



COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS the current ecological problems and their interrelation with social problems throughout the past century are the result of the industrial expansion, the increase in social explosion and the emergence of the consumer society;

RECOGNIZING that environmental matters, as everything pertaining to governmental actions, require information, awareness and the participation of the entire population;

RECOGNIZING that it is necessary to oppose at the international level the production and consumption models that affect the environment and restrict human development,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the agreements reached during the Río World Summit, the Kyoto Agreements, and the evaluation of the proposals that arose from the Johannesburg World Summit;

WE, parliamentarians of COPA:

DEMAND the recognition of sustainable development as the fundamental axis of all public policy;

REQUIRE the strengthening of a social leading role capable of generating environmental justice, as the equivalent of social justice;

DEMAND that sustainable agricultural policies with emphasis on family, community and medium-scale production be implemented;

DECLARE that environmental legislation shall encourage sustainable agriculture;

DECLARE that water is a resource belonging to humanity and it is essential to life and, therefore, the State is responsible for promoting its availability in a sustainable manner;

ASSUME the commitment to create the normative framework for the States to lead an ecological restructuring of the industrial sector;

DEMAND that our governments promote ecotourism combined with conservation, environmental education and the economic development of local communities;

PROPOSE that encouragement be given to the development of renewable energy sources, conservation and rationalization of energy consumption, as well as the production of technologies to reduce energy consumption;

WILL INITIATE a debate at the continental level on the uniformity of the legislation pertaining to biodiversity, the struggle against biological piracy and the establishment of a bioethical code to ensure national integrity, as well as the establishment of cooperation policies (technology and environment) to enable the building of an efficient environmental community, that respects life, the rational use of resources and sustainable development;

RATIFY our conviction that it is important that all the Governments of the Americas sign adherence to the Kyoto Protocol;

REQUIRE that the local governments apply the Agenda 21;

DEMAND that our governments intensify the struggle against poverty in all its forms and implement education policies to make the population aware of the significance of protecting the environment, as well as of applying technology to improve the quality of life.