



**19th Meeting of the COPA Executive Committee
9th GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
PARLIAMENTARY CONFEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS (COPA)
Salta, Argentina
September 14–20, 2009**

**Committee on Economy, Trade, Labour, Competitiveness and
Trading Blocs**

**Resolution arising out of the work meeting of the Committee on
Economy, Trade, Labour, Competitiveness and Trading Blocs**

Reaffirming COPA's objectives, which are to promote peace, tolerance, solidarity, cooperation, integration among the peoples of the continent, due respect for sovereignty, and the consolidation of a pluralistic and democratic system of government;

Since it appears vital to ask yet more of the parliamentarians of the countries of the Americas, as the legitimate representatives of their peoples, so that together, we may encourage debate on those issues and on possible solutions and measures in the face of the current global economic crisis, from both the parliamentary and civil society viewpoint;

Aware of the need for a radical overhaul of the international economic system to overcome the problems the current crisis entails for our continent and the rest of the world, COPA, as a parliamentary organization dedicated to research, cooperation and development among the parliaments of the Americas;

ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

FIRST – Recognizing the challenges that the economic crisis poses for the nations of the Americas, we are aware of the stock-taking we must do and the steps we must take together so that the current crisis will mark the beginning of a new era of far-reaching change conducive to development, integration and cooperation throughout our continent.

SECOND – As parliamentarians in the Americas, we pledge to

- PROMOTE** the integration and strengthening of economic relations among the countries of the continent, in addition to giving fresh impetus to proposals to set up regional financial funds and conclude payment arrangements between the Latin American and Caribbean countries;

✚ DRAW ON international, national and regional networks to create such cooperation platforms designed to help reduce cultural, economic and social disparities.

THIRD – Extend a new invitation to sub-regional integration organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean to urgently improve their modus operandi so that they may make headway toward agreements that would reinforce a common position among the various regional blocs.

FOURTH – Ask COPA to assess the impact of the current economic crisis with a view to measuring the capacity of the Latin American and Caribbean countries to finance their economic and social development programs, which are vital to the achievement of economic recovery in a spirit of dignity, solidarity and fairness.

FIFTH – Urge COPA member parliamentarians to broadly disseminate the results of this meeting with the aim of informing their parliaments, as the legitimate institutions representing the people, of the measures that must be taken within our organization to address the current crisis from a continental perspective and to make the parliaments more aware of the need for them to play a stronger role in monitoring, assessing and following up on these measures.

For notification and publication

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