



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

**Committee on Education, Culture, Science and Technology**

**Resolution on Education, Culture**

**FIRST**—We, parliamentarians of the Americas, see the dropout rate at all levels of education as one of the most challenging and fundamental problems in the Americas, one that results in the most vulnerable students being excluded from our education systems.

**SECOND**—We therefore undertake to act in our respective countries to

- **GUARANTEE** the right to education in the Americas and defend public education and its strategic role in ongoing efforts to achieve ever higher levels of development;
- **STRENGTHEN** our secondary- and university-level public education systems by gradually allocating more resources to them in order to move closer to the OECD average for investment in education;
- **STIMULATE** the creation of “knowledge cities” geared to the popularization and critical use of knowledge in order to promote inclusiveness and equal opportunities as regards access to higher education;
- **CAPITALIZE ON** international, national and regional networks to foster the development of cooperation programs aimed at reducing cultural, economic and social asymmetries;
- **ENHANCE** the flexibility and internationalization of higher education to tap into the many benefits of university mobility and technological development;
- **PROPOSE** to all higher education institutions proven strategies for preparing members of non-traditional groups, the excluded and the disadvantaged to pursue postsecondary studies;

- OFFER group or individual academic support, tutoring and counselling services to students in order to help them overcome any obstacles that may hamper their progress and prevent them from persevering and succeeding, and to facilitate their transition into the work world.

**THIRD**—We urge university rectors and boards of governors to work together, and with their governments and parliaments, to develop an elementary, secondary and university educational program and to frame and implement government policies that promote continuing education, with a view to reducing the dropout problem to the greatest extent possible at all levels of education.

**FOURTH**—We call for the creation of the conditions necessary to achieve the level of development required to enable university graduates and postgraduates to work in their own countries.