



**Meeting of the Executive Committee of the
Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA)**

**Los Angeles, California, United States
June 23, 2007**

**RESOLUTION ON THE DISPATCH OF
AN ELECTORAL OBSERVATION MISSION TO GUATEMALA**

WHEREAS presidential and legislative elections are to be held in Guatemala on September 9, 2007;

WHEREAS the participation of parliamentarians from COPA in multilateral electoral observation missions is a matter of priority in order to attain its objective of contributing to the strengthening of parliamentary democracy and to the edification of a community of the Americas founded upon respect for human rights and dignity, peace, democracy, solidarity among peoples, social justice, and equity between women and men;

WHEREAS pursuant to the criteria established by the Executive Committee at its meeting in Mexico City in March 2006, COPA is to take steps for the dispatch of electoral observation missions, as a priority, to those countries of the Americas that are experiencing, or that have recently experienced, political or social crises;

WHEREAS notwithstanding the signature of the Peace Agreements in 1996, which brought 36 years of civil war to a close in their country, Guatemalans continue to suffer severe problems relating to public security and poverty;

We, members of the Executive Committee of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas gathered in Los Angeles, United States, on this twenty-third day of June 2007,

DECLARE our support for and our solidarity with Guatemalan society and the democratic institutions of that country in organizing general elections next September 9;

PROPOSE the dispatch of a COPA electoral observation mission to the presidential and legislative elections in Guatemala, with due respect for the national sovereignty of that country;

PLEDGE OURSELVES, in forming a delegation of parliamentarians from the Americas, to uphold the principles of regional balance and political pluralism.