



11TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PARLIAMENTARY CONFEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS

Quebec City, Canada

September 6-9, 2011

Committee on Education, Culture, Science and Technology

September 7, 2011, 3: 30 p.m. to 6: 30 p.m.

Resolution

WE, the parliamentarians of the Americas, now gathered in Québec City, Canada, for the 11th General Assembly of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA):

RECOGNIZING the need to maintain direct and lasting contact with those whom we represent, and supporting the principle that pluralist, equitable and accessible communication with the public by government institutions is a fundamental component of modern-day democratic systems;

REITERATING the interest of the legislators belonging to the COPA in continuing to work on the legislative knowledge process and to cooperate in light of experience gained through the creation of institutional channels;

POINTING OUT that present-day society is increasingly interested in the activities of governments and demands transparency regarding legislative activities;

POINTING OUT that the broadcasting of legislative activities forces public servants to carry out their duties diligently, and brings members of parliament closer to those whom they represent;

RESOLVE TO

INVITE all parliamentarians attending the 11th General Assembly of the COPA to pursue their efforts to exchange technological and legislative information facilitating the establishment of parliamentary channels and the improvement of telecommunications among parliaments in the western hemisphere;

URGE congresses and assemblies that do not have a parliamentary channel to commit to making the necessary efforts to create venues for public communications that bring citizens closer to the political process, reinforce the culture and enable the dissemination of information that promotes citizens' development;

ENCOURAGE parliamentarians from countries that do not yet have a parliamentary channel to continue to work on getting their congresses and assemblies to approve the broadcasting of content over the Internet, as a first step toward the creation of a parliamentary channel in the near future.

UNDERTAKE to continue to address this issue, through the Committee on Education, Culture, Science and Technology, to maintain an ongoing dialogue among parliamentary channels with a view to improving infrastructure, technical teams, budgets, content, and more, so as to achieve successful broadcasts that help reinforce democracy.

WE RESOLVE to conduct, during the second half of 2011, a technical-legislative workshop on the establishment of parliamentary channels within congresses and assemblies in the Americas.

Adopted in Québec City, Canada, September 7, 2011