

21st Executive Committee Meeting
10th General Assembly of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas COPA
Mar del Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina, November 15–19, 2010
Committee on the Economy, Trade, Labour, Competitiveness and Trading Blocs

Resolution on the theme
“Economic and Democratic Development: The Integration Debate”

The legislators of the Americas gathered for the 10th General Assembly of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas in Mar del Plata, Argentina,

Acknowledging that the Committee on the Economy, Trade, Labour, Competitiveness and Trading Blocs is an instrument of COPA for analyzing and proposing solutions to problems within its purview that are plaguing the continent;

Emphasizing that development has been an arduous process for the Americas due to the ambivalence and inequalities arising from the way in which wealth and its benefits are distributed, leaving the continent in a shaky position today with respect to governability, equity and development;

Evaluating the systemic spreading of the resultant deterioration which causes political and administrative decentralization within nation-states, partly due to the opening up of economies and the decline in social policies, and the failure of development in the Americas to keep pace with those changes;

Analyzing the increasingly clear need to rethink the role they can play within their legislative assemblies, on behalf of their nations and the hemisphere, to put a stop to the harm caused by socio-economic imbalances in the Americas;

Underscoring COPA’s importance as a forum for debate, dialogue and understanding with a view to finding solutions and establishing cooperation processes to enable sustainable and democratic consolidation throughout the continent;

Aware of the need to preserve the development of the economies and democracies of the Americas in the face of the continuing transformation of the international economic system;

RESOLVE

FIRST, to emphasize the importance of adopting this resolution as a means of expressing the will of the parliamentarians of the Americas gathered at the 10th General Assembly of COPA, and as a commitment to work and legislate to foster democratic and equitable development throughout the continent;

SECOND, to work toward establishing a more democratic international economic system that will improve the quality of all aspects of life for all citizens of the Americas, without interfering with the sovereignty of countries, thus impartially fostering cooperation and a solid and harmonious process of regional unity;

THIRD, to promote parallel and joint actions among the countries of the Americas to foster economic development and progress in the areas of science, technology and infrastructures, and to draft domestic laws that lead to economic stability and socio-economic balance throughout the continent;

FOURTH, given the political and administrative decentralization of the nation-states, to commit themselves to working in their states, toward the drafting and publication of legislation that will strengthen their states in terms of governability, equity and development;

FIFTH, to establish concrete processes for adapting and balancing the financial systems of the Americas and the world economic system in order to mitigate the harm caused to their populations by poverty and marginalization;

SIXTH, to develop legislation within their states to promote fairer and more equitable public policies with respect to the globalization of markets, so as to ensure that trade opportunities in the Americas take into account the different levels of development and sizes of the continent's economies;

SEVENTH, to stimulate continent-wide economic integration policies, open to international trade, with the firm assurance of establishing a common economic space for the Americas.

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