



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

Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development

Resolution on Climate Change

Recognizing that human activities have contributed to increasing greenhouse gas concentrations and continue to alter the Earth's atmosphere to such an extent that the Earth's average temperature has risen in recent years;

Alarmed by a growing body of evidence showing that humankind's interaction with the environment is manifested in the melting of glaciers in the polar regions, unusual droughts, torrential rainstorms, hurricanes, high-intensity cyclones and extraordinary phenomena of various types that may lead to a sudden change in the Earth's climate models, which would have untold consequences on ecosystems, the economy and society, and endanger the very survival of the human race;

Deeply concerned by the enormous social, environmental and economic price the world will have to pay if more progress is not made in developing policies to adapt to and reduce climate change;

Aware that many countries on our continent are highly vulnerable to extreme climatic events capable of causing disasters that would jeopardize their development process;

Convinced that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol provide the main framework for intergovernmental efforts to meet the challenge of climate change;

Considering that the pursuit of the Kyoto Protocol objectives is an essential requirement for the adoption of a world strategy on climate change and that new measures must be implemented before 2012 to encourage investment in low greenhouse gas emission technologies and in the development of renewable energy sources;

Confident that regional cooperation is necessary to solve the problems involved in protecting the environment and to fight climate change efficiently;

Acknowledging that the American continent is an economic zone that must address the challenge of energy preparedness and environmental degradation;

Noting that climate change and environmental problems are global and may be among the most daunting challenges to lie before the human race;

The 8th General Assembly of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas

1. Calls on the international community to develop fair and transparent mechanisms in order to face the challenges posed by climate change;
2. Recommends that the parliamentarians of the Americas contribute to the fulfillment of the quantified emission limitation and reduction commitments set out in Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol;
3. Invites the parliamentarians of the Americas to press their respective governments to develop and implement programs to reduce the use of fossil fuels and the production of greenhouse gas emissions. The programs should be geared to clean energy and alternative sources of energy such as wind, geothermal and solar energy and biofuels;
4. Recommends the use of alternative sources of energy with a positive net impact on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and no negative effect on other aspects of the economy or on existing ecosystems;
5. Exhorts COPA member States to help developing countries, particularly those that are less developed and those that are particularly vulnerable to climate change, so that they can adapt to the undesirable effects of climate change;
6. Urges the parliamentarians of the Americas to raise public awareness of the causes and consequences of climate change;
7. Invites the unitary, federal, federated and associated States of the Americas to ensure that biofuels are produced and used, and that a healthy balance is maintained between food security and the production of biofuels;
8. Encourages COPA member States to pool any technological discoveries likely to help protect the environment. Such technology should be pooled and shared with other countries, particularly by industrialized countries.