



## **RESOLUTION ON HAITI**

**FOZ DO IGUAÇU, BRAZIL, MAY 2005**

### **THE CRISIS IN HAITI AND THE FORGING OF A PEACEFUL AND LASTING SOLUTION FOR THE COUNTRY'S FULL POLITICAL STABILIZATION AND SOCIOECONOMIC RECOVERY**

**WHEREAS** we have taken into consideration the report presented by the delegation from the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA) presided by Ms. Maria José da Conceição Maninha, further to its good offices mission to Haiti from November 12 to 15, 2004, to observe the social, political, and economic conditions of the country with a view to better assessing the ways of continuing to help in Haiti's full political stabilization and socioeconomic recovery;

**WHEREAS** we regret the sacrifice of so many lives and the considerable material damage that have resulted from the crisis fuelled by the escalation of political strife since the May 21, 2000, elections;

**WHEREAS** we deplore the fact that, following the eruption of the political crisis on May 21, 2000, the international community did not do more to prevent the series of events that led to the current full-blown crisis in Haiti;

**WHEREAS** we deplore the failure to implement the draft action plan proposed by the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) on January 31, 2004;

**WHEREAS** we thank the political leaders and civil society representatives who met with the COPA delegation during its mission to Haiti, as well as the Brazilian Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Brazilian Ambassador to Haiti, and the Brazilian troops acting under MINUSTAH, notably the Haiti Brigade and the Naval Forces Group for their logistical and security support;

**WHEREAS** we have observed that delays, bureaucracy, and the lack of clear priorities, planning, and coordination on the part of the international community in investing in and setting up social programs have led to a deterioration of the socioeconomic and environmental conditions in which most Haitians live, despite continued efforts to address these challenges;

**WHEREAS** the parties need to regain faith in the state's institutions and its political process, and the Haitian population needs to rebuild ties with its political leaders;

The Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA), by way of its Executive Committee:

1. **REITERATES** the terms of its prior resolutions regarding the situation in Haiti, adopted in Brasilia, Brazil, in March 2004, and in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in September 2004;
2. **REQUESTS** that the governments that promised the UN to find a solution to the crisis in Haiti make available the financial resources required to rebuild the country, and to provide it the material conditions it needs to guarantee that unemployment, famine, poverty, and the lack of infrastructures do not impede the implementation of a democratic process to resolve the crisis in Haiti;
3. **REQUESTS** that all financial, technical, and material assistance be managed by the UN, including the monitoring of political forces and civil society organizations;
4. **ALSO UNDERSTANDS** that the severity of the crisis in Haiti warrants special attention and fast solutions. As such, developed countries and the UN must facilitate, as quickly as possible, the attainment of the conditions essential to the rebuilding of the country, with their own resources or those of multilateral financial institutions;
5. **MAINTAINS** that democracy in Haiti shall neither be built nor imposed from the outside, and that it can only be consolidated through agreements and solutions put forth by the Haitian people themselves;
6. **UNDERSTANDS** that the crisis in Haiti can only be resolved by upholding the principles of noninterventionism, autonomy, and national sovereignty. As such, the role of the international community is to promote national dialog and minimize the obstacles hampering efforts to resolve the crisis;
7. **PROPOSES** that a broad, free, sincere, democratic, and transparent national dialog be instituted, with a view to finding a peaceful and lasting solution to spur the country's full political stabilization and socioeconomic recovery, by encouraging the participation of leaders of all political stripes and organizations that best represent civil society, and ensuring that the transitional government in Haiti and the international community see to its success;
8. **FIRMLY CONDEMNNS** the acts of violence of every nature committed by individuals and armed groups of every origin, as well as the political exploitation of these events, which serves only to heighten the atmosphere of insecurity among the population, and urges all people on Haitian soil to hand in to the appropriate authorities any unregistered firearms or those for which they do not hold a permit;
9. **INSISTS** that MINUSTAH not protect, for any reason whatsoever, any armed group or authority that is said to use excessive force in violation of human rights;
10. **ENCOURAGES** all political groups and organizations that best represent civil society to work together to organize and hold elections by taking part in the electoral process, identifying candidates, monitoring voter registration, and supervising voting;
11. **ALSO ENCOURAGES** all political groups to adopt a Good Governance Pact to promote and defend human rights, respect international community resolutions calling for the respect of the State of law, and alternate the exercise of power through free and transparent elections;

- 12. URGES** the international community to provide technical assistance and make available the financial resources required to fight impunity, notably by adopting measures to ensure the independence and strengthening of judicial and police institutions through professional training for personnel and education in human rights;
- 13. HELPS** the Haitian people in consolidating their democratic institutions to ensure the full exercise of citizenship and create the right conditions for free, transparent, and democratic elections;
- 14. SUGGESTS** that the international community consider creating a special fund and allocating greater financial resources to set up economic, social, and institution-strengthening programs, and that it consider ways of eliminating bureaucratic red tape that could hamper the prompt implementation of these programs, and ensure that the most underpoverished people and communities be the main beneficiaries of these programs;
- 15. URGES** parliamentarians and governments to make a clear, public commitment to cooperate in the prompt and lasting restoration of democracy and the rebuilding of political institutions in Haiti, specifically by contributing human and financial resources, granting loans, and investing in the country;
- 16. URGENTLY REQUESTS** that governments and international organizations work together and with Haitian society to spur the country's full political stabilization and socioeconomic recovery, by coordinating their joint efforts;
- 17. REITERATES** the commitment of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA) to continue its efforts with a view to Haiti's full political stabilization, and its willingness to act as an electoral observer once the necessary preconditions for elections have been put in place.