2021 Washington Model Organization of American States General Assembly

Final Packet Third Committee



Washington Model Organization of American States

Institute for Diplomatic Dialogue in the Americas



March 29 - April 2, 2021

CREATING THE GUIDELINE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PRODUCTS (GDP) FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES TO ADVANCE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE AMERICAS

Third Committee Topic No. 2 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Paraguay

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 31 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) which declares that the "Inter-American cooperation for integral development is the common and joint responsibility of the Member States, within the framework of the democratic principles and the institutions of the interAmerican system. It should include the economic, social, educational, cultural, scientific, and technological fields, support the achievement of national objectives of the Member States, and respect the priorities established by each country in its development plans, without political ties or conditions.";

Article 9 of the Social Charter of the Americas establishes that Member States "recognize the important role of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, in addition to that of cooperatives and other production units that contribute to the full incorporation into the labor market of women, youth, persons with disabilities, and other excluded groups";

CONSIDERING:

That according to the World Bank, Latin America is one of the regions hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, with unemployment rates rising rapidly; less than 50% of SMEs have enough cash on hand to cover 15 days of expenses with no revenue being received during that period;

That according to the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) report: "The effects of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on international trade and logistics", Latin America and the Caribbean's foreign trade fell 23 percent in 2020 during the coronavirus pandemic; and

RECALLING:

AG/RES. 1364 (XXVI-O/96), Free Trade And Investment In the Hemisphere, which refers to the promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulatory provisions whose extraterritorial provisions affect the sovereignty of other states and the legitimate interests of entities and persons under its jurisdiction, as well as the freedom of trade and investment,

- 1. To congratulate Member States for their efforts in proposing and implementing policies that help the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises, supporting opportunities and competitiveness of the sector at the regional and global level.
- 2. To urge the Member States and the General Secretariat to continue supporting the role of the Department of Economic Development as it works to create a new regional reality for small and medium-sized industries.
- 3. To recommend the creation of the Guideline for Development of Products (GDP), to strengthen hemispheric foreign trade for small and medium-sized enterprises:

- a. The Guidelines will focus on three fundamental pillars: training processes in logistics support, developing supply chains, and using microcredits to maximize efforts in the face of structural and short-term deficiencies.
- b. The Guidelines will be elaborated on by the Inter-American Dialogue of High-Level MSME Authorities.
- c. The Guidelines will be applied under the supervision of the Department of Economic Development and the Ministers of Economy and Finance or their equivalent in each Member State.
- d. The Guidelines will go into effect on June 27, 2021 in commemoration of the international Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day and will be based on the Foreign Trade Information System (SICE).
- 4. To request technical cooperation from the Chambers of Commerce in Member States, related NGOs (such as Building Resources Across Communities (BRAC), as well as financial support from Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, and other stakeholders.

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COMPETITIVENESS AND INNOVATION IN THE AMERICAS PROGRAM (CIAP)

Third Committee Topic No. 2 of the Agenda Draft Resolution presented by the Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2(f) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which proclaims as an essential purpose "To promote, by cooperative action, their economic, social and cultural development";

Article 3(k) of the OAS Charter, which declares that "Economic cooperation is essential to the common welfare and prosperity of the peoples of the continent";

Article 32 of the OAS Charter, which establishes that "The Member States shall contribute to inter-American cooperation for integral development in accordance with their resources and capabilities and in conformity whit their laws";

Article 43 of the OAS Charter, which asserts that "In order to strengthen and accelerate integration in all its aspects, the Member States agree to give adequate priority to the preparation and carrying out of multinational projects and to their financing, as well as to encourage economic and financial institutions of the interAmerican system to continue giving their broadest support to regional integration institutions and programs";

Article 47 of the OAS Charter, which stresses that "The Member States will give primary importance within their development plans to the encouragement of education, science, technology, and culture, oriented toward the overall improvement of the individual, and as a foundation for democracy, social justice, and progress";

CONSIDERING:

The discussion paper, "Key Elements for a 2020 Competitiveness Agenda in the Americas," prepared for the III Meeting of Americas Competitiveness Authorities and Councils, which affirms that "New technological ideas combined with social order and the trained of human beings who generate and apply them, are the basis of modern economic prosperity";

NOTING:

That AG/RES. 2878 (XLV-O/15), Plan of Action of the Social Charter of the Americas, states as one of its objectives to: "Strengthen skills certification programs to foster incorporation into the labor market and improve employment opportunities";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

That the purpose of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) is "to promote, coordinate, manage, and facilitate the planning and execution of programs, projects, and activities, 'partnership development activities', within the scope of the OAS Charter and, in particular, the

framework of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development of CIDI [Inter-American Council for Integral Development]";

UNDERLINING:

The Preamble of the Consensus of Santo Domingo, Meeting of Authorities and Councils of Competitiveness in the Americas (2011), of the Inter-American Competitiveness Network (RIAC), which states that "competitiveness is not only an issue related to economic growth but a fundamental area for development and equity, and critical when designing public policy and undertaking actions at the national, regional and local level in our countries";

The Preamble of the Consensus of Santo Domingo which emphasizes "the importance of setting innovation, productivity, and competitiveness as priorities in the medium and long-term agendas of our member states, including partnerships among the public and private sectors, academia and civil society";

BEARING IN MIND:

Article III(C)(1)(b) of the Plan of Action of Panama, Translational Science, Technology and Innovation: Knowledge for Competitiveness and Prosperity (2011) of Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), which encourages the Member States to "promote national policies and frameworks to foster innovation, including investment, in collaboration with the Ministers and High Authorities";

Article 3 of the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019, Inclusive Innovation: Key to reducing inequality and increasing productivity in the region, of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), which urges Working Group 4 to "explore joint opportunities for technological development and innovation, including mechanisms or calls for collaborative projects among several countries in strategic sectors or on issues of mutual interest"; and

RECALLING:

AG/DEC. 74 (XLIV-O/14), Declaration of Asunción "Development with Social Inclusion" which undertakes "to promote cooperation among member states with a view to achieving their integral development and, in particular, to contribute to the elimination of poverty",

- 1. To commend Member States on their work done to promote competitiveness and innovation to advance the economic growth of the Americas.
- 2. To encourage Member States to advance the economic growth of the hemisphere by implementing the Competitiveness and Innovation in the Americas Program (CIAP).
- 3. To establish that CIAP shall focus on training small businesses to:
 - a. Strengthen innovative thinking.
 - b. Increase knowledge in the areas of science, technology, and engineering.
 - c. Acquire financial and business knowledge.
 - d. Generate effective mechanisms to improve competitiveness.
 - e. Develop innovative production processes.
- 4. To recommend that training be carried out by specialists from Member States.

- 5. To encourage the Member States to provide tax benefits to all small business which attend CIAP in order to promote their expansion and improved competitiveness.
- 6. To instruct the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) with the collaboration of the Department of Economic Development (DED) to design and oversee this Program.
- 7. To require funds from the IACD, the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), the Development Cooperation Fund (DCF), and volunteer donations from Member States and Permanent Observers.

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THE CLEANER, CHEAPER, AND BETTER INITIATIVE (CCBI)

Third Committee Topic No. 4 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Belize

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

Article 95 of the 1948 Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which establishes organizations commitment to "economic and social development, including trade, tourism, integration and the environment":

The 1994 Plan of Action of the First Summit of the Americas, in which Heads of State and Government agreed that, "[The]Governments will . . . pursue, in accordance with national legislation, least cost national energy strategies that consider all options, including energy efficiency, non-conventional renewable energy (i.e., solar, wind, geothermal, small hydro, and biomass), and conventional energy resources";

REMEMBERING:

The 2006 AG/RES. 2253 (XXXVI-O/06) Support for the Use of New and Renewable Energy Sources, which requests the General Secretariat to support Member States' efforts to develop sustainable energy plans and to implement measures that foster greater use of clean conventional energy and commercially viable renewable energy, such as wind, geothermal, biofuel, hydroelectric, and solar energy, as well as to adopt policies designed to achieve greater energy efficiency, as a means of better addressing the challenges associated with economic growth and the environment;

BEARING IN MIND:

The 2009 Declaration of Commitment of Port of Spain: Securing Our Citizens' Future by Promoting Human Prosperity, Energy Security and Environmental Sustainability, aims to foster energy efficiency and conservation in the public and private sectors, particularly in our transport systems, industrial sectors, commercial enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as at the household level, and will promote cleaner, more sustainable patterns of production and consumption;

The 2010 Declaration of Santo Domingo for the Sustainable Development of the Americas, which "encourages efforts towards developing cleaner, more affordable and renewable, and sustainable energy systems to promote access to energy and energy efficient technologies and practices in households and in the public and private sectors";

FULLY AWARE:

That the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals state, "Energy is the dominant contributor to climate change, accounting for around 60 percent of total global greenhouse emissions";

That the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recognizes; "there is growing international recognition of education for sustainable development as an integral element of quality education and a key enabler for sustainable development";

NOTING:

In 2015, Belize reported that renewable energy sources generated over half of the nation's electricity, and the country has committed to use 95 percent renewable energy sources by 2030; and

RESTATING:

It is necessary to expedite the transition to cleaner, more sustainable energy sources for the purpose of preserving the environment, as well as economic growth, through top to bottom social engagement with the issue of clean energy, which has indiscriminate effects on the social, economic, and political institutions of every state,

- 1. To applaud the work of the Department of Sustainable Development and specifically the efforts of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA).
- 2. To create a pilot program in Belize, the Cleaner, Cheaper, and Better Initiative (CCBI), involving multilateral cooperation between the ECPA, the State, energy providers, and nonprofit advertising firms, such as TAS: Belize Digital Media, for the purpose of an advertising campaign highlighting cleaner fuels and the disadvantages of fossil fuels:
 - a. That the project promote the economic and environmental benefits of solar, wind, hydro-, geo-, and bio- energy.
 - b. That the project be designed to reach all strata of society, and should include digital, physical, and mixed media adverts.
 - c. That an ECPA working group will monitor and contribute to this campaign and evaluate the program's effectiveness after a period of two years.
- 3. To request financial support from the World Bank, the UN Department of Sustainable Development, the State of Belize, and involved energy providers such as Belize Electricity Limited and British Petroleum, as well as Member States, observer states and any other pertinent organizations.
- 4. To request the General Secretariat to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third regular session on the implementation of this resolution, the execution of which shall be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.
- 5. To recommend that the program be extended to other member states upon completion of the pilot period.

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CREATION OF THE "SMALL BUSINESS, BIG IMPACT" PROGRAM (SBBI)

General Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Mexico

Topic No. 2 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

That Article 34 of the 1948 Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) stated that "The Member States agree that equality of opportunity, the elimination of extreme poverty, equitable distribution of wealth and income and the full participation of their peoples in decisions relating to their own development are, among others, basic objectives of integral development;"

That Article 34(e) of the Charter adds, "Accelerated and diversified industrialization, especially of capital and intermediate goods;

That Article 26 of the American Convention on Human Rights (1969) affirmed that, "[t]he States Parties undertake to adopt measures, both internally and through international cooperation, especially those of an economic and technical nature, with a view to achieving progressively, by legislation or other appropriate means, the full realization of the rights implicit in the economic, social, educational, scientific, and cultural standards set forth in the Charter of the Organization of American States as amended by the Protocol of Buenos Aires";

RECOGNIZING:

The data presented to the OAS by the Special Rapporteurship on Economic, Social, Cultural, and Environmental Rights (ESCER) under the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) shows that, "Latin America continues to suffer from the worst income distribution in the world, [as well as] extreme poverty, hunger and malnutrition...There are more than 160 million people living in poverty in the region";

The discrepancy between the above statement and statements made by the Department of Economic Development, under the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), which reported that, "Micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) are the backbone of the productive structure in OAS member states. They account for more than 99% percent of businesses, two-thirds of jobs and 25 percent of gross domestic product in Latin America and the Caribbean." Furthermore, less than 10 percent of MSMEs in Latin America and the Caribbean engage in export activities and global value chains. "Moreover, MSMEs' use of technology and quality systems is very limited, and their innovation level is low";

The important contributions of the Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL) as the mechanism for cooperation within the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML) which proves vital to understanding and aiding the Member States' labor forces;

The efforts and continuous dedication of programs under SEDI such as the Trade and Economic Development (TED), the Inter-American Dialogue of High-Level MSME Authorities (IADHL), the Caribbean Small Business Development Centers Program (SBDC), the Foreign Trade Information System (SICE), the Department of Human Development, Education, and Employment (DHDEE), and others;

Resolution 2939 (XLIC-019) "Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development" which established "the importance of fostering integral development as one of the essential purposes of the Organization as contained in instruments of the inter-American system" and its implementation which has resulted in an excellent framework to foster and nurture a strong MSMEs economic environment:

COMMENDING:

The excellent initiatives taken by Mars Wrigley, Incorporated to promote gender equality, small business innovation, and environmental awareness through numerous projects such as MITZ and Mars "Trash-to-Treasure" Project;

The proactive measures taken by Mexico's Secretariat of Economic Development (SEDECO) through programs such as the Fund for Social Development (FONDESO) that specifically aim at aiding MSMEs; and

BEARING IN MIND:

The necessity of MSMEs in a productive and stable economy since a large proportion of Latin America's labor forces rely on informal labor and MSMEs as their primary source of income. Putting forth support and devoting attention to MSME development and growth increases the potential of economic competitiveness, contribution, and innovation,

- 1. To encourage Member States to promote and employ measures to enhance the economic impact of small businesses and informal labor by:
 - 1. Recommending that Member States determine methods of "fast-tracking" MSMEs process of getting out of debt, such as:
 - i. Providing temporary loan relief to MSMEs that had loans taken due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - ii. Encouraging tax cuts, benefits, and/or exemptions on larger franchises and businesses on scholarships, donations, or financial contributions meant to benefit MSMEs
 - b. That each Member State decide, define, and oversee the creation of these recommendations respectively.
- 2. To promote broader public awareness on economic education by:
 - a. Requesting that each Member State promote the OAS Department of Economic Development (DDE) website in order to educate the public about DDE resources available to them.
 - b. Encouraging each Member State to implement labor-force-centered economic curriculums into their respective education systems.
 - c. That the DHDEE biennially review implementation and effectiveness of such policies and provide recommendations and methods of improvement.
- 3. To create a pilot program, the Small Business, Big Impact Program (SBBI), in Mexico. The SBBI pilot program will:
 - a. Be conducted in the State of Guanajuato tentatively in July 2021.

- b. Encourage local projects, such as MITZ and Mars "Trash-to-Treasure" Program that allow for economic development.
- c. Work with RIAL which will collect information and create a report to be submitted to the IACML for its annual meeting in 2022.
- d. Recommend that the program be extended to other Member States at the conclusion of the pilot program.
- e. Receive fifty percent of its funding from the Government of Mexico and will seek the remaining funds from voluntary donations from Member States, permanent observer states, non-governmental organizations (such as Young America Business Trust (YABT), SITAWI Finance for Good, The Clinton Global Initiative, TechnoServe) and corporations (such as Mars Wrigley Incorporated), and other organizations and individuals wishing to contribute.

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STRATEGIES FOR ABOLISHING CHILD LABOR IN THE AMERICAS

Third Committee Topic No. 1 of the Agenda Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Argentina

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 34 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) which provides that "The Member States agree that equality of opportunity, the elimination of extreme poverty, equitable distribution of wealth and income and the full participation of their peoples in decisions relating to their own development are, among others, basic objectives of integral development;

Article 34(g) of the Charter of the OAS further recognizes the need for "Fair wages, employment opportunities, and acceptable working conditions for all";

Article 7 of the Social Charter of the Americas which states, "Member states will strive, based on respect for human rights and the rule of law, and within the framework of democratic institutions, to make efforts, domestically and internationally, as appropriate, to eliminate obstacles to development with a view to achieving full enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights".

Paragraph 18 of the Declaration of Commitment – Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, April 2009 that reiterates Member States' "commitment to protect all people, particularly women, children and adolescents, from all forms of trafficking in persons and sexual and economic exploitation, and to provide protection and attention to the victims";

The overall strategic objective of the OAS' Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) which is designed "To strengthen the capacity of OAS Member States and their respective societies by means of the relevant institutional frameworks, in order to comprehensively safeguard the full enjoyment of child rights";

Article 10 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter which notes, "The promotion and strengthening of democracy requires the full and effective exercise of workers' rights and the application of core labor standards, as recognized in the International Labour Organization (ILO) Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, and its Follow-up, adopted in 1998, as well as other related fundamental ILO conventions. Democracy is strengthened by improving standards in the workplace and enhancing the quality of life for workers in the Hemisphere";

ACKNOWLEDGING:

That the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) provides ongoing support to processes that protect and defend the rights of children in the Americas, and takes note of the challenges that remain in translating into reality the principles in the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

That the IIN assists Member States with the development of public policy, policy design, and implementation of programs that promote, protect, respect the rights of children and adolescents under its Culture and Rights policy;

That the ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) aims at progressively eliminating child labor worldwide. Since it began operations in 1992, IPEC has worked to achieve this in several ways: through country-based programs which promote policy reform, build institutional capacity and put in place concrete measures to end child labor; and through awareness raising and mobilization, intend to change social attitudes and promote ratification and effective implementation of ILO child labor conventions;

That the ILO's priority is to eliminate without delay the worst forms of child labor as defined by Article 3 of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, C182, 17 June 1999;

That Goal 8 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals adopted 2015, calls on all to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labor, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of all forms of child labor by 2025 as an essential step to achieving decent work for all, full and productive employment and inclusive and sustained economic growth; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That according to ILO statistics on child labor, there are 13 million (8.8 percent) of children in child labor in Latin America and the Caribbean;

That child labor is a violation of fundamental human rights according to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and it has been shown to hinder children's development. There is a strong link between household poverty and child labor, which also contributes to perpetuating poverty across generations by inhibiting upward social mobility based on proper education and schooling;

That according to the ILO, poverty is the primary reason children are sent to work, preventing children from getting the education they need to break the cycle of poverty,

- 1. To commend the major effort of the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) to strengthen the capacity of Member States and their respective societies by means of the relevant institutional frameworks to comprehensively safeguard the full enjoyment of child rights, free from any discrimination.
- 2. To request the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) continue urging Member States to adopt measures to widely publicize the rights of children, especially among children, parents, those who defend children's rights, teachers, the legal community, police, members of the military, and groups of professionals who work with or for children.

- 3. To recommend the IACHR request quarterly action reports from Member States on measures taken to eradicate child labor.
- 4. To request that Member States provide annual reports to the IACHR regarding their efforts taken to eradicate child labor, and that the annual report fulfills the following criteria:
 - a. Annual reports contain detailed efforts taken in their attempt to eradicate child labor
 - b. Member States highlight challenges being encountered.
 - c. Annual reports contain detailed areas in which Member States require aid and or detailed suggestions on tactics that have worked and suggestions for other Member States to implement.
 - 5. To address in detail the modes of accountability for Member States that reports will be accurate.

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THE CREATION OF A SUPPORT PROGRAM THROUGH ENTREPRENEURSHIP COOPERATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL EXPANSION OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (MSMEs) IN THE HEMISPHERE

Third Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Chile

Topic No. 2 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 32 of the Organization of American States (OAS) Charter, which establishes that "Inter-American cooperation for integral development should be continuous and preferably channeled through multilateral organizations, without prejudice to bilateral cooperation between Member States";

Article 37 of the OAS Charter, which affirms that "The Member States agree to join together in seeking a solution to urgent or critical problems that may arise whenever the economic development or stability of any Member State is seriously affected by conditions that cannot be remedied through the efforts of that State";

Article 43 of the OAS Charter, which underscores that "the Member States agree to give adequate priority to the preparation and carrying out of multinational projects and to their financing, as well as to encourage economic and financial institutions of the interAmerican system to continue giving their broadest support to regional integration institutions and programs";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

United Nations A/HRC/RES /44/15 (2020) which emphasizes "efforts to implement the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, including through appropriate policy frameworks, regulations and the development of national action plans on business and human rights";

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION:

The statistics provided by Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) which report the participation between 2016-2020 of small companies in the region, including an increase of 360,000 jobs created through the supported companies;

BEARING IN MIND:

That research from IDB demonstrates that micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSME) "represent 99% of businesses in Latin America and the Caribbean and generate 67 percent of employment." Within the region, companies face common problems: the disconnection with markets, the lack of financing opportunities, and difficulty in finding reliable contacts;

Statistical research from The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) shows that while MSMEs are important generators of employment, "they suffer a particularly significant productivity gap representing around the 3.2% of production";

EMPHASIZING:

The OAS Initiative to Offer Resilience Tools for MSMEs, "to support the Micro Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises of the region through online training sessions and policy roundtables. The program will help MSMEs face the challenges they are facing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic

as many of them have been forced to close temporarily due to weak consumer demand, plummeting foot traffic and social interaction";

The work of the OAS and the IDB in introducing programs and strategies that allow offering solutions to small businesses to continue operating and recovering from the economic crisis in the context of the pandemic; and

RECALLING:

The strategic guidelines of VI Inter-American Dialogue of High Authorities for Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises that requests follow-up on initiatives that "Promote collaboration and explore synergies, subject to funding availability, among regional MSMEs initiatives to support the exchange of good practices and institutional strengthening in order to foster regional competitiveness",

- 1. To congratulate Member States and the IDB on their efforts to promote the economic development of MSMEs that contribute to the economic growth in the region.
- 2. To encourage Member States and the IDB to continue supporting MSMEs through strategic mechanisms, including:
 - a. Monitoring internationalization projects in terms of growth and structuring of the company regarding market expansion; and
 - b. Developing models and programs that benefit internationalization projects and encourage cooperation.
- 3. To suggest the creation of an annual program dedicated to the support and development of MSMEs under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce or its equivalent in each Member State with the support of institutions such as the OAS Trade Office and the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) to promote the international expansion.
 - a. MSMEs in the region will be encouraged to join in a diagnostic process that identifies opportunities to promote innovation and competitiveness through different strategies for the global economy.
 - i. An expert group, created in collaboration with academics and public institutions, will support internal and external diagnostic processes through training activities, skills development, and continuous improvement plans.
 - ii. The goal will be to increase the support of MSMEs in their efforts to strengthen innovation and sustainability in terms of productivity, knowledge management, artificial intelligence, and a physical and digital (phygital) environment to respond to global trends.
 - b. A business consultancy or advisory body emphasizing sustainability, durability, and expansion of the MSMEs, in collaboration with private and public institutions in each Member State, will be available to conduct internationalization projects in the enforcement of implementation of actions to contribute by:
 - Providing guidance for the creation of a marketing plan to identify potential
 markets, customer behavior, elaborating product pricing and sales
 projections, monitoring legal procedures such as export licenses, international
 certifications, and any other governmental requirement related to the
 commercial activity.
 - ii. Seeking voluntary funding from financial institutions such as the IDB, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and OECD.

- 4. To develop an annual MSMEs national forum to share the results and experiences of the plan achieved by entrepreneurs in cooperation with academic and public institutions.
- 5. To suggest that each Member State create a report for the national forum that discusses program results and the impact of programs on internationalization in the region, and to encourage the OAS to publish the reports on its official website.

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INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE CLEAN ENERGY IN THE AMERICAS THROUGH THE INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PARKS IN ARID REGIONS

Third Committee

Topic No. 4 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of the United States of America

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2(f) of the Charter of the Organization of American States, in which countries proclaim their essential purpose "to promote, by cooperative action, their economic, social, and cultural development";

Articles 33 of the Social Charter of the Americas where the Member States agree to work together for the "integral development for their peoples, as conditions essential to peace and security", understanding that "integral development encompasses the economic, social, educational, cultural, scientific, and technological fields through which the goals that each country sets for accomplishing it should be achieved", and that "development is a primary responsibility of each country and should constitute an integral and continuous process for the establishment of a more just economic and social order that will make possible and contribute to the fulfillment of the individual";

BEARING IN MIND:

Article 10 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which considers that "Member States, in partnership with the private sector and civil society, will promote sustainable development by means of economic growth, social development, and conservation and sustainable use of natural resources";

Article 15 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which asserts that "it is essential that the states of the Hemisphere implement policies and strategies to protect the environment, including the application of various treaties and conventions, to achieve sustainable development for the benefit of future generations";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

AG/DEC.52 (XXXVII O/07) "Declaration of Panama: Energy for Sustainable Development", which emphasizes that "the sustainability of energy supply in the Member States depends on the efficient management and development and sustainable use of natural resources for conversion into innovative and environmentally sound energy applications", and the need to integrate efforts, energy systems, and networks, and to harmonize regulations "to promote sustainable development and the more efficient and rational use of energy resources and increased marketing of energy products and services";

OBSERVING:

The studies of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change which evidence the serious global impact of climate change and the increase of atmospheric concentrations of CO2 by 40% and of CH4 by 150% since pre-industrial times, influenced by the use of fossil fuels and non-clean energies, which definitively affect climate patterns, ocean acidification, quality of life, environmental health and economic stability; and

RECOGNIZING:

The core vision of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) from the Department of Sustainable Development of the OAS, that calls for its members to join forces to achieve low carbon, resource-efficient, and socially inclusive policies that enhance human well-being, to promote regional energy cooperation through different strategies and actions for achieving a cleaner, safer, efficient, modern, and fair energy deployment,

- 1. To acknowledge the work and efforts of the Organization of American States through its Department of Sustainable Development, and its Member States to promote renewable and clean energy initiatives, and enhanced cooperation to address the challenges of energy security and climate change, all of them fundamental to sustainable development and the prosperity of the region and its sustainable development.
- 2. To request the Department of Sustainable Development, through its Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), to develop a Hemispheric Solar Parks Initiative to promote Clean Energy, with the main objective of installing solar parks in arid regions, working with the Member States, through their Department of Energy or their equivalent, in the design of projects for the establishment of solar parks prioritizing those locations that guarantee efficiency and effectiveness.
- 3. To propose that the first pilot project of the Hemispheric Solar Parks Initiative to promote Clean Energy consists of the installation of solar parks, installing three solar parks in three different countries in the Americas by 2025, defining the location of the pilot projects according to the following criteria:
 - a. Regions that are climatically categorized as arid.
 - b. Proximity to transportation infrastructure, populated areas, and economic centers.
 - c. Coverage of geographic territories that are free of mountains, forests, water bodies, buildings, wetlands, and floodplains.
 - d. Offers from the Member States to locate the parks in their territory, providing that the locations fulfilled the requirements established by the initiative, including at this point the offer of the government of the United States to install a pilot project in the southwest part of its territory.
- 4. To suggest that the outcomes of the solar parks' projects are oriented to the provision of energy to nearby cities and communities, reducing the need for additional major investments in energy infrastructure, generating green jobs and improving environmental health, and to use these cities that serve as examples of 100% clean energy communities that can be showcased internationally.
- 5. To propose that the ECPA hosts an annual meeting with representatives from the interested Member States, in which government representatives and their partners from the private sector exchange know-how and technological developments, so that countries that have not immediate direct participation in this project also benefit from this initiative, and to offer the city of Phoenix, Arizona, United States to host the first session of this meeting in 2022.
- 6. To reinforce the commitments of all the Member States to take decisive actions in the clean energy sector to show the world the united battle against climate change among all countries of the Americas.

| implementation o place in 2023. | f this resolution to the Fift | y-Third session of the General Assembly th | nat will take |
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To request that the Department of Sustainable Development presents a report on the

GREEN TECHNOLOGIES AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Third Committee Topic No. 4 of the Agenda Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of St. Kitts and Nevis

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECOGNIZING:

Article 34(a) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) provides that: "The Member States agree that equality of opportunity... and the full participation of their peoples in decisions relating to their own development are... basic objectives of integral development";

Article 38 of the Charter of the OAS notes: "The Member States shall extend among themselves the benefits of science and technology by encouraging the exchange and utilization of scientific and technical knowledge in accordance with existing treaties and national laws";

Article 42 of the Charter of the OAS provides: "The Member States recognize that integration of the developing countries of the Hemisphere is one of the objectives of the inter-American system and, therefore, shall orient their efforts and take the necessary measures to accelerate the integration process";

ACKNOWLEDGING:

The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the United Nations (UN), particularly Goals 7, 8, and 9, which refer to the development of sustainable energy, economic development, and infrastructure innovation;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The World Bank and UN's advocacy of the concept of a "blue economy" and the goal of "promot[ing] economic growth, social inclusion, and the preservation or improvement of livelihoods while at the same time ensuring environmental sustainability of the oceans and coastal areas"; and

REMEMBERING:

AG/RES.2904 (XLVII-O/17) inviting Member States to organize conversations and align policies of Member States to ensure integrated development of innovation and technological advances, to create goods and services that promote economic activity and cooperation to provide quality, inclusive, and equitable education in the Americas, and to support the Member States efforts to achieve the SDGs,

- 1. To thank the Member States for taking progressive steps to provide economic opportunity through innovative and transformative technology, as well as planning for future technological advances.
- 2. To commend the efforts of the Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology (COMCYT) for furthering the integration and development of transformative technologies in the Americas.

- 3. To invite the Member States to convene, respecting the challenges of travel during the COVID-19 pandemic, for a virtual conference to commence dialogue by:
 - a. Inviting Member States' Secretaries/Ministers of Education, Technology, and Economic Development/Affairs to create a platform for conversations regarding:
 - i. The creation of a stable system utilizing clean energy infrastructure.
 - ii. The standardization of vocational-technical education to support green infrastructure development.
 - b. Encouraging Member States to promote vocational training that supports renewable energy industries with an emphasis on industries supporting the development of a "blue economy".
 - 4. To request funding for the conference from the Budget for Conferences of Finances and Meetings (subject to the availability of financial sources).

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DEVELOPING PILOT PROJECTS AS A TOOL TO INCREASE THE FORMALITY OF INFORMAL LABOR IN THE AMERICAS

Third Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Jamaica

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 8 of the Social Charter of the American States, which confirms that the "The promotion of decent work, the fight against unemployment and underemployment, as well as addressing the challenges of informal labor are essential elements for achieving economic development with equity";

Article 9 of the Social Charter of the American States, which stresses: "the business sector plays a key role in creating jobs, expanding opportunity, and contributing to poverty reduction. Public policies and regulatory frameworks should facilitate the creation of new enterprises and the incorporation of the informal sector into the formal economy";

Article 49 of the Charter of Organization of American States (OAS), which states that "The Member States will exert the greatest efforts, in accordance with their constitutional processes, to ensure the effective exercise of the right to education, on the following bases:

- a) Elementary education, compulsory for children of school age, shall also be offered to all others who can benefit from it. When provided by the State it shall be without charge;
- b) Middle-level education shall be extended progressively to as much of the population as possible, with a view to social improvement. It shall be diversified in such a way that it meets the development needs of each country without prejudice to providing a general education; and
- c) Higher education shall be available to all, provided that, in order to maintain its high level, the corresponding regulatory or academic standards are met";

Article 37 of the Charter, which affirms that "The Member States agree to join together in seeking a solution to urgent or critical problems that may arise whenever the economic development or stability of any Member State is seriously affected by conditions that cannot be remedied through the efforts of that State";

RECALLING:

The Fourth Summit of the Americas (Mar Del Plata, 2005), in which the Heads of State and Government stated: "We are committed to the fight against poverty and inequality and we recognize the contribution to the economy and the creation of decent work by productive organizations, in accordance with each nation's characteristics, such as cooperatives and production units";

That the Sixth Summit of the Americas (Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 2005) encouraged OAS Member States "to promote economic growth with equity and social inclusion by strengthening cooperatives, micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, including cultural industries, in addition to grassroots economic initiative and other production units, innovation, and competitiveness in the countries of the Americas";

That the Sixth Summit of the Americas also aimed "to promote the gradual formalization of the informal economy, recognizing its heterogeneous and multidimensional nature, through its policies such as registration and information systems to facilitate formalization and access to credit, social protection mechanisms, improvement of occupational health and safety, strengthening of labor inspection, and effective enforcement of labor laws":

That at the Seventh Summit of the Americas, (Panama City, 2015), the Heads of State and Government directed member-state governments to "design and implement or strengthen public policies to improve economic and social conditions to generate more and better opportunities for advancement of our populations, particularly young people, through the development of human talent, the creation of more and better jobs, the stimulation of the productive sector, access to credit, and improved citizen security, among other factors, so that the decision to migrate can be taken freely and voluntarily"; and

CONSIDERING:

That the International Labor Organization (ILO) recognizes that "in the 21st century, the larger part of the world's working population earns its livelihood under the vulnerable and insecure conditions of the informal economy;"

That the ILO affirms that "workers in the informal economy are not recognized, registered, regulated, or protected under labor legislation and social protection" (2007);

That the Migration Policy Institute maintains that "pilot projects hold appeal as a way to test or exams legal migration pathways while fostering development" (2019);

That the Adelante Shoe Company has successfully created a safe work environment for workers in Guatemala, with the vision of "a world that uses for-profit business for inclusive value creation rather than profit maximization", and has as its mission "to sell connective products and experiences to fund sustainable economic development in Latin America";

That the Adelante Shoe Company (as seen in its 2019 Impact Report) has successfully recorded an increase in the following since its launch as a business:

- a. Decent work and economic growth.
- b. Reduction in poverty indirectly in Guatemala.
- c. The ensuring of healthy lives and promoting well-being for all.
- d. Inclusive education for all.
- e. Gender equality.
- f. Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all,

- 1. To commend the Member States of the OAS for their efforts to formalize the labor economy to alleviate poverty for the benefit of the people of the Hemisphere.
- 2. To request the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) and the ILO to coordinate Small Business Pilot Projects, which facilitate the formalization of labor and specialize in recruiting talented individuals into the formalized labor market, focusing on:
 - a. The model that Adelante Shoe Company in Guatemala provides.
 - b. The development of a sustainable humanitarian approach to facilitate the transformation from an informal labor economy to a formalized labor economy.
 - c. Oversight as an essential part of these projects, as a means to guarantee social protection, human rights, and safety in the workplace.
 - d. To request that the pilot projects continue for six years, concluding in 2027, and that if these pilot projects are found to be successful, at its following meeting, the General Assembly be asked to maintain and expand these programs.

- 3. To form a working group of professionals, drawn from the Inter-American Center for Social Security Studies (CIESS), the ILO, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), which will:
 - a. Establish social security initiatives for those still within the informal sector.
 - b. Promote human talent development.
 - c. Create social security policies that are accompanied by plans of social inclusion that allow migrant workers, regular or irregular, to integrate their host societies.
- 4. That the working group will have a timeline of five years, ending in October, 2025, whereby:
 - a. The recommendations and findings of the working group will be reported to the General Assembly at its 56th meeting in 2026.
 - b. The findings of the working group will also made available to all citizens on the OAS website.
- 5. To seek funding for the pilot projects and the working group from the Inter-American Social Protection Network, the Pan American Development Foundation, and other relevant NGOs.

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STRATEGIES TO STRENGTHEN CLEAN ENERGY EDUCATION AND THE PROMOTION OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

Third Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of The Bahamas

Topic No.4 of the Agenda

HAVING SEEN:

Article 95(c1) of the OAS Charter which affirms that a goal of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development is to "Promote, coordinate, and assign responsibility for the execution of development programs and projects to the subsidiary bodies and relevant organizations, on the basis of the priorities identified by the Member States, in areas such as: 1) Economic and social development, including trade, tourism, integration and the Environment";

Article 32 of the OAS Charter which clarifies that "The Member States shall contribute to inter-American cooperation for integral development in accordance with their resources and capabilities and in conformity with their laws";

Article 47 of the OAS Charter which acknowledges that "The Member States will give primary importance within their development plans to the encouragement of education, science, technology, and culture, oriented toward the overall improvement of the individual, and as a foundation for democracy, social justice, and progress";

Article 15 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter which asserts that "The exercise of democracy promotes the preservation and good stewardship of the environment. It is essential that the states of the Hemisphere implement policies and strategies to protect the environment, including application of various treaties and conventions, to achieve sustainable development for the benefit of future generations";

Article 16 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter which states that "Education is key to strengthening democratic institutions, [and] promoting the development of human potential";

CONSIDERING:

The duties of states outlined within the Paris Agreement, which sets a standard for climate change control worldwide, to take meaningful steps against climate change for the sake of a better future;

That clean energy sources throughout the Hemisphere will foster positive steps towards a cleaner environment, thus working to combat climate change;

That according to the UNESCO Sustainable Development Goals analysis, education on clean energy "promotes energy efficiency teaching us to develop technologies that waste less energy, and encouraging us to work together to research and develop renewable and other clean energy resources;"

That, according to the World Health Organization, "9 out of 10 people breathe air containing high levels of pollutants," and worldwide nearly 7 million premature deaths were attributable to air pollution in 2016 and 2018;

That clean and renewable sources will lead to an increase of approximately 1.1% of global GDP by 2030 and over 24 million new jobs in renewables by the year 2030 according to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA);

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

United Nations A/RES/70/L1, "Transforming our World: The Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development," which sets several climate change goals, citing "Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all";

United Nations A/RES/67/215, "Promotion of New and Renewable Sources of Energy," which emphasizes that "the increased use and promotion of new and renewable sources of energy for sustainable development could make a significant contribution towards the achievement of sustainable development" and reaffirms that "the need for the creation of an enabling environment at all levels for investment and sustained financing";

REAFFIRMING:

The content of AG/RES. 2882 (XLVI-O/16), which lays out the efforts of the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development (2006-2009) (PIDS) to develop various programs addressing renewable energy as well as energy efficiency within the Hemisphere;

RECALLING:

AG/RES. 2253 (XXXVI-O/06) "Support for the Use of New and Renewable Energy Sources", which requested "the General Secretariat to support [...] member states' efforts to develop sustainable energy plans and to implement measures that foster greater use of clean conventional energy and commercially viable renewable energy, such as wind, geothermal, biofuel, hydroelectric, and solar energy, as well as to adopt policies designed to achieve greater energy efficiency, as a means of better addressing the challenges associated with economic growth and the environment";

AG/RES. 2952 (L-O/20) "Advancing the Hemispheric Response to Climate Change in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic," which resolves "To invite Member States, (...) to request the General Secretariat to engage donors, to advance and promote funding for, *inter alia*, capacity building, enhancing technology development and voluntary transfer on mutually-agreed terms, taking into account the expressed needs of Member States, in order to assist those States to implement their environmental objectives, explore the potential of ecosystem-based approaches and nature-based solutions to address climate change";

AG/RES. 2955 (L-O/20) "Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development: Promoting Resilience," which recognizes "that the health, social, economic, environmental and financial challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic impact the implementation of policies aimed at sustainable development and that some States require technical and financial support, where appropriate, extended by, *inter alia*, international financial and development institutions";

RECOGNIZING:

The work of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) within the OAS for fostering talks that have led to numerous resolutions being passed in the pursuit of sustainable and clean energy sources through the work of the OAS Department of Sustainable Development (DSD);

The work of UNESCO to help make the connection between clean energy and the need for education, by beginning the process to expand the reach of energy and environmental education to people of all ages, citing its work within the Sustainable Development Goals implemented with United Nations A/RES/70/L1;

The work of student leaders within Student Energy, who have reached over 50,000 students in over 120 states so as to foster clean energy initiatives and take student activism to the next level, providing a space to expand the reach of student activism in clean energy and hosting conferences for such student leaders;

The collaborative efforts of CARICOM members through the CARICOM Energy Initiative, which has set a path towards cleaner energy sources for parts of the Hemisphere and which can provide valuable input on implementation;

The efforts and commitments of organizations and agencies such as the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) and the International Renewable Energy Agency to address the importance of clean energy within the Hemisphere and foster regional energy cooperation in such matters; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That the lack of access to knowledge and education on clean energy is hindering the promotion by presenting barriers across states;

That, according to a 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report, there are approximately 12 years left to prevent irreversible damage from climate change,

- 1. To praise those states have joined, as well as those states who have rejoined, the Paris Climate Accord.
- 2. To commend Member States for prior efforts made towards the promotion of clean energy all across the Hemisphere through education, implementation and resources.
- 3. To establish a new subcommittee called The Committee on Clean Energy Education Expansion (CCEEE) within the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), within the OAS Department of Sustainable Development (DSD) under the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), to oversee and manage the following proposed initiatives:
 - a. The creation of a centralized information hub for Member States;
 - b. The creation of a Hemisphere-wide educational access effort of the importance of the topic of clean energy as well as providing a platform to encourage future student activists;
 - c. The creation of an in-depth school curriculum model centered around what clean energy is, but also the ramifications and benefits of it coupled with an interactive quiz; and
 - d. The creation of a funding initiative through a clean energy quiz to increase Hemisphere-wide clean energy funding source for the implementation of clean energy sources such as solar panels.
- 4. To encourage universities attending all simulations of the OAS to start chapters of Student Energy at their university to provide a platform for future student activists and to encourage a friendly, hemisphere-wide competition with the clean energy fundraising quiz so as to raise further awareness and money towards the matter.
- 5. To urge Member States, not already participants in the ECPA, to consider joining in the efforts and support the causes and initiatives being pursued.

- 6. To request that the ECPA request for an increase in operating funds so as to support the initiatives rooted in CCEEE.
- 7. To request additional funding from volunteer donations from Member States, Observer States, the World Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank and other Non-Governmental Organizations.

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THE RECOMMENDATION FOR THE CREATION OF A PROGRAM CENTERED AROUND EMPLOYMENT TRAINING

Third Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Costa Rica

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 38 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) which establishes that "The Member States shall extend among themselves the benefits of science and technology by encouraging the exchange and utilization of scientific and technical knowledge in accordance with existing treaties and national laws";

Article 51 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) which asserts that "The Member States will develop science and technology through educational, research, and technological development activities and information and dissemination programs. They will stimulate activities in the field of technology for the purpose of adapting it to the needs of their integral development. They will organize their cooperation in these fields efficiently and will substantially increase exchange of knowledge, in accordance with national objectives and laws and with treaties in force";

Article 14 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter states that "Member states agree to review periodically the actions adopted and carried out by the Organization to promote dialogue, cooperation for integral development, and the fight against poverty in the Hemisphere, and to take the appropriate measures to further these objectives";

RECALLING:

OAS Resolution AG/RES. 2939 (XLIX-O/19), Section III, Clause 16, states that "To continue to support the Scholarships and Training Programs of the OAS, which seek to assist member states in the pursuit of their integral development goals through human resource development and to encourage continued efforts to promote the efficiency, effectiveness, and sustainability of these programs, and also reiterating the need to ensure more equitable representation of member states among scholars and partnering institutions in the context of such programs";

OAS Resolution AG/RES. 2788 (XLIII-O/13), Clause 2, asserts "To entrust the Secretariat for Political Affairs... to enable networks of authorities and experts to operate; create training and capacity-building opportunities through forums for exchange of experiences and mutual learning; and facilitate strategic partnerships among universities and educational institutions"; and

CONSIDERING:

The informal economy worsens income inequality and poverty rates. Many citizens would enjoy employment benefits and protections from formal economic employment, such as access to market and finance information, occupational health and safety measures and property rights;

The informal economy hinders countries in their efforts to collect taxes and fees that can be used productively in government;

53% of the employed population in Latin American countries is employed in the informal economy, and the percentage continues to rise,

- 1. To commend Member States for their ongoing efforts combating economic inequality, and their continued support in promoting economic growth.
- 2. To request members of the OAS to institute a program that would allow citizens to get the training necessary to enter the formal economy. This is a recommendation to all the countries to join together in an effort to create localized training programs that enables citizens to compete in the 21st century global economy. These programs should aim to be well connected with the private sector to provide employment efforts, which would strengthen the economy. It would also encourage:
 - a. Member States to create these programs under a larger umbrella network to ensure a set standard in terms of what is being provided and taught.
 - b. Certain countries to provide aid, if possible, to contribute to the countries that lack the financial means in joining and creating programs.
 - c. Member States to research civil society groups before forging connections.
 - d. To suggest that member states seek additional funding in grant or loans from the Inter-American development bank.
- 3. For the Member States, in their best efforts, to reduce government inefficiency and regulation to promote free market ideals.

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PROMOTING EDUCATION STRATEGIES TO ABOLISH CHILD LABOR IN THE AMERICAS

Third Committee Topic No. 1 of the Agenda Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegations of Ecuador and Suriname

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 31 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) which notes that "Inter American cooperation for integral development is the common and joint responsibility of the Member States";

Article 6 of the International Labor Organization's (ILO) Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, C182, 17 June 1999, which states that "Each Member shall design and implement programmes of action to eliminate as a priority the worst forms of child labor";

Article 7 of the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention which declares that "Each Member shall, taking into account the importance of education in eliminating child labour, take effective and time-bound measures to: (a) prevent the engagement of children in the worst forms of child labour; (b) provide the necessary and appropriate direct assistance for the removal of children from the worst forms of child labour and for their rehabilitation and social integration; (c) ensure access to free basic education, and, wherever possible and appropriate, vocational training, for all children removed from the worst forms of child labour; (d) identify and reach out to children at special risk";

Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which signifies that "everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit";

Article 27 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter which asserts that "Special attention shall be given to the development of programs and activities for the education of children and youth as a means of ensuring the continuance of democratic values, including liberty and social justice";

CONSIDERING:

The emphasis during the Third Summit of the Americas in Quebec City, Canada (2001) on efforts to "[c]ontinue to work towards the elimination of child labor, and as a priority, promote the hemispheric ratification and implementation of the *ILO Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention*, 1999 (No. 182), work to bring national laws, regulations and policies into conformity with this Convention, and take immediate action to eliminate the worst forms of child labor";

The declaration during the Sixth Summit of the Americas in Cartagena, Colombia (2012) on poverty, inequality and inequity: "To promote and encourage comprehensive, timely, and quality public policies on:...protecting children from economic exploitation and from any tasks that may interfere with their education and integral development, according to the principle of the effective abolition of child labor, which is contained in the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998); as well as preventing and eradicating the worst forms of child labor according to Convention 182 of the ILO (1999)";

The prominence during the Third Summit of the Americas in Quebec City, Canada (2001) of education as the "key to strengthening democratic institutions, promoting the development of human potential, equality and understanding among our peoples, as well as sustaining economic growth and reducing poverty";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The reports from the International Labor Organization's (ILO) International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) which note that "education is a crucial component of any effective effort to eliminate child labour";

The report from the ILO (1997) which states that children "who go to school as well as work face special difficulties in their schooling" given "highly intensive work and extremely long days result in lack of punctuality and absenteeism; fatigue interferes with school performance"

That Member States have improved their rate of completion of primary schooling, increasing from 85% to 92% from 2001 to 2013, according to Educando by Worldfund;

The analysis of the ILO, in cooperation with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in 2020 which "estimates that child labour could increase by 1 and 3 percentage points in the region of Mexico, Peru and Costa Rica";

That according to the same analysis by the ILO and ECLAC, "this would imply that at least between 109,000 and 326,000 children and adolescents could enter the labour market, adding to the 10.5 million that are already in child labour at present"; and

RECOGNIZING:

That according to the ILO, "a majority of countries have now adopted legislation to prohibit or place severe restrictions on the employment and work of children, much of it following ratification of the child labour conventions":

That "in spite of these efforts, child labour continues to exist on a massive scale, sometimes in appalling conditions, particularly in the developing world";

That "child labour is an immensely complex" issue "which cannot be made to disappear simply by the stroke of a pen";

That according to the analysis by the ILO and ECLAC (2020), "the indicators of child labour and hazardous adolescent work could increase significantly if measures and strategies are not implemented to reduce the impact",

- 1. To commend Member States for their longstanding commitment to the ratification of the ILO conventions on the elimination of child labor.
- 2. To call upon Member States to review their implementation of conventions abolishing child labor and promoting education strategies by 2022, in anticipation of the Inter-American Meeting of Education Ministers.

- 3. To advise Member States to raise the minimum age for admission to employment for children to secure the effective abolition of child labor and to utilize all appropriate media channels to ensure a sufficient public debate on this legal framework and its implications.
- 4. To encourage Member States to consider redirecting their national education funds to foster education in order to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, specifically:
 - a. To secure access to free basic education and primary school education for all children in the Americas.
 - b. To foster the rehabilitation and social integration of children and to provide the necessary and appropriate assistance for the removal of children from the worst forms of child labor.
- 5. To suggest the establishment of further national policies in Member States to secure a decrease in children working under hazardous working conditions, specially:
 - a. To alleviate poverty by promoting decent employment for adults in the Americas.
 - b. To facilitate access to finance or microfinance services for small-scale businesses.
 - c. To collaborate with organizations, like ILO, working towards the reduction and elimination of the lifelong consequences of poverty and exclusion.

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CREATING AN INTER-AMERICAN COMISSION ON WORKERS' RIGHTS (IACWR)

Third Committee Topic No. 1 of the Agenda Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegations of El Salvador and Venezuela

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

NOTING:

Article 30 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) which declares that Member States "pledge themselves to a united effort to ensure international social justice in their relations and integral development for their peoples";

Article 45 of the Charter of the OAS which states that "All human beings, without distinction as to race, sex, nationality, creed, or social condition, have a right to material well-being and to their spiritual development, under circumstances of liberty, dignity, equality of opportunity, and economic security";

The International Labor Organization (ILO) defines child labor as "work that deprives children (any person under 18) of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to their physical and mental development...In its most extreme forms, child labour involves children being enslaved, separated from their families, exposed to serious hazards and illnesses and/or left to fend for themselves on the streets of large cities – often at a very early age";

Article 45(b) of the Charter of the OAS which states that "Work is a right and a social duty, it gives dignity to the one who performs it, and it should be performed under conditions, including a system of fair wages, that ensure life, health, and a decent standard of living";

Article 46 of the Charter of the OAS that recognizes that "it is necessary to harmonize the social legislation of the developing countries, especially in the labor and social security fields, so that the rights of the workers shall be equally protected";

RECOGNIZING:

The ILO's Minimum Age Convention, C138, 26 June 1973, which states that "The minimum age for admission to any type of employment or work which by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out is likely to jeopardize the health, safety or morals of young persons shall not be less than 18 years";

The ILO's Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, C182, 17 June 1999, which states "child labour is to a great extent caused by poverty and that the long-term solution lies in sustained economic growth leading to social progress, in particular poverty alleviation and universal education";

CIDI/TRABAJO/doc.21/17, Joint Statement by the Trade Union Technical Advisory Council (COSATE) and the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (TUCA/CSA), which notes that the eradication of child labor and the abolition of forced labor and all forms of labor conditions analogous to slave labor as well as human trafficking are also priorities; and

NOTING WITH GREAT CONCERN:

Findings from Tauson (2006), reported in *Child Labor in Latin America: Poverty as Cause and Effect*, which show that "family dynamics and poor public education systems are cited as major

contributors to child labor," and that child labor rates throughout the Americas remain concerningly high at 15 million despite efforts at eradication;

Findings from the ILO and UNICEF, reported in *Child Labour: A Time of Crisis, a Time to Act,* which illustrate that "The last two decades have seen significant strides in the fight against child labour. But the COVID-19 pandemic poses very real risks of backtracking. Positive trends may falter, and child labour may worsen, especially in places where it has remained resistant to change",

- 1. To acknowledge the efforts of the OAS, the United Nations, and other related organizations in combatting child labor in the Americas.
- 2. To establish the Inter-American Commission on Workers' Rights (IACWR).
 - a. The commission will support Member States in their efforts to comply with their respective international and inter-American commitments on workers' rights, so that they are converted into effective public policy, contributing to fair compensation and safe working environments for all laborers in the Americas.
 - b. The commission will study and draft a new treaty focusing on the child labor crisis in the Americas, the Inter-American Convention for the Eradication of Child Labor.
 - i. Member States, in good standing, as well as global civil society organizations such as Save the Children, Global March Against Child Labor, and World Vision, will be invited to participate.
 - ii. Intergovernmental organizations, including the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), shall also be included in the discussions.
 - iii. The discussions will consider the following:
 - 1. Efforts to improve educational opportunities for all students.
 - 2. Investment of resources into faculty recruitment and pedagogical training, as well as allocating resources towards increased faculty salaries.
 - 3. Subsidized costs for educational expenses for students, including uniforms, materials, technology, and access to the internet.
 - 4. Investment in remote learning technologies and training for teachers and students.
 - 5. Establishment of direct cash transfers from governments to families with children under 18 to reduce the need for minors to earn wages necessary to support their families.

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To enable the Secretary General of the OAS and the Executive Secretariat for Integral

international funders such as the Inter-American Development Bank, and global non-

governmental organizations to fund the work of the IACWR.

Development (SEDI) to seek out voluntary contributions from Member States, Observer States,

3.

DISINCENTIVIZING CHILD LABOR BY INTRODUCING A PROGRAM ENCOURAGING ACTIVE CHILD ATTENDANCE AT ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

Third Committee Topic No. 1 of the Agenda Resolution Presented by the Delegations of Colombia, Haiti and Nicaragua

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN,

Article 49 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) which calls on Member States "to ensure the effective exercise of the right to education, on the following bases: a) Elementary education, compulsory for children of school age, shall also be offered to all others who can benefit from it. When provided by the State it shall be without charge; b) Middle-level education shall be extended progressively to as much of the population as possible, with a view to social improvement. It shall be diversified in such a way that it meets the development needs of each country without prejudice to providing a general education";

Article 12 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which asserts that "Poverty, illiteracy, and low levels of human development are factors that adversely affect the consolidation of democracy. The OAS member states are committed to adopting and implementing all those actions required to generate productive employment, reduce poverty, and eradicate extreme poverty";

Article 19 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which recognizes that "Everyone is entitled to education without discrimination. Access to quality education at all levels and modalities is vital to achieving greater equity, improving standards of living, fostering sustainable development, developing human capital, reducing poverty,...and promoting social inclusion";

Article 30 of the OAS' Bogota Declaration, which asserts that "It is the duty of every person to aid, support, educate and protect his or her minor children, and it is the duty of children to honor their parents always and to aid, support and protect them when they need it";

CONSIDERING:

That while not explicitly stated under its Charters, the OAS should recognize the urgency in addressing child labor as not only a regional problem, but a global issue in which the basic freedoms as expressed by said charters are being denied from children, highlighting the need to officially describe child labor in print as well as calling on all members to advocate for the abolition of child labor and ultimately poverty;

That poverty is the leading cause of parental guardians forcing children to work and contribute towards the household, according to the International Labour Organization (ILO);

That the proposed program is, in part, inspired by the success of Bolivia's *Bono Juancito Pinto* program (2006) and intends to build on this idea by implementing it at a larger scale that may be applied to any country that deems it necessary; and

NOTING WITH CONCERN:

That according to statistics from the ILO, at least fifteen million children participate in dangerous, manual labor in Latin America and the Caribbean;

That according to the same statistics from the ILO, an estimated four million children throughout Latin America and the Caribbean from ages 5 through 17 are not in the education system, and the largest demographic of uneducated children come from rural areas;

That only 80% of children in Latin America and the Caribbean finish primary school; this number declines to about 61% among children from the poorest 20% of families, and in the poorest families, only 20% of children finish secondary school,

- 1. To commend the Member States for recognizing the growing threat of child labor across the hemisphere, and doing what they can to protect children in their respective capacities.
- 2. To encourage Member States to implement a program providing a monthly stipend for impoverished households with school-age children and self-sustaining individuals under the age of 18.
 - a. This program will begin with a two-year trial to determine the overall success of the initiative and will offer a certain fixed amount that may be increased based on the number of children in said household, to eligible recipients on a monthly basis, which will be up to the discretion of the presiding member states.
 - b. In order to be eligible, households with school-age children or self-sustaining individuals under the age of 18 must have all pertaining school-age children enrolled in their local academic institutions and must exist in the bottom 25% of income within their respective Member State.
- 3. To invite Member States to include a provision in this program that suspends benefits of the initiative for reported cases of child labor. Benefits may be reinstated contingent upon compliance with the Member State's child labor law.
- 4. To request funding from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for assistance in providing school supplies such as books, pens, binders, and uniforms so that families do not need to spend their stipend on sending their children to academic institutions.
- 5. To request additional funding from the United Nations (UN) and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in order to have ample monies to implement the stipend for Member States that may find it difficult paying for the program.

| | o coordinate the execution of the prganizations through the Inter-Ame | program between Member States and non-governmerican Children's Institute (IIN). | mental |
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6.

PROMOTING A TRANSITION TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CLEAN ENERGY IN THE AMERICAS THROUGH COOPERATION

Third Committee Topic No. 4 of the Agenda
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegations of the Republic of Panama and the Republic of Peru

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 15 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states that "The exercise of democracy promotes the preservation and good stewardship of the environment. It is essential that the states of the Hemisphere implement policies and strategies to protect the environment, including application of various treaties and conventions, to achieve sustainable development for the benefit of future generations";

Article 32 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which points out the importance of cooperation for integral development. "Member States shall contribute to inter-American cooperation for integral development in accordance with their resources and capabilities and in conformity with their laws":

Article 95(c)(1) of the Charter of the OAS, which establishes that "In order to achieve its various goals, especially in the specific area of technical cooperation, the Inter-American Council for Integral Development shall [...] Promote, coordinate, and assign responsibility for the execution of development programs and projects to the subsidiary bodies and relevant organizations, on the basis of the priorities identified by the Member States, in areas such as: Economic and social development, including trade, tourism, integration and the environment";

CONSIDERING:

That International Monetary Fund (IMF) states that there are imminent natural risks, prevalent in the Americas, especially in the Caribbean Member States of the OAS, due to climate change;

The necessity of accelerating the reaction to counter the impact of climate change on people's health, ecosystems, economies, and the most vulnerable territories of the Americas;

NOTING:

The importance of conserving the environment for future generations in the Americas and the world;

That energy is an essential tool for economic growth and social development;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

Article 10(1) of the Paris Agreement, which declares that "Parties share a long-term vision on the importance of fully realizing technology development and transfer in order to improve resilience to climate change and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions";

Article 10(2) of the Paris Agreement, which states that "noting the importance of technology for the implementation of mitigation and adaptation actions under this Agreement and recognizing existing technology deployment and dissemination efforts, shall strengthen cooperative action on technology development and transfer";

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which explains that "Renewable energy deployment provides technological advancement and substantial benefits for rural economies in terms of employment, off-grid access to energy and diversified energy sources, in addition to modern energy services. It can enhance energy security and independence, reduce air pollution, improve public health and support adaptation goals";

REAFFIRMING:

The Fourth Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) Ministerial Meeting in 2020, which discussed "issues related to financial mechanisms for clean and renewable energy, investment opportunities in energy efficiency, electric mobility as well as strategies to increase private sector engagement in energy infrastructure development"; and

RECALLING:

GA/RES/73/236 "calls upon Governments, as well as relevant international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to combine, as appropriate, the increased use of new and renewable energy resources, more efficient use of energy, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy resources";

AG/RES. 2882 (XLVI-O/16), the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development 2016 – 2021 (PIDS), specifically item 3.5 in the strategic framework which identifies "Sustainable energy management, prioritizing the promotion of clean Renewable, environmentally sustainable energy and energy efficiency" as a priority,

- 1. To congratulate Member States for the commitment on implementing clean energy in their territories as a method of counteracting the effects of climate change.
- 2. To invite Member States to communicate the advances achieved through the implementation of clean energy within their territories and share their experiences in order to join forces and devise collective strategies to face climate change and ensure an appropriate and gradual energy transition.
- 3. To encourage Member States to provide strategies to develop eco-friendly energy systems as a mechanism to generate jobs and ecological practices in the communities of the Americas, especially in communities without electricity.
- 4. To create an Inter-American program which pursues the promotion of a gradual transition towards clean energy in the Member States, in accordance with their domestic legislation, which will have the following functions:
 - a. The program shall propose that Member States establish a framework for registering the advances of clean energy within the Member States.
 - b. The program shall encourage cooperation between developed and developing countries in the following manner:
 - i. Inviting developed countries to assist developing countries based on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Official Development Assistance (ODA) guidelines.
 - ii. The Technical Cooperation Section (TCS) shall support communities, which aim to make a transition into clean energy within the territories of Member States through the Development Cooperation Fund (DCF).

- iii. Developing countries will ensure the appropriate management of resources in order to execute the effective and gradual transition into clean energy within their territories.
- c. This program aims to contribute to a sustainable environment for the Americas and globally by means of settling clean energy by 2050.
- d. This program will be part of the Department of Sustainable Development (DSD) and the Technical Cooperation Section, dependencies of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI).
- 5. To recommend Member States to strengthen the access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy as the seventh Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) to be established by 2030 through actions such as:
 - a. Ensuring universal access to renewable energy and energy efficiency in the Americas.
 - b. Enhancing and promoting cooperation with other Member States in order to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology.
 - c. Expanding infrastructure and upgrading technology for developing countries with the purpose of supplying sustainable energy, especially for island developing states and land-locked developing countries of the Americas, in accordance with their national programs.
 - d. Suggesting Member States pursue International Renewable Energy Certificates (I-RECs) for energy industries in their territories.
- 6. To suggest that Member States develop strategies to educate communities through training processes with a major focus on sustainable and ecological projects by:
 - a. Promoting spaces such as symposiums, panels, courses, workshops, and diverse mechanisms that domestic authorities consider efficient within their territories,
 - b. Sharing knowledge, ideas, and projects about sustainable energy production and its implementation in the Americas.

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IMPLEMENTING POLICIES TO REDUCE CHILD LABOR IN THE AMERICAS

Third Committee Topic Number 1 of the Agenda
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Guyana

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 49 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) that calls on Member States to "exert the greatest efforts, in accordance with their constitutional processes, to ensure the effective exercise of the right to education...and that elementary education be compulsory for children of school age." It also exhorts Member States to ensure middle-level education be "extended progressively to as much of the population as possible, with a view to social improvement";

Article 7 of the Protocol of San Salvador which establishes "The prohibition of night work or unhealthy or dangerous working conditions and, in general, of all work which jeopardizes health, safety, or morals, for persons under 18 years of age. As regards minors under the age of 16, the work day shall be subordinated to the provisions regarding compulsory education and in no case shall work constitute an impediment to school attendance or a limitation on benefiting from education received";

Article 16 of the Protocol of San Salvador which states "Every child has the right to free and compulsory education;";

RECOGNIZING:

OEA/Ser.L/V/II. Doc.331/20, passed by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), Labor and Trade Union Rights Inter-American Standards in 2020 which stresses "the importance of having effective legislation and carrying out inspections of workplaces to ensure that minors are not exposed to dangerous working conditions";

AG/DEC. 76 (XLIV-O/14), Declaration on Violence Against and Exploitation of Children, adopted by consensus at the Forty-Fourth regular session in Paraguay which encouraged governments, where appropriate, to harmonize their laws with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and to design and consider introducing protocols on prevention and protection;

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION:

Article 32 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child which articulates that "States Parties recognize the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development";

BEARING IN MIND:

That the International Labor Organization (ILO) (2017) defines "child labour" as "work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential, and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. It refers to work that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children; and/or interferes with their schooling by depriving them of the opportunity to attend school; obliging them to leave school prematurely; or requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work"

CONSIDERING:

That there is a high incidence of injuries and illnesses in the hemisphere resulting from child labor because of minimal occupational safety oversight;

That many Member States have limited resources to implement practices to reduce or eradicate child labor;

That the prosecution of perpetrators who employ child labor is delayed due to a backlog of cases and an inadequate number of labor inspectors; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

About the persistent rise and normative perspective on child labor in the Americas, which exacerbate the problem and pose great challenges in eliminating these unfair labor practices; and

That child labor eradication is problematic due to the paucity of inspectors and inability to adequately monitor practices,

- 1. To congratulate the Member States of the OAS which have implemented regulations that promote the rights of children.
- 2. To advise Member States to create an internship program with law schools to increase the number of inspectors.
 - a. Offer the incentive of earning academic credit to interns.
 - b. Develop a "Train-the-Trainer" model to prepare future interns.
- 3. To recommend that Member States develop awareness campaigns to reduce injuries and illnesses related to child labor and use various marketing strategies including commercials, pamphlets, websites, and social media.
- 4. To encourage Member States to educate community members at the grassroots level by giving presentations at schools, community centers, religious institutions to facilitate a dialogue about child labor practices and communicate the risks involved.
- 5. To call on IACHR to host a workshop that highlights the impact on national productivity when a child's education is interrupted.
- 6. To recommend that Member States, which lack adequate child labor legislation and policies, adopt a National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labor.
 - a. Develop national policies in accordance with Article 7(F) of the Protocol of San Salvador.
 - b. Authorize labor inspectors to monitor infractions and issue citations when applicable.

| | o recomment is regular. | | labor legislation, for Member States with |
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7.

TRANSFORMING BUSINESSES DURING THE DIGITAL AGE

Third Committee Topic No. 2 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of the Dominican Republic

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 9 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which recognizes "the important role of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (...)";

Article 39 of the Organization of American States (OAS), which calls for the "Improved conditions for trade in basic commodities through international agreements";

Article 2 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which indicates that "the promotion and observance of economic, social, and cultural rights are inherently linked to integral development";

Article 94 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which claims that "The purpose of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development is to promote cooperation among the American States for the purpose of achieving integral development";

NOTING:

That according to the Observatory of Economic Complexity, in 2019, the Dominican Republic exported 53.8 percent of its products and services to the United States and imported 49.6 percent from the United States. According to the World Integrated Trade Solution's (WITS) 2017 trade data, the Dominican Republic's second largest import partner is Haiti with a market share of 9.63%. The delegation recognizes the prominent trade relationships with member states;

That according to the Digital Marketing Institute, digital marketing increases a business's market presence at a global level. Furthermore, digital marketing allows businesses to reach a larger number of consumers in the most cost-efficient way. Given the social distancing guidelines that are set in place due to the COVID-19 emergency, digital marketing allows companies to promote their products and services without jeopardizing social distancing guidelines;

That in 2017, Deloitte found that 38.4 percent of U.S. companies who are experiencing a revenue increase is because of their marketing investments. Marketing investments accounted for one tenth of the company's total expenses – which is fairly low. That is to say there is a strong relationship between marketing and revenue growth for businesses.

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION:

That the article, *RD\$500 million Fund for Women Exporters created* states that the Banco Nacional de las Exportacions (Bandex) in the Dominican Republic has proceeded with providing RD\$500 million to women businesses. The funds will specifically be given to women-owned businesses that contribute to the economies importing and exporting of products and services;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

Resolution AD/RES. 2917 (XLVIII-O/18) "The Leading Role of the Organization of American States in Developing Telecommunications/Information and Communication Technologies through the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (Citel)", adopted by the General Assembly "to encourage OAS member states to step up horizontal cooperation and exchange of information, experiences, and best practices among themselves with regard to telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICTs), with the support of the CITEL Executive Secretariat";

Resolution AG/RES. 2014 (XXXIV-O/04) "Trade and Integration in the Americas" adopted by the General Assembly to "Continue to provide technical assistance, in concert with the World Trade Organization (WTO), to support member states' domestic efforts at mainstreaming trade into national plans for economic development and strategies for poverty reduction, as called for in the "New Strategy for WTO Technical Cooperation: Technical Cooperation for Capacity Building, Growth and Integration,";

The 2017-2019 work plan adopted by the V Inter-American Dialogue of High-Level Authorities of Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) with an objective of "Promoting inclusive and competitive economies" and "to focus efforts to strengthen the MSMEs in the Americas, in the political dialogue, cooperation and capacity-building",

- 1. To thank the General Assembly for continuing resolution AG/RES. 2904 (XLVII-O/17) that works towards "Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development".
- 2. To create a Technology in Business Professional development program (TBP) for underrepresented small businesses that were impacted by the COVID-19 emergency in the Caribbean, with the objective of providing immediate assistance to those, in transferring their company to digital platforms, including support through virtual technology in business training workshops that incentivize the buying and selling of goods online, and the equipment of business owners with e-business, e-procurement, and online marketplace concepts.
- 3. To request member states to provide their expertise in Technology in Business Professional by facilitating virtual program sessions, partnering with the International Monetary Fund to provide training and capacity development for the Technology in Business Professional development program.
- 4. To recommend the expansion of direct shipment and transshipment facilities between the Dominican Republic, the United States, and Haiti given the increased demand for free trade during the COVID-19 emergency:
 - a. To increase the access of domestic and international postal systems for small business owners.
 - b. To request funding for the implementation of additional shipping facilities from the United States, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and the United Nations Conference on Trade Development (UNCTAD).
 - c. To partner with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) which works with Latin America and the Caribbean by providing technical assistance for strengthening trade and regional integration.

- 5. To request financial support from the Inter-American Bank, the United Nations, NGOs, and voluntary donations from member states for small business micro-marketing grants.
 - a. To provide one-time grants to underrepresented small business owners in the Dominican Republic who were impacted by the COVID-19 emergency
 - b. The grants shall be used for expanding small businesses consumer markets amid digital marketing
 - c. Grants may be used for advertising purposes that are included and not limited to website and social media advertising, consumer outreach, or digital promotion of the business, its products, and services

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FACILITATING THE TRANSITION FROM INFORMAL TO FORMAL ECONOMIES

Third Committee Topic No. 3 of the Agenda Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Antigua and Barbuda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECOGNIZING:

Article 33 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) which provides: "Development is a primary responsibility of each country and should constitute an integral and continuous process for the establishment of a more just economic and social order that will make possible and contribute to the fulfillment of the individual";

Article 94 of the OAS Charter, which notes: "The purpose of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development is to promote cooperation among the American States for the purpose of achieving integral development and, in particular, helping to eliminate extreme poverty, in accordance with the standards of the Charter,...with respect to the economic field";

Article 39(b)(i) of the OAS Charter, which reaffirms: "The Member States, ...should [continue] in their economic and social developments by means of improved conditions for trade in basic commodities through international agreements, where appropriate; orderly marketing procedures that avoid the disruption of markets, and other measures designed to promote the expansion of markets";

Article 12 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which asserts: "The OAS member states are committed to adopting and implementing all those actions required to generate productive employment, reduce poverty, and eradicate extreme poverty, taking into account the different economic realities and conditions of the countries of the Hemisphere";

BEARING IN MIND:

Article 43 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which establishes that "In order to strengthen and accelerate integration in all its aspects, the Member States agree to give adequate priority to the preparation and carrying out of multinational projects and to their financing, as well as to encourage economic and financial institutions of the Inter-American system to continue giving their broadest support to regional integration institutions and programs";

That according to Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO) (2013), sixty-eight percent of the Caribbean economy is based on informal employment; and

UNDERSTANDING:

The findings from the International Labour Organization (ILO) Overview (2004) that estimates six out of every ten earning individuals were working in the informal sector. Similarly, it was found that only about five out of 10 new wage employees had access to social security services and enjoyed coverage,

- 1. To thank the Member States for their efforts to promote the transition from work in informal settings to formal settings to improve the Member States' economies, making them more productive and profitable.
 - 2. To encourage Member States to review their legislation on working conditions, minimum wages, and collective bargaining as part of the transition to more formal work:
 - a. To reduce the vulnerability workers in informal employment.
 - b. To improve opportunities for international investment by socially-responsible corporations.
 - 3. To work with the Department of Economic Development under the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) to develop guidelines in the spirit of good governance that:
 - a. Promote inclusion of entrepreneurs and companies currently in the informal sector by:
 - i. Assisting with the registration and incorporation of their businesses in the formal sector.
 - ii. Securing legal recognition of their current assets after their establishment.
 - b. Create pathways for informal sector workers to develop valuable skills, specifically training related to the formal sector.
 - c. Identify formal sectors with the greatest potential for growth, and enhance training opportunities in these sectors.
 - d. Address discrimination issues that plague the informal sector to reduce the impact of these concerns in the formal sector.

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PROMOTING ENTREPRENUERSHIP AND POVERTY REDUCTION FOR RURAL WOMEN

Third Committee Topic No. 2 of the Agenda Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of The Bahamas

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2(f) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) which establishes as one of its main purposes to: "promote, by cooperative action, their economic, social, and cultural development;"

Article 3(a) of the OAS Charter which affirms that "economic cooperation is essential to the common welfare and prosperity of the peoples of the continent;"

Article 2 of the Social Charter of the Americas which states that "The Member states commit to promoting and to progressively realizing the full achievement of economic, social, and cultural rights and principles, through policies and programs that they consider are the most effective and appropriate for their needs, in accordance with their democratic processes and available resources;"

Article 9 of the Social Charter of the Americas which reaffirms "the important role of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, that contribute to the full incorporation into the labor market of women, youth, persons with disabilities, and other excluded groups;"

Article 24 of the Social Charter of the Americas which emphasizes that "cultural development is a key element for social and economic development of peoples that fosters creativity and innovation as well as inclusion and social cohesion;"

RECALLING:

AG/RES. 2709 (XLII-O/12), Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality, which calls upon Member States to "Promote the full and equal access, participation, representation, leadership, and impact of women in the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural spheres;"

AG/RES. 2954 (L-O/20), Towards an Inter-American Business Charter, which calls upon the Member States to "foster the development of a favorable environment for the growth of a competitive private sector, where entrepreneurs have the appropriate conditions and legal stability to make high-impact investments that promote shared value and formalization and contribute to the fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals:"

ACKNOWLEDGING:

That the International Council for Small Business recognizes Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) make up 70 percent of total global employment and 50 percent of GDP globally;

That the OAS fosters support for MSMEs at the policy and programmatic levels because MSMEs foster job creation, poverty reduction, and prosperity with social inclusion;

That through the Declaration of Mar del Plata of 2005, the Member States recognize the importance of creating jobs to reduce poverty and strengthen democratic governance, and the need to improve transparency

and the investment climate in the region to achieve sustained economic growth with equity and social inclusion;

That Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) give women access to financial knowledge, training, and information on how to enter global trade markets;

That churches, mission groups, civic leaders, and civil programs foster a sense of community, largely in poorer regions, teach life skills and basic management, and promote women into positions of responsibility in television and radio networks in rural areas with high rates of illiteracy throughout the Hemisphere;

That the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi) supports women entrepreneurs in rural areas by increasing access to financial products and services, builds capacity, expands networks, offers mentors, and provides opportunities to link with domestic and global markets;

That the WomenConnect Challenge (WCC) has provided more than \$1 million to nine organizations that are working to address barriers that limit women's access to technology, with a goal to connect nearly one million women in 12 countries to the internet; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations research shows that women in Latin America and the Caribbean face greater poverty rates than men and that 40 percent of rural women over the age of 15 do not have their own income;

That, in the 2020 Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) annual report, the number of people living in poverty rose to 209 million and of that total 78 million are in extreme poverty usually in rural areas,

- 1. To commend Member States for their commitment to promoting women and rural communities through the OAS Department of Economic Development (DED) by promoting political dialogue, the exchange of experiences and best practices, strategic alliances, and the development of commercial niches and opportunities.
- 2. To commend the positive impact of the SBDC throughout the Hemisphere by developing regional MSME support structures and developing public/private partnerships to support the development of the sector.
- 3. To suggest that Member States and the SBDC collaborate to provide entrepreneurship opportunities to women receiving social program benefits and women living in rural or underprivileged areas by:
 - a. Conducting 8 business courses over a period of 6 weeks including, but not limited to:
 - i. Fundamentals of entrepreneurship.
 - ii. Creating a business plan.
 - iii. Marketing research.
 - iv. Social media engagement.
 - v. Applying for a business loan.
 - b. Offering ongoing consultation through the SBDC through continuing collaborations with networks such as, but not limited to, rural churches, rural community centers, mission groups, women who have previously completed the program, and We-Fi.

- c. Providing women with graphic reading materials or spoken instructions for understanding and completion of required documents to facilitate understanding.
- d. Allowing churches in rural or underprivileged areas to act as community centers to assist women in that region.
- e. Encouraging the SBDC to partner with mission groups to provide mentors to women in rural or underprivileged areas.
- 2. To request continued funding and in-kind donations for business courses, ongoing consultation, and graphic reading materials from the SBDC, ConnectAmericas, WomenConnect Challenge, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), We-fi, ECLAC, MercyCorps, civil society organizations, and Permanent Observers to the OAS.

| Approved for f | orm a | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------|--|
| | (Signature of | gnature of Faculty Advisor) | | | |
| Cosignatories: | 1 | (C: (D) | - | (C | |
| | | (Signature of Delegate) | | (Country Represented) | |
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