



COPA Electoral Observation mission

PARLIAMENTARIANS CONGRATULATE THE PARAGUAYAN PEOPLE FOR THE SUCCESSFUL CONDUCT OF THE ELECTIONS

Asunción, April 21st 2008 – A delegation of six parliamentarians of the **Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA)**, headed by Ms Edda Acuña, 1st Vice-President of COPA and senator of the province of Buenos Aires in Argentina, observed the general elections of April 20th 2008. The COPA delegation also included: Ms Silvia Caballero; Member for the province of Buenos Aires, Argentina; Mr. Ernesto Angulo Milla, Member of the Legislative Assembly of El Salvador; Mr. Mario López Valdez and Mr. Eduardo Nava, Senators of the Congress of the Mexican Union; Mr. Alexandre Cloutier, Member of the National Assembly of Québec; and four electoral advisors. The members of the delegation noted that the ballot took place in a calm environment, respectful of the electoral laws in force during these elections.

On election day, the members of the delegation went to the capital, Asunción, and to the Central Department in order to observe balloting in almost fifty polling stations. In spite of a few irregularities, the members of the delegation noted that the electoral process was respected and that the vote was held in an orderly way. “I was impressed by the enthusiasm of the electors and their willingness to participate in this important electoral event”, declared Senator Acuña. In addition, the members of the delegation underlined the rigour with which the electoral personnel, as well as the representatives of the political parties, accomplished their task.

Upon arriving on April 16th, and in addition to the electoral observation conducted in the polling stations, the members of the COPA delegation held important meetings with the country’s presidential candidates, leading authorities of the Congress and of the Electoral Justice, as well as with representatives from the civil society, all with the aim of obtaining information on the situation prevailing in the country.

This was the 7th electoral observation mission by the COPA which has established its strategic importance in the consolidation of democracy by taking an increasingly active role in election monitoring throughout the Americas. Founded in Québec City in 1997, this organisation brings together over 300 parliamentary assemblies of unitary, federal and federated states, as well as the regional parliaments and interparliamentary organizations of the Americas.

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Source and information :

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