



**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 the implementation of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and
Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions**

SATISFIED with the coming into force, on March 18, 2007, of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions adopted by UNESCO's member states;

DELIGHTED that 15 states of the Americas have so far taken up the question of the protection and promotion of cultural expressions by accepting or ratifying the Convention;

RECALLING that the legitimacy and strength of the Convention depend essentially on the number of states that become parties to it;

CONSIDERING that the Convention will be the reference tool for states wishing to exclude cultural goods and services during international commercial negotiations;

CONSIDERING that the Conference of Parties, the supreme body for the implementation of the Convention, has looked into the creation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity, which is to provide—mainly in developing countries—financial support for policies and measures designed to promote culture;

NOTING that the Conference of Parties has also elected the 24 members of the Intergovernmental Committee charged with promoting the objectives of the Convention and preparing operational guidelines for its implementation;

CONVINCED that the Convention is an essential international legislative instrument capable of bringing about decisive change for the well-being of our societies, which are now in constant interaction;

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

And acting upon the recommendation of the Committee on Education, Culture, Science and Technology:

REITERATE that cultural diversity is a source of great wealth for our societies and that respecting and valuing this diversity contributes to social cohesion and the development of our nations;

RECALL that each people has a right to ensure that no trade liberalization rules jeopardize its ability to promote its own culture and identity;

CALL ON the states of the Americas that have not already done so to ratify or accept this Convention as soon as possible, in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures, to give the Convention greater impact on the international stage.

COMMIT OURSELVES to ensuring that states that are parties to the Convention make every effort to remain focussed on the Convention objectives, in particular when holding debates and making decisions on implementation mechanisms;

INVITE our respective governments to do everything possible to achieve the objectives of the Convention;

COMMIT OURSELVES to studying the proposals of the Conference of Parties and the Intergovernmental Committee with regard to the fundraising strategy and the management of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity;

RECOMMEND to our respective governments that they require non liberalization commitments in the field of culture from their partners during commercial negotiations;

COMMIT OURSELVES to heightening the awareness of our respective peoples with respect to the question of cultural diversity and to informing them of the nature of our states' commitment with respect to the ratification of the Convention.

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