vital role migration plays in the development of the citizens and societies of the Americas, as well as the challenges this phenomenon presents to its Member States;

RECALLING:

Many bodies such as the International Organization for Immigration implement goals to help migrants acclimate to new social setting and labor market practices; and

REALIZING:

The significant economic and social implications of migration which affects the entire hemisphere,

RESOLVES:

1. To encourage member states to lower the cost of remittances going towards third party affiliates.
2. To encourage member states to provide more job programs for migrants and citizens.

3. To encourage member states to require corporate responsibility in the process of remittances.

Approved for form and substance

(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories:

1.	_____ Signature of Delegate	_____ Country Represented
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MOBILE MONEY TO FACILITATE HEMISPHERIC REMITTANCE TRANSFERS

Special Committee on Migration
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Brazil

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

REAFFIRMING:

That the preamble of the Organization of American States' (OAS) Inter-American Democratic Charter states "that the fight against poverty, and especially the elimination of extreme poverty, is essential to the promotion and consolidation of democracy and constitutes a common and shared responsibility of the American states";

Article 39 of the Charter of the OAS which proclaims, "The Member States, recognizing the close interdependence between foreign trade and economic and social development, should make individual and united efforts to bring about continuity in their economic and social development";

RECALLING:

The 2012 United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Report which recognized significant role of remittances in poverty reduction, and called for governments to reduce transfer costs associated with remittances;

RECOGNIZING:

That the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF), a Member of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Group, together with the World Bank, the Center for Latin American Monetary Studies (CEMLA), and the Central American Council for Consumer Protection (CONCADECO), have created Envía Centroamérica to increase transparency in Remittance Costs;

RECALLING:

The January 2007 report of the World Bank and the Committee on Payment and Settlement Systems entitled "General principles for international remittance services," which includes the goals of: transparency and consumer protection, efficient payment structures, a non-discriminatory legal and regulatory environment, competitive markets, and effective governance and risk management;

Paragraph 134 of the 2009 G8 Final Declaration on Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, which outlines the 5X5 Objective of achieving "a reduction of the global average costs of transferring remittances from the present 10% to 5% in 5 years through enhanced information, transparency, competition and cooperation with partners, generating a significant net increase in income for migrants and their families in the developing world";

HAVING SEEN:

The work of the MIF to expand financial inclusion through mobile domestic payments and conditional cash transfers;

**PROMOTION AND ADVOCACY FOR MIGRANT WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES THROUGH
THE RESEARCH OF INITIATIVES TO REDUCE REMITTANCE
COSTS THROUGHOUT THE AMERICAS**

Special Committee on Migration
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Antigua and Barbuda

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The stipulation of Article 3 (f) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which states that, “the elimination of extreme poverty is an essential part of the promotion and consolidation of representative democracy and is the common and shared responsibility of the American States”;

And which also states that “economic cooperation is essential to the common welfare and prosperity of the peoples of the continent”;

RECALLING:

The Declaration of the Third Summit of the Americas, which states that “We recognize the cultural and economic contributions made by migrants to receiving societies as well as to their communities of origin; we are committed to ensuring dignified, humane treatment with appropriate legal protections, defense of human rights, and safe and healthy labor conditions for migrants; we will strengthen mechanisms for hemispheric cooperation to address the legitimate needs of migrants”;

UNDERSTANDING:

The fundamental truth that “migrants contribute greatly to host societies; as entrepreneurs, they create jobs; as scientists, they are engines of innovation; they are doctors, nurses and domestic workers and often the unheralded heart of many service industries”, as stated by United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon;

NOTING:

Article 47 of the International Convention on the Protection of Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, which states that “migrant workers shall have the right to transfer their earnings and savings, in particular those funds necessary for the support of their families, from the State of employment to their State of origin or any other State”;

And that “such transfers shall be made in conformity with procedures established by applicable legislation of the State concerned and in conformity with applicable international agreements”;

And that “States concerned shall take appropriate measures to facilitate such transfers”;

CONSIDERING:

That in the Declaration of Nuevo León, which took place in Monterrey, Mexico in January 2004, the Heads of State and Government, for the Special Summit of the Americas, recognized that “remittances are an important source of capital in many countries of the Hemisphere”;

And also committed to “promote consumer protection, fair competition, and the improved functioning of markets through clear, effective, and transparent regulatory frameworks”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The research of the World Bank, which found that “remittances generally reduce the level and severity of poverty and lead to: higher human capital accumulation; greater health and education expenditures; better access to information and communication technologies; improved access to formal financial sector services; enhanced small business investment; more entrepreneurship; better preparedness for adverse shocks such as droughts, earthquakes, and cyclones; and reduce child labor”;

And also that “remittances sent home by migrants to developing countries are equivalent to more than three times the size of official development assistance”;

And also that “globally, migrants pay an average cost of 9% to send money home”; and

BEARING IN MIND:

The recognition of the G20 regarding the “importance of facilitating international remittance flows and enhancing their efficiency to increase their contribution to growth with resilience and poverty reduction”;

And the subsequent decision of the G20 Cannes Summit of 2011 to “reduce the average cost of transferring remittances from 10 per cent to 5 percent by 2014”;

RESOLVES:

1. To commend the efforts of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, as well as any and all organizations who have assisted in the research of, and continue to report on, remittance rates and costs throughout the Americas.
2. To provide assistance to all member states in the research of remittance data, using the resources of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the Multilateral Investment Fund, the Center for Latin American Monetary Studies, and other organizations deemed appropriate by the aforementioned Commission.
3. To encourage member states to commit to active communication between each state regarding the individual and/or collective studies of remittances in the Americas, with such communication including, but not being limited to, the transfer of knowledge and the publication of reports on the remittance market within each respective state.

4. To urge member states to research initiatives to reduce remittance costs throughout the Americas.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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