



**PARLIAMENTARY CONFEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS (COPA)  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
Mexico City, Mexico  
March 2, 2006**

**COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, ABORIGINAL PEOPLES, AND CITIZEN SECURITY**

**Resolution on Human Rights**

*WHEREAS* the COPA Committee on Human Rights, Aboriginal Peoples, and Citizen Security aims to achieve certain goals and objectives;

*WHEREAS* Article 5 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment;

*WHEREAS* the UN has adopted a Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

*WHEREAS* Article 1 of the said Convention defines torture;

*WHEREAS* the countries of the Americas that ratified the said Convention, including the United States, which signed it on April 18, 1988, and ratified it October 21, 1994 have certain obligations and duties thereunder;

*WHEREAS* many other legal provisions, treaties, and declarations against torture and cruel and inhuman treatment exist, in particular in the constitutional rules of countries of the Americas;

*AND WHEREAS* news reports and countless other reports from non-governmental organizations committed to the protection of human rights have denounced and confirmed the repeated perpetration by the United States of America of acts of torture and inhuman and degrading treatment;

**The COPA Executive Committee, at its meeting in Mexico City on March 2, 2006, adopted the following resolution:**

We wish to express our strongest condemnation of the policy of the government of the United States of America, which, through the use of military and political force, has inflicted acute physical and/or mental pain and suffering on prisoners in Guantanamo Bay, Iraq, and military bases scattered throughout the world for the purpose of extracting information, obtaining confessions, or punishing them for an act they committed or are suspected of having committed.

We further condemn the practice of intimidation or pressure on these same prisoners or other persons, or the practice of any kind of discrimination or prejudice.

Copies of this resolution must be sent to the United Nations (UN), the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), and Organization of American States (OAS).