



**Meeting of the Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development  
Toluca, Mexico  
August 7, 2014**

**RESOLUTION**

***“Integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies and measures into the laws of COPA member countries”***

***We, the parliamentarians of the Americas gathered in Toluca, Mexico, for the meeting of the Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas:***

***Recognizing***

***That climate change constitutes one of the world’s most critical environmental problems, concerns us all and is threatening the planet’s ecosystems, jeopardizing sustainable development and humanity’s well-being,***

***Acknowledging***

***That climate change has serious repercussions the world over, and that countries are very vulnerable and must adopt risk management strategies to ensure economic and energy security,***

***That addressing climate change will require action on the regional and international levels,***

***That we share responsibility for climate change and that the majority of the decisions we make on a daily basis can help considerably reduce GHG emissions,***

**RESOLVE TO**

***encourage the creation of a strategic alliance with the United Nations, through its Environment Programme, to obtain advice for developing regulations on***

- 1. creating a greener, more inclusive, increasingly responsible economy,***
- 2. reviewing the energy model with a focus on renewable energy, in particular in the parliamentary buildings of COPA member countries,***
- 3. compiling all existing legislation relating to climate change, fuels and energy;***
- 4. harmonizing legislation, so as to encourage the members of the Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development to introduce draft legislation on these themes in their respective countries,***
- 5. knowledge and information sharing on the technical, legal, institutional, operational and financial aspects countries are working on, so as to guide and enlighten decision-making in the development of action plans and REDD+ national strategies.***

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



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**RESOLUTION**

***“Create a forum where countries in the region can learn about and share climate change-related experiences”***

***We, the parliamentarians of the Americas gathered in Toluca, Mexico, for the meeting of the Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas:***

***Recognizing***

***That sharing experiences in the field of climate change will contribute to developing regional and international proposals,***

***That we share responsibility for climate change and that most of the decisions countries make impact the region.***

**RESOLVE TO**

- 1. create a forum where countries in the region can learn about climate change and share their experiences in developing action plans and national strategies in the field of climate change and air quality legislation,***
- 2. encourage the creation of national committees on climate change in COPA member countries,***
- 3. develop communications and information sharing strategies using IT solutions,***
- 4. ask COPA member countries to send the Chair of the Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development their legislation relating to air quality and climate change and their strategies for encouraging renewable energies and using environmentally friendly vehicles,***
- 5. recommend that COPA member countries base their political decisions on scientific research.***

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



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**RESOLUTION**

*“Create an environmental monitoring and information network of COPA member parliaments”*

*We, the parliamentarians of the Americas gathered in Toluca, Mexico, for the meeting of the Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas:*

**Recognizing**

*That sharing experiences related to environmental issues, in particular major current global issues such as climate change, will contribute to developing proposals,*

**RESOLVE TO**

- 1. create an ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND INFORMATION SHARING NETWORK OF COPA MEMBER PARLIAMENTS to share information and data. For a six-month period, the network will compile all legislation in force relating to climate change and air quality, with the cooperation of the parliaments of the Dominican Republic, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Panama and the National Assembly of Québec,*
- 2. create a database of all committees on the environment, sustainable development and climate change in the region,*
- 3. encourage the legislative body of every COPA member country to provide up-to-date information on the themes addressed by its parliament, so that this information can be added to the network.*

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



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**RESOLUTION**

*"The importance of water resources for development"*

*We, the parliamentarians of the Americas gathered in Toluca, Mexico, for the meeting of the Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas:*

**Recognizing**

*That water resources are of strategic importance for development and are significantly threatened due to climate change,*

**RESOLVE TO**

- 1. recommend that COPA member countries pass laws protecting water resources, in particular to avoid their contamination,*
- 2. recommend that COPA member countries plan to invest in risk management,*
- 3. recommend that COPA member countries envisage measures to manage health risks and increase prevention and intervention budgets, in particular in poorer areas,*
- 4. recommend that COPA member countries adopt water management measures through laws regulating its efficient and careful use and conservation,*
- 5. recommend that COPA member countries legislate on wastewater treatment and adopt stricter environmental quality standards in order to minimize toxic spills in watercourses.*

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