



**PARLIAMENTARY CONFEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS (COPA)
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
San Juan, Puerto Rico
April 15–17, 2015**

Draft resolution to appeal to governments of COPA member countries to work together on the problem of coastal erosion resulting from global warming, which affects the economy, tourism, and natural resources in our respective countries

Presented by Senators Ángel M. Rodríguez Otero and Antonio J. Fas Alzamora

CONSIDERING that climate change has caused a serious coastal erosion problem affecting the majority of COPA member countries;

CONSIDERING that coastal erosion leads to the disappearance of beaches with high economic and tourism value, affecting spaces of development that have traditionally been important for progress in the Americas;

RECOGNIZING that this is a worldwide problem that is even more dramatic for the countries in our hemisphere because of our extensive coastlines dotted with beaches;

CONCERNED by the possibility that, if nothing is done, the situation will have irreversible consequences and beaches with historic, economic, social and tourism value will be lost forever;

KNOWING that there are various techniques to restore beaches affected by erosion or lost as a result of it;

KNOWING that in our countries, many of these techniques have generated successful results at a very high cost;

CONSIDERING that many of the beaches restored at great expense were again damaged by coastal erosion due to a lack of follow-up, resulting in wasted efforts and money;

RECOGNIZING that in Puerto Rico, various measures have been implemented to respond to the problem of coastal erosion through Senate Resolution 994 and efforts by the Department of Natural and Environmental Resources;

RECOGNIZING that joint action is necessary to tackle the problem;

WE APPEAL to the governments of COPA member countries, their government bodies responsible for environmental issues and their respective parliaments and congresses to pool their technical know-how by exchanging plans, information, resources and technology so that together we can meet the challenge

of preventing and attenuating erosion or reconstructing beaches and coastlines that are threatened by erosion or that have succumbed to it.

*Presented on April 16, 2015, in San Juan, Puerto Rico
Adopted by the General Assembly of COPA, on September 11, 2015, in Guanajuato, Mexico*