

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CONFERENCE

***QUEBEC CITY
OCTOBER 8 TO 10, 1999***

RECORD OF DECISIONS

Gathered in Quebec City from October 8 to 10, 1999, the members of the Executive Committee of the Conference agreed:

- to accept the candidacy of the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico to host the next General Assembly of the Conference, which will take place during the period comprised between July 12 and 16, 2000. Mr. Kenneth McClintock, Senator of Puerto Rico, will assume the Presidency of the Conference until the end of the next General Assembly;

Furthermore, the members of the Executive Committee have taken due note of the will of the Parliaments of the Dominican Republic and of the Province of San Juan, Argentina, to be the hosts of the 2001 and 2002 General Assemblies;

- that the next General Assembly will take place over a period of two days and will be preceded by the meetings of the provisional Executive Committee and of the Network of Women Parliamentarians of the Americas, with each of these two events lasting one day;
- that the fight against poverty in the context of the integration of the Americas shall be the main theme of the next General Assembly, and that in developing the set of themes for the General Assembly, the following sub-themes shall be considered: education, foreign debt, the fight against drug trafficking, public safety and corruption. The Committee expresses its thanks to Mr. Selim Jahan, Deputy Director of the Human Development Report Office of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and to Madam Elaine Freeland, Assistant Deputy Minister for the Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec and President of the Canadian Delegation in the Education Sector of the Summit of the Americas, for their presentations and their contribution to the development of this set of themes;
- to create a working group, composed of members of the Executive Committee, assigned to make the necessary clarifications to the guiding principles, adopted in La Antigua Guatemala on the occasion of the second meeting of the Steering Committee of the Conference, with a view to their adoption by the General Assembly in Puerto Rico;
- to conduct a mission to Washington D.C., early in February 2000, in order to promote the Conference and its next General Assembly to the United States Congress as well as to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

The members of the Conference Executive Committee also took notice of the conclusions of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Network of Women Parliamentarians of the Americas, in particular to hold the next annual meeting of the Network on the themes of the participation of women within democratic institutions, as well as education and job training. The constitution of the Network will be adopted on that occasion.

Finally, the Executive Committee was pleased with the state of advancement of the work of the Inter-American Research Chair on parliamentary strategies toward hemispheric integration, in which the College of the Americas and the Parliamentary Conference of the Americas participated, and whose initial findings will be presented on the occasion of the General Assembly in Puerto Rico.