



**COPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
Mexico City, Mexico  
March 2, 2006**

**Recommendation on ratification of  
the UNESCO convention on cultural diversity**

*CONVINCED* that cultural products and services play an essential role in the identity and plurality of a society and the wellbeing of its members;

*NOTING* that the COPA General Assembly adopted a recommendation on cultural diversity in the Americas at its meeting in Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil, in May 2005;

*WHEREAS* the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions was adopted by UNESCO in October 2005, and thirty states must ratify it for it to be implemented;

*WHEREAS* parliaments and parliamentarians must play a key role in ensuring that this Convention enters into force and is implemented;

*WHEREAS* a single state of the Americas, Canada, has ratified it to date;

***We, the members of the Executive Committee of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas meeting in Mexico City, Mexico, on March 2, 2006,***

*REITERATE* that cultural diversity is a source of great wealth for our societies and that respect for and value of this diversity contributes to social cohesion and the development of our nations;

*NOTE* that each people has a right to ensure that no trade liberalization rules jeopardize its ability to promote its own culture and identity;

*CALL ON* the states of the Americas to ratify, accept, and approve this Convention, or abide by it as soon as possible in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures.