



**PARLIAMENTARY CONFEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS  
7<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
QUITO, ECUADOR, MAY 29 TO JUNE 3, 2006**

**Resolution on the need to strengthen the standards aimed at ensuring the  
coexistence of states in our hemisphere based on principles set out in the  
statutes of COPA**

**WHEREAS** one of the fundamental objectives of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas is to construct an inter-American community founded on peace, democracy, solidarity between peoples, social justice, gender equity, and respect for human dignity and rights;

**WHEREAS**, as stipulated in paragraph 3b of the *Charter of the Organization of American States*, international order consists essentially of respect for the personality, sovereignty, and independence of states and the faithful fulfillment of obligations derived from treaties and other sources of international law;

**WHEREAS** international relations must be governed by principles recognizing the independence and equality of states, their right to freely conduct their domestic affairs without outside interference, and the need for cooperation, respect for human rights, solidarity between peoples, and the peaceful resolution of international conflicts, for the greater good of humanity;

**WHEREAS**, as stipulated in paragraph 3e of the *Charter of the Organization of American States*, every state has the right to choose, without external interference, its political, economic, and social system and to organize itself in the way best suited to it, and has the duty to abstain from intervening in the affairs of another state, since the states of the Americas may cooperate fully among themselves, independently of the nature of their political, economic, and social systems;

**WHEREAS** it is important that states rigorously adhere to these principles to ensure peaceful coexistence in our hemisphere;

**WHEREAS** the defense of the autonomy of peoples, respect for national sovereignty, free self-determination, compliance with treaty obligations, the peaceful resolution of differences, the defense and protection of human rights, and rejection of aggression and any form of interference are non-negotiable principles that our peoples have always defended in the past and will continue to defend in the future;

***We, parliamentarians of the Americas, gathered together for the COPA General Assembly in Quito, Ecuador, on May 29, 30, and 31 and June 1, 2, and 3, 2006, agree to***

**ASK** our respective parliaments to take the necessary measures to guarantee compliance with standards aimed at ensuring the coexistence of states in our hemisphere, which, in the opinion of many of its countries, currently rests on a fragile foundation;

**CALL FOR** strengthened representative and participatory democracy that recognizes the principle of non-interference;

**SUPPORT** any initiative aimed at ensuring international peace and security free of interference in the domestic affairs of states.