



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## **Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas Calls for Solidarity with Haiti**

January 13, 2010 – The Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA) and its member parliamentarians from across the American continent are saddened and dismayed by the tragedy afflicting the people of Haiti.

In the wake of the violent earthquake that rocked Port-au-Prince and the surrounding area, the country is in a state of shock in the face of the destruction of its capital city and the collapse of the National Palace and Parliament, both highly symbolic institutions for the Haitian people.

Given the scope of the disaster, COPA wishes to express its compassion and its deepest sympathy to the people of Haiti. COPA also assures the Haitian Parliament, which is one of its members, of its solidarity in this difficult time.

COPA offers its condolences to the families and friends of the numerous victims of the earthquake. It calls on international, government and parliamentary authorities, especially in the Americas, to do everything they can to respond to the crisis. Haiti needs concrete and speedy assistance, and COPA calls on all its member Parliaments to urge their governments to take immediate action.