



**PARLIAMENTARY CONFEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS  
8<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
MEXICO CITY, FEDERAL DISTRICT, AND TOLUCA, STATE OF MEXICO, MEXICO,  
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**Committee on Economy, Trade, Labour, Competitiveness and Trading Blocs**

**Resolution on the Food Crisis**

*Stressing* that the increase in the cost of food has devastating consequences for the 800 million people currently suffering from chronic hunger, which has contributed to intensifying social unrest throughout the developing world;

*Taking into account the fact* that the high cost of energy greatly influences the price of foodstuffs, particularly by increasing the cost of production, inputs and transportation;

*Noting* that the intensification of the world food crisis, provoked in part by the exorbitant increase in the price of food, has created a situation in which the right to adequate food is in danger of being violated on an unprecedented scale;

*Considering* that the emerging biofuel market constitutes a new and important source of demand for certain agricultural products, such as sugar, corn, manioc, oilseed crops and palm oil;

*Recalling* all the previous resolutions and decisions on the right to food that have been approved within the framework of United Nations proceedings, particularly Resolution 62/164 of the General Assembly, adopted on December 18, 2007, and Resolution 7/14 of the Human Rights Council, adopted on March 27, 2008;

*Bearing in mind* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which provides that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for a person's health and well-being, including food, as well as the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition, and the Millennium Declaration, especially since the primary objective of the Millennium Declaration is to eradicate hunger and extreme poverty by 2015;

*Recalling* the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in which paragraph 2 of article 11 recognizes the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger;

*Recalling* the World Food Summit held in November 1996, when the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action were approved, with their promise to demonstrate the political will and a common and national commitment to ensure food security for all and to deploy an ongoing effort to eradicate hunger in all countries;

*Reaffirming* the commitment to follow up on the concrete and implicit recommendations contained in the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004;

*Recalling* that food must not serve as a means of political or economic pressure, and reaffirming to that effect the importance of international cooperation and solidarity, as well as the necessity of refraining from taking unilateral measures contrary to international law and the Charter of the United Nations that would compromise food security;

*Reaffirming* that a peaceful, stable and facilitating political, social and economic environment at both the national and international levels constitutes the basis that will enable States to grant priority to food security;

*Recognizing* the considerable efforts that have been deployed in many countries to reduce the effects of this crisis and consolidate food security, as well as the commitment of the international community, expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, to contribute to these efforts,

### **The 8<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas,**

1. Reaffirms the world commitments contained in the Rome Declaration at the World Food Summit of 1996, in particular the commitment to reduce by half the number of undernourished people in the world by 2015 at the latest, as was reaffirmed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;
2. Exhorts all governments to redouble their efforts to join forces to fight hunger internationally by working to promote coordinated action and the contribution of all parties to counter the effects of this phenomenon;
3. Confirms that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is duty-bound, in pursuance of its mandate, to play a primary role in helping countries implement the provisions of the World Food Summit Plan of Action;
4. Respectfully exhorts all parliamentarians to examine their national food security policies in order to round out and enhance those policies, remove any obstacles to their application and simplify legislative measures, with a view to facilitating interdepartmental cooperation;
5. Commits to reinforcing national and international action to prepare for crises and emergencies and to improve the effectiveness of emergency interventions, considering that these measures must be integrated into sustainable development initiatives with which all interested parties must be associated in order to achieve sustainable food security;

6. Underlines the need to promote the rational and sustainable development of forests and fisheries, including the rational and sustainable use and conservation of aquatic resources, given the contribution of those sectors to food security;
7. Exhorts parliamentarians to work in a cooperative and united manner to reinforce the activities of the FAO that enable developing countries and transitional economies to deal with the food crisis;
8. Stresses the need to develop sustainable technologies in order to intensify agricultural production and give farmers the technical capacity to apply them, so that we may continue to meet the food requirements of future generations, who will have to deal with the population increase, the growing scarcity of aquatic and land resources, and the increased risks associated with climate change;
9. Urges parliamentarians to work in concert with the governments of their respective countries to urge them to avoid adopting policies that interfere with trade flow and exacerbate instability on the world markets.