



PARLIAMENTARY CONFEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS

Committee on Education, Culture, Science and Technology

August 6, 2014

Toluca, State of Mexico

Recommendation for the reinforcement of the quality of education

GIVEN that education is a fundamental human right enshrined as such in various international legal documents including the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* and the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*;

RECALLING the Resolution on Education and Culture passed by the Committee on Education, Culture, Science and Technology at the 8th General Assembly of COPA in 2008, wherein the parliamentarians pledged to enforce the right to education in the Americas;

CONVINCED that, in accordance with the *World Declaration on Education for All* and the *Millennium Development Goals*, the right to education means not only access to schools, but also the right to quality education allowing everyone to complete basic education programs and actually learn as a result;

KNOWING that the trend in public spending in the region over the last decade is positive—averaging 5.2% of the GDP—due mainly to the expansion of educational services;

GIVEN that various factors contribute to school success, in particular teacher training and school programs, which must be evaluated taking into account the young people involved and the society in which they live;

CONSIDERING the decisive role new technologies play in teaching;

GIVEN that education remains a crucial and ongoing responsibility of States;

WE, the representatives of the congresses and parliamentary assemblies of the unitary, federal, federated and associated states, regional parliaments and interparliamentary organizations gathered in Toluca, State of Mexico, for the meeting of the Committee on Education, Culture, Science and Technology,

Acting on the recommendation of the Committee on Education, Culture, Science and Technology,

RENEW our international commitments to the right to education;

PLEDGE to continue discussions on the subject in order to publicize productive initiatives carried out in our respective States;

URGE the parliamentarians of the Americas to see that the necessary funds are allocated in order to:

- provide better access to quality education
- set up programs targeting marginalized populations
- ensure adequate teacher training
- ensure the development of new technologies
- improve the quality of education;

INVITE the parliamentarians of the Americas to confirm that the programs implemented to enhance the quality of education are carefully evaluated on an ongoing basis in order to gauge their impact on success at school;

URGE the States of the Americas, via their respective legislative bodies, to promote in their laws and education systems the right of individuals to a quality education that promotes equal opportunity and prioritizes successful learning;

PLEDGE to monitor the stability of the education systems, and therefore of the national education programs, in our respective States;

RECOMMEND that all the parliamentarians who attended the meeting of the Committee on Education, Culture, Science and Technology in Toluca, State of Mexico, follow up on this recommendation in each and every parliamentary assembly of the Americas and the committees responsible for education in those assemblies, so that proper attention is given to improving the quality of education in the Americas.

Resolution adopted during the 13th General Assembly of COPA, held in Asunción, Paraguay, from November 3 to 5, 2014.