

PARLIAMENTARY CONFEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS 8th GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEXICO CITY, FEDERAL DISTRICT AND TOLUCA, STATE OF MEXICO, MEXICO SEPTEMBER 10-13, 2008

Committee on Democracy and Peace

Recommendation on the dispatch of an electoral observation mission to El Salvador

WHEREAS legislative elections are to be held in El Salvador on January 18, 2009, followed by presidential elections on March 15, 2009;

WHEREAS the participation of parliamentarians from COPA in multilateral electoral observation missions is a matter of priority in order to attain the COPA objective of contributing to the strengthening of parliamentary democracy and to the edification of a community of the Americas founded upon respect for human rights and dignity, peace, democracy, solidarity among peoples, social justice, and equity between women and men; and

WHEREAS the legislative and presidential elections in El Salvador are particularly significant for the community of the Americas;

WE, the representatives of the congresses and parliamentary assemblies of the unitary, federal and federated states, regional parliaments, and interparliamentary organizations gathered in Mexico City, Federal District, and Toluca, State of Mexico, in Mexico for the 8th General Assembly of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas,

And acting upon the recommendation of the Committee on Democracy and Peace:

DECLARE our support for and our solidarity with Salvadorian society and the democratic institutions of that country in organizing legislative elections next January 18 and presidential elections next March 15:

PROPOSE the dispatch of a COPA electoral observation mission to the next legislative and presidential elections in El Salvador, with due respect for the national sovereignty of that country;

PLEDGE OURSELVES to uphold the principles of regional balance and political pluralism in forming a delegation of parliamentarians from the Americas, and to make sure that the observation mission will carry out its task in an independent and impartial manner as stipulated in the By-laws of COPA Electoral Observation Missions.