



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

**Resolution on the admission of observers**

Conscious that it was important that COPA, as a parliamentary organization, provide in its Statutes for the admission of parliaments from other continents as permanent observers;

Reaffirming COPA's will to establish a mechanism for cooperation and dialogue conducive to the analysis of various issues of worldwide interest and to effective action on those issues;

The General Assembly resolved to mandate COPA's Executive Committee to study the proposals for the admission of permanent observers submitted at the 8<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

The General Assembly also resolved to give the Executive Committee a one-time mandate to propose parliaments from other continents for admission to COPA as permanent observers and to put the proposals to a vote, in accordance with section 10 of the Statutes.

The General Assembly also established the following guidelines for deciding whether a candidate may be admitted to COPA as a permanent observer :

- a) The candidate must be a national, regional, state or provincial parliament.
- b) An invitation to participate in COPA proceedings must be endorsed in letters of recommendation from at least five COPA member parliaments.
- c) The parliament seeking permanent observer status must send an official application for admission in writing to COPA's Executive Secretariat.
- d) The parliament seeking permanent observer status must have commissions or committees with a role or focus similar to that of COPA's thematic committees.
- e) The Executive Secretariat must conduct a feasibility study and submit a report to the Executive Committee.

The General Assembly authorizes the Executive Secretariat to acquire the necessary means to prepare the report.

**Agreement**

**If the above requirements are satisfied, the Executive Committee will put the proposal to a vote. If a simple majority of Executive Committee members vote in favour of the proposal, an acceptance agreement will be drafted and sent to the parliament admitted as a permanent observer, which will enjoy the rights and agree to respect the obligations set out in the Statutes of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas.**