2022 Washington Model Organization of American States General Assembly

Final Packet Special Committee



PAN-AMERICAN VACCINATION PASSPORT SYSTEM

Special Committee Topic No. 2 of the Agenda Draft Joint Resolution Presented by the Delegates of the Special Committee

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The World Health Organization (WHO) documents "Digital documentation of COVID-19 certificates: vaccination status: technical specifications and implementation guidance, 27 August 2021".

Article 13 and 14 of the Chicago Convention (Doc 730018) and Annex 9 - facilitation approved by the International Civil Aviation (ICAO) as standards in aviation globally which address laws regarding "entry, clearance, immigration, passports, customs, and quarantine" being compiled and states that "Each contracting State agrees to take effective spread of disease measures to prevent the spread by means of air navigation of...(epidemic[s])."

RECALLING:

That Article 33 of the 1948 Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS) establishes 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";

That Article 38 of the 1948 Charter of the OAS states 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";

That Article 53 of the Charter of the OAS missions The Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL) to facilitate and promote the integral and sustainable development of interoperable, innovative, and reliable telecommunications/information and technology (ICT) technologies in the Americas, under the principles of universality, equity, and affordability;

That the 2008 OAS Universal Civil Identity Program in the Americas (PUICA) declares that all activities are aimed towards five goals, one of which explicitly states, "International and regional cooperation through the Latin America and Caribbean Council for Civil Registration, Identity and Vital Statistics (CLARCIEV by its Spanish acronym)";

Dispositions made by the CEPAL, BCIE, and PAHO, regarding Post-covid construction and preparation for the prevention of the spread of new diseases such as Covid-19. As well, dispositions made by Article 38 of the OAS Charter which contemplates the use of science and technology within American States in order to have an Integral development, as an imperative tool to tackle any spreading disease in the continent in the future:

COMMENDING:

The involvement of the World Health Organization (WHO) and Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), who together are "leading the efforts in the region to support the countries in preventing, detecting, and responding to the pandemic",

- 1) To congratulate all present delegations on current hemispheric efforts to reintroduce international travel, ensure the safety of those traveling, and ensure the safety of their citizens during the pandemic, as well as to introduce a system to prevent another one.
- 2) To request the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) to lead the creation of the "Pan American Vaccination Passport System" (PAVP) with the technical assistance of PUICA to accomplish the following objectives:
 - a) Include a universal QR code for qualifying travelers, which is presented upon entry to Member States. This QR code would provide the proof of meeting vaccination and other entry requirements as determined by each Member State
 - b) Provide easy access to vaccination requirements and travel restrictions for each Member State.
 - Maintain the right of each Member State to establish and adjust entry requirements as it sees fit
 - d) Those who choose to use the app will receive a random 9-digit number to gain access to their digital passports, to ensure that the 9-digit number will be unique to the individual, and to ensure that the participants' information is protected, safe, and secured from anyone who would unlawfully seek it.
- 3) To suggest Member States implement a physical passport with the same information as on PAVP, which includes:
 - a) The name of the vaccine.
 - b) The date that the vaccine was received.
 - c) The signature from the health care provider who distributed the vaccine.
 - d) A universal QR code for qualifying travelers which is presented upon entry, the same as that on PAVP.
 - e) To suggest an information-sharing system of dual nature within the PAVP:
 - i) To encourage a voluntary international database through which Member States can link their existing databases to share and enhance relevant information to the spread of disease, serving as a new source of information for Member States.
 - (1) In the case of unreliable information not backed up by scientific data, the OAS will discern its use within the app.
 - ii) To request that all information be submitted in accordance with international law and Habeas data-related state-based regulations.
 - iii) To recommend the use of cybersecurity mechanisms to ensure data stored is not leaked while being supported by machine learning programs.
- 4) To create a unified database of Epidemiological Data in the Americas that will be monitored by Member States through biennial meetings whereby prevention strategies of future pandemics are specifically discussed.
 - a) Take into account a database with information resulting from cross-sectional research regarding existing diseases and health risks in each country.
 - b) The aforementioned database shall include the information discussed and referred to in the meetings, information that shall be added to the data previously obtained and arranged by each country in order to generate yearly goals and objectives to reduce the health risks that foster future pandemics.
 - c) The consensus result of what was discussed at the meeting will be published in the application, along with recommendations for the population and care they must consider.

- To create and implement a website ran through the OAS, specifically PUICA, and shared with PAHO that would:
 - a) Function in tandem with PAVP.
 - b) Allow for citizens to upload their current vaccine card to PAHO for confirmation of validity.
 - c) Provide PAHO immediate access to the pertinent information necessary to create and facilitate a vaccine database.
 - d) Allow access and easy facilitation of information by PAHO and PUICA.
- To recommend that participating Member States implement this agreed-upon system within two years of this resolution passing.
- 7) To request the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs to evaluate the relevant mechanisms to achieve funding in agreement to Members States' socioeconomic context.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A LATIN AMERICAN COLLABORATIVE AND COORDINATED STRATEGY FOR FUTURE PANDEMICS

Special Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Panama

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 34 (a) of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which asserts that the OAS should promote healthy urban living conditions that "offer the opportunity for a healthful, productive, and full life";

Article 30 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which states that OAS member states must commit to cooperating in pursuit of integral development, which includes scientific and technological goals for each nation;

Article 1 of the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization, which puts forth the purpose of PAHO: "to promote and coordinate efforts of the countries of the Western Hemisphere to combat disease, lengthen life, and promote the physical and mental health of the people";

NOTING:

OAS Resolution NO.1/2021, in cooperation with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, which emphasizes the importance of equal distribution of COVID-19 vaccines and information exchange regarding the COVID-19 pandemic within the international community;

OAS "Compendium on Strategies, Tools, and Actions Implemented by Emergency and Security Services to Address the COVID-19 pandemic" that aims to provide future strategies in the fields of technology, operations, information and statistics, human resources, and communication in relation to refining pandemic responses; and

RECOGNIZING:

The approximately 66.9 million cases of COVID-19 and the more than 1.5 million deaths in Latin America due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

A lack of regional infrastructure for a coordinated response to pandemics;

Persistent inequalities and disparities in healthcare access in Latin America that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic;

The absence of a regional or international treaty guiding the cooperation between nations in the event of a pandemic;

The European Council's commencement of negotiations with the WHO to create a working draft of an international agreement on pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response,

- 1. To applaud the OAS, PAHO, WHO, IACHR, and the Permanent Council on their prompt and effective response in curbing the effect of COVID-19 in the Latin American region through vaccine distribution, policies to mitigate the spread of pandemics, and human rights for all persons to ensure equal access to health resources.
- 2. To call on Member States to increase financial and infrastructural investments in research surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and other historical pandemics in hopes of discovering patterns in efficient pandemic responses:
 - a. PAHO may coordinate Member State's findings and use this research to form a cohesive database of trends, effective responses, and beneficial practices for the reference of member states
 - b. PAHO, in collaboration with the OAS General Secretariat, is encouraged to release an annual report on the state of current health affairs on the subcontinent and a handbook of effective practices for pandemic readiness and response.
 - c. Member States are recommended to increase pharmaceutical research and development capabilities to enable greater vaccine production and distribution within the Latin American subcontinent.
- 3. To urge Member States to also establish a Latin American regional task force to mitigate the spread of disease across national borders:
 - a. This regional task force would enable the Latin American subcontinent to execute a united and concerted plan to contain the spread of disease threat by addressing the following areas:
 - i. Increased surveillance of pandemic risks and outbreaks of contagious disease.
 - ii. Frequent communication with member states' populations on the progression of pandemics.
 - iii. Higher levels of equity in access to necessary health supplies such as personal protective equipment.
 - b. This new task force would be designed to operate under the jurisdiction of PAHO.
- 4. To propose for Member States to draft a Regional Agreement on Global Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response:
 - a. This regional agreement would serve to enhance the collaborative efforts of countries in terms of addressing a disease threat, along with serving as a foundation for an international pandemic treaty.
 - b. The OAS Member States are recommended to collaborate with the European Council and WHO, which are currently discussing the possibility of drafting an international pandemic agreement.
- 5. To advise national legislators and policymakers to provide accessible and affordable health goods and services for all people—in line with the principles of equal protection and nondiscrimination—to support general health and safety in the case of a future pandemic.

- 6. To designate funding for the pandemic preparedness and response solutions outlined above with the Inter-American Development Bank, private health organizations, and NGOs:
 - a. The creation of an emergency fund for countries to utilize in the event of a future pandemic.
 - b. This funding mechanism will call upon the Inter-American Council for Integral Development to manage and allocate these funds when necessary in an equitable manner.

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CREATION OF THE PAHO-OAS INITIATIVE TO COMBAT CORRUPTIVE PRACTICES IN VACCINE PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION IN THE AMERICAS

Special Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of El Salvador

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND:

Article 30 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which states that "Member States, inspired by the principles of inter-American solidarity and cooperation, pledge themselves to a united effort to ensure international social justice in their relations . . .";

Article 3.2 of the Plan of Action for the Social Charter of the Americas, which prescribes member states to "Improve the availability and access to quality health care services in accordance with the principles promoted by the Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017: human rights, universality, comprehensiveness, accessibility and inclusion, Pan American solidarity, equity in health and social participation";

Article 6.7 of the Plan of Action for the Social Charter of the Americas, which encourages member states to "Coordinate, through the state, monitoring, follow-up, and oversight strategies for investments and goals to expand coverage, at local and regional levels, to guarantee the implementation of planning principles and transparency in the formulation, implementation, and execution of policies, programs and projects";

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

About the number of infections (144,596,557 confirmed) and the number of deaths (2,591,440 confirmed) registered by SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) virus in the Western Hemisphere spanning from 2020 through February 2022, based on the latest report from the World Health Organization (WHO);

Regarding numerous instances of vaccine procurement and corruption of state governments in not only the Western Hemisphere, but around the world;

About the rising costs of available vaccines in the Americas versus other areas of the globe;

RECOGNIZING:

The efforts and hard work that every nation has invested in eradicating the COVID-19 pandemic from within their borders and cooperating with other states;

The efforts of those in the medical field in each country who are striving to create vaccines and pharmaceutical treatments to combat the short-term and long-term effects of COVID-19;

Governmental efforts to ensure that their people get inoculated or have access to vaccinations at low or no cost; and

CONSIDERING:

That the pandemic is still continuing despite lower case numbers and deaths than recorded in 2021 with more action required to eradicate COVID-19 from Member States populaces;

The mutation of numerous variants including, but not limited, Alpha, Beta, Delta, and Omicron variants and potential for further variants to appear;

Varying vaccine distribution and procurement in all OAS Member States in an attempt to beneft their entire populace to accelerate the eradication of COVID-19,

RESOLVES:

3.

Equity.

- 1. To recognize and congratulate the work Member States have done in combatting the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2. To partner with the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) to create the PAHO-OAS Procurement and Distribution Initiative to accomplish the following:
 - a. Procure vaccines from PAHO at a significantly lower cost per dose compared to direct government-to-government deals.
 - b. Aid countries that may face difficulties in distributing vaccines to their respective populaces by:
 - i. Encouraging those Member States, who request them, to utilize observers from other OAS nations to observe distribution practices and collect information on the equitable or inequitable distribution practices and inform the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity on potential violations.
 - ii. Encouraging Member States to utilize this the OAS-PAHO Initiative to set up fair distribution centers in areas where citizens can easily access affordable vaccines.
 - iii. PAHO-OAS vaccine distribution centers will receive funding for operating costs and personnel costs proportional to the amount of people wishing to get vaccinated.
 - c. Funding will be requested from international organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the Inter-American Development Bank, as well as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and those that the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs consider relevant.

To request that oversight of this initiative be delegated to the Secretariat for Access to Rights and

Approved for form and substance:

(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. (Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

2. (Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

3. (Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE DURING MEDICAL EMERGENCIES (DAME)

Special Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Ecuador

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2(e) of the Charter of the Organization of American States establishes that one of its main purposes is "to seek the solution of political, juridical, and economic problems that may arise among them,";

Article 20 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which states, "The promotion and observance of economic, social, and cultural rights are inherently linked to integral development, equitable economic growth, and to the consolidation of democracy in the states of the Hemisphere";

Article 30 of the Charter of the Organization of American States asserting that the Member States are jointly responsible for the integral development of the Americas encompassing "the economic, social, educational, cultural, scientific, and technological fields through which the goals that each country sets for accomplishing it should";

Chapter I-XI of the OAS' American Declaration of Rights and Duties of Man which declares, "Every person has the right to the preservation of his health through sanitary and social measures relating to food, clothing, housing and medical care, to the extent permitted by public and community resources";

Chapter I-XIII of the OAS' American Declaration of Rights and Duties of Man that affirms the right of every person "to take part of cultural life of the community" and "to participate in the benefits that result from intellectual progress, especially scientific discoveries";

RECALLING:

The AG/DEC. 84 (XLVI-O/16) "Declaration on Zika Virus: Inter-American Cooperation to Meet a Global Health Threat", adopted at the Forty-Sixth Session of the General Assembly, held in Santo Domingo, which called for technical and financial cooperation between the Member States "to strengthen national and regional Zika preparedness, prioritizing research and innovation and the strengthening of response capacities";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

That Goal 11 of the Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018-2030 emphasized the importance of "multisectoral strategies for reducing inequities in health by promoting health and well-being";

That 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development emphasizes the importance of "global partnership for sustainable development"; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That out of 6 million confirmed COVID-19 deaths worldwide, more than 2.6 million were from Latin America and the Caribbean, according to the World Health Organization;

That according to the Congressional Research Service, that accounts for 28.2% of the deaths worldwide.

That due to the COVID-19 it is estimated that annual GDP growth for 2020 in Latin America and the Caribbean fell between 7% and 9%;

That in 2020, world output shrank by 4.3 percent, over three times more than during the global financial crisis of 2009;

That the economic and social shock caused by the pandemic has hindered countries from procuring and distributing vaccines;

That if allowed to run rampant, we risk the virus mutating into a more fatal variant that could dramatically endanger the whole world,

- 1. To commend both global and regional organizations for their ongoing efforts to coordinate plans to combat coronavirus in the Americas.
- 2. To encourage Member States to continue the global and regional cooperation needed to recover from this pandemic and to prepare for future global health threats.
- 3. To urge the OAS in cooperation with PAHO and WHO to create a new department, the Department for Assistance During Medical Emergencies (DAME), capable of acquiring vaccines and monetary funds that will be used to help nations who request aide by developing four branches each tasked with:
 - a. Acquiring and bestowing donations in either vaccines or monetary aid:
 - Monetary aid will be given to nations upon request and provided that DAME guidelines are met:
 - 1. This aid is only to be used for the purpose of solving the health emergency. This includes medical or scientific projects.
 - 2. The amount of vaccines or monetary aid given will be based on the nation's needs.
 - b. Training volunteers and other necessary personnel for groundwork and pop-up clinics:
 - i. Volunteers will be required to have medical credentials.
 - ii. Volunteers who have previously worked with the United Nations or NGOs like Doctors without Borders will have preference.
 - iii. Assignments will be based upon their experience and credentials.
 - iv. Training programs will be created and run by PAHO experts to ensure uniformity in the administration of vaccines.
 - c. Guaranteeing the safe dissemination of vaccines:

- i. They will keep track of the amount of vaccines that were given to each nation and monitor distribution.
- ii. A PAHO expert will tasked with advising nations on how to keep vaccines safe from environmental hazards, if requested.
- d. Holding nations and the rest of the department accountable, monitored by the Office of the Inspector General:
 - i. Conduct internal audits and performance evaluations.
- 4. To create temporary pop-up clinics for vaccines and work alongside national health departments in order to distribute vaccines, if requested:
 - a. Staff clinics with trained volunteers.
 - b. Ensure vaccines are protected from environmental harm.
 - c. Track vaccine distribution.
- 5. To hold nations that request any assistance accountable if they misuse or misplace the aide they receive:
 - a. If vaccines are allowed to go to waste or misplaced, then the nation is required to repay its monetary value.
 - b. If any monetary funds are misplaced or misused, then the nation is required to repay it.
 - c. If nations intentionally fail, in repaying this debt, they will expect to be prohibited in participating in any other program that provides assistance, however, nations that fail to repay this debt, as a result of economic struggles, economic international crisis, will be giving a formal warning in regard to the OAS regarding repayment of debt, but will be encouraged to continue in engaging in the practices that DAME has set in the resolution.
- 6. To request funding from the Inter-American Development Bank, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, The World Bank, as well as voluntary donations from Member and Observer States, and other non-governmental organizations and charities.

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DEVELOPING A POST-COVID PREVENTION STRATEGY AGAINST FUTURE PANDEMICS

Special Committee Topic No. 3 of the Agenda
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Trinidad and Tobago

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 37 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), as amended by the Protocol of Buenos Aires, signed on February 27, 1967, at the Third Special Inter-American Conference, that the member states agree to join 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 38 of the OAS Charter, 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 45 (b) of the OAS Charter, that the member States, convinced that man can only achieve the full realization of his aspirations within a just social order, along with economic development and true peace, agree to dedicate every effort to the application of work as 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 for the worker and his family, both during his working years and in his old age, or when any circumstance deprives him of the possibility of working;

ACKNOWLEDGING:

That the 39th meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD) in November 2020 mandated the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to establish a Human Resources for Health Action Task Force (HRH-ATF) to advise and monitor the development of public policy in the countries and territories of the Caribbean;

That COVID-19 disease transmission can be contained only by effective control of person-to-person transmission, patient isolation and confinement, social distancing, vaccines at herd Immunity, and preventive community containment measures. Successful disease isolation depends on early case detection (before the onset of peak viral shedding). A patient with fever or respiratory illness symptoms and a contact or travel history is considered a highly sensitive case for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS); and

RECOGNIZING:

The critical role of a resilient health workforce to local, national, and regional response to the COVID19 pandemic and the global challenges related to the health workforce labor market. The launch of the HRH-ATF on April 20, 2021, brought forward concerted regional action to strengthening HRH is relevant to the current international health context. It also set a trajectory towards securing that these efforts support local, national, and regional response to other emerging pandemics and health emergencies,

- 1. To congratulate the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) for the efforts and accomplishments made to reduce vulnerability and to increase the resilience of member states during Covid-19.
- 2. To urge the General Secretariat and member states to support the role of the CARPHA in its endeavors to reduce vulnerability and increase the capability of Caribbean states in limiting the spread of pandemics, risk mitigation, and responses in the Western Hemisphere:
 - a. Develop a partnership with the Caribbean Regional Drug Testing Laboratory (CRDTL).
 - b. Develop a platform for collaborative research with the Caribbean Health Research Council (CHRC):
 - i. Share research data and resources as soon as available.
 - ii. Exchange intelligence and early notification on threats to public health.
- 3. To encourage CARPHA to mandate planning and forecasting of HRH staffing needs to respond to COVID-19 and other emerging pandemics:
 - a. Differentiating education, learning, training, and communication-related to HRH responding to COVID-19 and other emerging pandemics.
 - b. Developing and consolidating mechanisms to enable rapid HRH response.
- 4. To instruct the permanent council of OAS to mandate regular dialogue to discuss and improve cooperation on public health intelligence among member states and education to prevent vaccine hesitancy:
 - a. PAHO should hold quarterly meetings to discuss public health developments in the Americas.
 - b. Educate member states on best practices when new knowledge is determined and educate the public on the place and efficacy of vaccines.
- 5. To advise member states to protect the rights and expand the benefits and incentives of health workers and first responders through legislation:
 - a. Develop a common education course online at no cost to Hemispheric health workers to educate public health first responders on public health safety measures.
 - b. Set minimum working hours and pay packages for Hemispheric first responders.

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ADDRESSING CORRUPTION IN COVID-19 VACCINE DISTRIBUTION

Special Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Jamaica

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

Article 2 of the OAS Charter, which proposes a collective response "to seek the solution of political, juridical, and economic problems that may arise among" members;

Article 30 of the OAS Charter which states "The Member States, inspired by the principles of Interamerican solidarity and cooperation, pledge themselves to a united effort to ensure international social justice in their relations and integral development for their peoples, as conditions essential to peace and security. 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";

Article 2, Section 5 of OAS Resolution No 4/2020 on the Human Rights of Persons with COVID-19, which states that "to ensure prevention, comprehensive treatment and care for persons with COVID-19, States must adopt immediate measures to guarantee sustained, egalitarian, and affordable access to – and the provision of – high quality supplies, services, and information";

The Inter-American Convention Against Corruption (IACC), which stated at its Third Plenary Session in 1996 that members are obligated "to promote, facilitate and regulate cooperation among the States Parties to ensure the effectiveness of measures and actions to prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption in the performance of public functions and acts of corruptions specifically related to such performance";

CONSIDERING:

Article 6, Section 2, Subsection 21, of the Recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of States Parties of the MESICIC (Mechanism for Follow-Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption), which recommends that members "continue giving consideration, as a topic of collective interest, to international legal cooperation in non-criminal matters to fight against corruption";

Article 7, Subsection 25 of the Recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of States Parties of the MESICIC, which recommends that members "continue elaborating model legislation related to the provisions of the convention, using to that end the same broadly participatory methodology";

Article 7, Subsection 34 of Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) Resolution No 1/2018, promoting "a regional response to corruption with a human rights-based approach";

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION:

Resolution 2, Subsection C of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Resolution CD59.R13, Reinvigorating Immunization as a Public Good for Universal Health, which urges members "strengthen governance and leadership of immunization programs – combined with effective oversight, accountability, coalition building, regulation, and attention to system design," pursuant with a cooperative response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

CONCERNED BY:

The 2021 UNESCO report on COVID-19 and Vaccination in Latin America and the Caribbean, which notes that "2.09 billion vaccine doses have been administered globally, of which, the countries classified as low-income have only received 0.3%";

A Council of the Americas report on vaccination stating that 20 of 35 countries in the region failed to "reach the World Health Organization's (WHO) target of 40 percent vaccination coverage before the end of 2021",

- 1. To applaud the efforts of member states to vaccinate their populations and bring an end to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2. To reaffirm member states' obligation to coordinate and contribute to the fair and equitable distribution of medical resources, including COVID-19 vaccines and to reaffirm their commitment to the WHO, PAHO, and COVAX.
- 3. To reaffirm members' commitment to the IACC and MESICIC, continuing the mission of addressing corruption at the regional level through international cooperation, including:
 - a. Maintaining communication between states, non-governmental organizations, and public institutions regarding corruption.
 - b. Recognizing that corruption, as outlined by MESICIC, poses a significant threat to a robust and cooperative COVID-19 recovery.
 - 4. To establish the post of the Commissioner of Hemispheric Pandemic Response, who shall:
 - a. Be a person of high moral standing and personal integrity and shall possess expertise in the field of public health.
 - b. Be appointed by the Secretary General of the OAS to their staff and approved by the General Assembly, with due regard to geographic rotation, and have a fixed term of two years with the possibility of one, nonconsecutive renewal.
 - c. Function within the framework of the OAS Charter, the IACHR, and other instruments of international law, including obligations to respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and domestic jurisdiction of members to ensure and oversee the fair and equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccine supplies.

- d. Act as the OAS' liaison with the PAHO and WHO, including COVAX, with regards to hemispheric pandemic response, report all suspected instances of corruption in vaccine distribution or delivery to MESICIC and its appropriate arms, and maintain communication with member states and NGOs via regular reports on COVID-19 vaccine distribution throughout member states.
- 5. That funding for the Commissioner of Hemispheric Pandemic Response come from the Office of the Secretary General, and grants and voluntary contributions from member states, permanent observer states, the World Bank, and other entities, such as the WHO.
- 6. That the Secretary General, in cooperation with MESICIC, generate a report on the appointment and progress of the Commissioner of Hemispheric Pandemic Response and submit it to the General Assembly, starting with the fifty-second regular session, and then every 6 months subsequently.

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EXPANSION OF WHITE HELMETS RAPID RESPONSE FOR VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS IN UNDERSERVED AREAS

Special Committee Topic No. 1 of the Agenda Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of the Dominican Republic

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

That Article 38 of the 1948 Charter Organization of the American States (OAS) stated 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";

That Article 34 (i) of the Charter adds, "Protection of man's potential through the extension and application of modern medical science";

DEEPLY CONCERNED BY:

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) news report from 1 September 2021 that revealed that "So far, only about 23% of the people in the region have been fully vaccinated, and in many countries, the coverage is much lower";

The <u>UN News</u> report from 19 September 2021 that "inequitable vaccine distribution is not only leaving millions or billions vulnerable to the deadly virus, it is also allowing even more deadly variants to emerge. . . Moreover, an unequal distribution of vaccines will deepen inequality and exaggerate the gap between rich and poor and will reverse decades of hard-won progress on human development";

AFFRIMING THAT:

Within the Additional Protocol to the "Protocol of San Salvador (1989)," Member States agreed to undertake "Universal immunization against the principal infectious disease" alongside "Prevention and treatment of endemic, occupational and other diseases," as stated in Article 10;

RECOGNIZING:

The Plan of Action of the First Summit of the Americas (1994) in which Heads of State and Government tasked the White Helmets Initiative to "facilitate the eradication of poverty and strengthen the humanitarian rapid response capability of the international community to emergency humanitarian, social and developmental needs";

AG/RES. 2018 (XXXIV-O/04) "White Helmets Initiative" which congratulates the White Helmets for its cooperation and collaboration with PAHO as well as its work in "humanitarian aid, rehabilitation, reconstruction, and development while at the same time preserving the apolitical, neutral, and impartial nature of humanitarian action":

REAFFIRMING:

AG/RES. 2976 (LI-O/21) "Strengthening Democracy" which urges Member States to "effectively and humanely improve epidemiological responses, seeking and promoting accessibility and affordability in a participatory, transparent, non-discriminatory way and with the widest possible geographical coverage— of medicines, treatments, vaccines" in order to promote the upmost care and wellbeing of individuals who have or will have COVID-19;

The Annual Report of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (2020) in which the Director Dr. Carissa F. Etienne urges for "enhanced vaccine allocations from the COVAX facility based on our epidemiologic realities";

AG/RES. 2977 (LI-O/21) "Developments in the Covid-19 Pandemic and its Impact on the Hemisphere" that emphasizes the notion that "joint and coordinated hemispheric solidarity and cooperation will help slow and prevent the spread of COVID and contribute to strengthening the regional response and recovery efforts"; and,

BEARING IN MIND:

That charging the White Helmet Initiative with procuring and distributing vaccinations simplifies the process of creating a rapid response to the pandemic, particularly in the underserved areas of the hemisphere;

The ability of all Member States to utilize the emergency program of the White Helmets Initiative effectively and multilaterally to reduce the levels of those afflicted with COVID-19,

- 1. To congratulate all Member States for their efforts to support the COVAX program in the Americas.
- 2. To create a rapid response programs to reach underserved areas by uniting COVAX and the White Helmets Initiative which will ensure that:
 - a. White Helmets are equipped to aid in emergency vaccination programs when Member States request vaccination assistance.
 - b. Redirection of the vaccines directly to White Helmets for rapid response.
 - 3. To establish a corps in which Doctors Without Borders will be invited to work alongside the White Helmets Initiative to ensure the presence of experienced medical professionals who will oversee the implementation of clinics and administer the vaccines in underserved areas.
- 4. To request the assistance of PAHO, World Health Organization (WHO), and the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) for:
 - a. Tracking vaccination statistics on underrepresented areas with the cooperation of Member States.
 - b. Provide reports to the White Helmets and medical staff when Member States submit a request for vaccination assistance.
- 4. To request that the Ministers of Health report to Inter-American Council for Integral Development on the operation of this program which will compile a report for the fifty-third regular session of the General Assembly on the implementation of this resolution the execution of which will be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

other concer	ned organizations.	
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To request funding from the Special White Helmets' Fund, PAHO, participating Member States, permanent observer states, pertinent Non-Governmental Organizations such as the Gates Foundation,

the Ford Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, Doctors Without Borders, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Pan American Development Foundation, Health Horizon's International, and

PREVENTING PANDEMICS THROUGH FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT AND LICENSING IN VACCINE PRODUCTION

Special Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Brazil

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

HAVING SEEN:

Article 3(k) of the Organization of American States (OAS) Charter, which states "economic cooperation is essential to the common welfare and prosperity of the peoples of the continent";

Article 34(i) of the OAS Charter, in which Member States agree to devote their best efforts to the "protection of man's potential through the extension and application of modern medical science";

Article 9 of the OAS Social Charter, which recognizes "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";

Article 17 of the OAS Social Charter, which reaffirms the responsibility and commitment of members states to "improve the availability of, access to, and quality of health care services ... and to strengthen their capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to ... infectious diseases ... promote their peoples' well-being through prevention and care strategies and, in partnership with public or private organizations, to improve access to health care";

BEARING IN MIND:

According to the Global Health Security Index, countries remain dangerously unprepared for meeting future pandemic threats and most countries have seen little to no improvement in establishing a capable and accessible outbreak response;

The Kaiser Family Foundation notes the disparity between vaccine purchasing countries and national income level is significant. As a result, higher income nations currently own enough vaccine doses to cover more than twice of their adult population, whereas lower middle income countries can only cover 27%;

The Secretary General of the OAS has established that no country in the Hemisphere is safe until all countries are safe. There is an urgent need for securing production of vaccines and creating vaccines that reflect affordable pricing for future pandemic prevention;

According to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights Report on COVID-19 Vaccine Production, "Member States to have the duty to require private actors involved in the health sector to respect human rights and act with due diligence in the execution of their operations, which includes, among other things: i) providing health services; ii) the undertaking of scientific research activities; iii) the production, sale, and distribution of medical biosafety materials, such as vaccinations; and iv) the adoption of measures to prevent companies from causing shortages or disproportionately increasing prices for health goods and services";

RECOGNIZING:

OAS Inter-American Commission on Human Rights RES. No. 1/2021, which asserts that "cooperation is crucial for ensuring that equitable distribution of vaccines meets the realities and needs of all States in the region, especially those with less financial, institutional, and technological capacity";

OAS Permanent Council CP/RES. 1151 (2290/20), which emphasizes "the need for better coordination of technical and cooperation efforts for enhanced exchange and sharing of relevant information, as well as for access to medicines, treatments, vaccines and equipment, and the required scientific and technical knowledge, and to find mechanisms to make resources available to address the unprecedented challenges ahead"; and

APPLAUDING:

Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and Tunisia for establishing their own mRNA vaccine production facilities utilizing the technology transfer of vaccine production from the World Health Organization's global mRNA vaccine hub;

The Global Health Access's facilitation of public-private partnerships that expanded vaccine production capabilities in southeast Asia and Latin America;

The Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) launch of the Regional Platform to Advance the Manufacturing of COVID-19 and other Health Technologies in the region, resulting in successful regional collaboration among Member States regarding biomanufacturing facilities and COVID-19 vaccines,

- 1. To commend Member States for their collaboration in developing plans to address pandemic prevention.
- 2. To strengthen Member States' ability to prevent future pandemics by launching an OAS strategic plan that increases vaccine security and equity through:
 - a. Foreign direct investment in Member States' vaccine production facilities.
 - b. Vaccine-producing Member States licensing their technology to other Member States.
 - c. To launch this strategic plan through collaboration among Member States, the OAS Department of Economic and Social Development and Committee on Hemispheric Security, and PAHO, the Pan American Development Foundation, OAS-partnered civil society organizations, and healthcare private sector investors.
- 3. To encourage foreign direct investment in vaccine production capabilities with priority given to Member States with pre-existing vaccine development capabilities and vaccine manufacturing facilities.
- 4. To encourage Member States to collaborate in developing a harmonized region-wide plan to attract foreign direct investment through tax breaks and other economic incentives.
- 5. To suggest that Member States with vaccine production capabilities transfer technology and license vaccine development capabilities to other Member States seeking vaccine security and equity.

- a. License provider states will be those Member States that have successfully exported, donated, or produced vaccines prior.
- b. Recipient Member States will be those that are seeking vaccine security but do not have preexisting vaccine development capabilities or vaccine manufacturing facilities.
- 6. To monitor the OAS strategic plan through Member States' submission of status reports to the OAS Department of Economic and Social Development and PAHO:
 - a. The status reports will contain data on:
 - i. The level of foreign direct investment attracted and retained.
 - ii. The number of licensing agreements established in each participating Member State.
 - iii. The research and development capabilities of participating Member States.
 - b. The Department of Economic and Social Development and PAHO will consolidate these status reports into a single Hemispheric report on the progress of vaccine security and equity.
- 7. To seek funding for the strategic plan from PAHO, with additional funding from the government of Brazil, the International Finance Corporation, the Coalition of Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, PFizer, and BioNTech.

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DETERRING CORRUPTION THROUGH THE CREATION OF A REGIONAL ORGANIZATION TO MONITOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF VACCINES IN THE AMERICAS DURING PANDEMICS

Special Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Colombia

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 5 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which establishes that "combating corruption and other unethical practices in the public and private sectors strengthens a culture of transparency and is fundamental for long-term growth and poverty reduction";

Article 17 of the Charter, which establishes that "the highest attainable standard of health is a fundamental right of all persons without discrimination and they recognize that health is an essential condition for social inclusion and cohesion, integral development, and economic growth with equity";

Article II (2) of the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption, which pledges, "to promote, facilitate and regulate cooperation among the States Parties to ensure the effectiveness of measures and actions to prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption in the performance of public functions and acts of corruption specifically related to such performance";

CONSIDERING:

The effectiveness of the multilateral agreement with the COVAX program that has distributed over 90 million doses across the region and that almost one out of every eleven vaccine doses administered in Latin America is from the program;

That the COVAX program had problems with vaccine supply and financing that affected its ability to achieve its goal of distributing vaccines fairly, especially in developing countries;

The COVAX program has had difficulties coordinating deliveries efficiently in certain countries because of the logistical challenges when doses arrive;

That the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) mobilizes associations and provides technical cooperation to improve health and life quality for the countries of the Americas, as approved by the Permanent Council in the Resolution CP/RES. 797 (1293/01), ensuring that each person has equitable access to the health care they need;

RECOGNIZING:

That equal rights and equity are essential for democracy;

That corruption has national and international dimensions, which requires a coordinated response by States to combat it effectively;

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

By the unequal access to vaccines in between Member States;

By the expansion of unofficial markets for substandard or falsified vaccines and Covid related medical treatments and products of the Covid-19 pandemic;

DETERMINED:

To make every effort to prevent, detect and deter corruption in the procurement and distribution of vaccines;

CONVINCED:

Of the importance of making people in the countries of the region aware of this problem and its gravity, and of the need to strengthen participation by governments in preventing and fighting corruption; and

RECALLING:

CP/RES 1165 (2312/21) "The Equitable Distribution of Covid-19 Vaccines" that recognizes, "grave concern at any measure aimed at, or resulting in, inequitable and discriminatory access to, and distribution of, vaccines between developed and developing countries, which generate a risk that the current pandemic will continue in detriment to livelihoods and to the preservation of health and well-being of the peoples of the Americas, and respect for the principle of international cooperation and solidarity",

- 1. To recognize the efforts of all countries in the Americas in battling the COVID-19 pandemic and to congratulate the work of the different actors in the COVAX program.
- 2. To create an organization similar to the COVAX program named Pan-American Organization for Monitoring Pandemics (PANMODEM) with a regional bureau to monitor the distribution of vaccines in the region and in Member States during pandemics:
 - a. The organization should work in collaboration with international organizations such as the PAHO and the Member States.
 - b. The organization will create a strategic vaccine distribution plan for each country that prioritizes the most vulnerable populations.
 - c. In close collaboration with the organization, each country will assign a team in charge of supervising the logistics of the distribution of vaccines.
 - d. The governments of each country should commit to support the vaccine distribution plan of this organization to avoid corruption and ensure the vaccination of their population is equitable.
- 3. To adopt national oversight mechanisms independent from the government to prevent corruption in the vaccination process during pandemics in all Member States. Each national overseeing mechanism must follow the rules of the vaccine distribution plan.
- 4. To create a Pan-American virtual registration system for supervising the distribution of vaccines to allow for the retrieval of specific and reliable data on the vaccination process and limit unjust distribution.

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UNICEF to financially support the organization.

5. To allocate existing funds available in the PAHO budgets, and to request the Member States, Observer States, the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, and NGOs such as ICRC, OXFAM and

INTER-AMERICAN COMPREHENSIVE SHIELDING MECHANISM FOR FUTURE PANDEMICS AND HIGHLY INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Special Committee Topic No. 3 of the Agenda Draft Resolution presented by the Delegation of the Republic of Suriname

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

REAFFIRMING:

Article 2 paragraph (f) and Articles 31, 32, 37 and 38 of the Charter of the Organization of the American States (OAS), in which cooperation for integral development is enshrined as one of the Organization's main goals in terms of economic, educational, cultural, social, scientific and technological aspects;

The commitment of Member States to working together on the solution of critical and urgent problems in accordance with their capabilities and resources, using key advancements in fields such as science and technology to seek development and stability in the Americas;

FULLFILLING:

Article 17 of the Social Charter of the Americas as it indicates the agreement of Member States to cooperate in the provision of health as an essential condition for social inclusion, and to improve the availability of, access to, and quality of health care services;

CONTEMPLATING:

The definition in 2005 of the International Health Regulations (IHR), as a mechanism "to prevent, protect against, control and provide a public health response to the international spread of disease in ways that are commensurate with and restricted to public health risks, and which avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade";

CP/RES. 1151 (2280/20) "OAS Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic" in which the OAS instructed to "continue engaging relevant multilateral institutions under the Joint Summit Working Group in order to promote coordinated interinstitutional responses and to support national efforts of member states in addressing the social, economic, health and security impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic";

CD59/FR "Report of the 59th PAHO Directing Council and the 73rd session of the Regional Committee of the WHO for the Americas" in which Member States addressed the strategies for building resilient health systems in the context of the post-COVID-19 recovery and the institutional strengthening of the WHO and PAHO preparedness for and response to health emergencies;

WELCOMING:

The OAS Compendium of Strategies, Tools and Actions Implemented by the Emergency and Security Services to address the COVID-19 pandemic introduced by the OAS on January 2022; this mechanism seeks to be a hemispheric systematization of multiple strategies and tools that have been used and have resulted successful for nations of the Americas; it is intended to work on "peer-to-peer learning from different experiences, drawing lessons and recommendations from their achievements and shortcomings, avoid the repetition of formulas, recipes or procedures that have

proven to be ineffective, introduce the necessary changes, based on successful experiences, adapted to the circumstances and conditions of each institution, to face future crises";

The Virtual Platform of Emergency and Security Systems implemented by the OAS as a mechanism "for consultation and reference on the interventions, protocols and policies carried out around the world to face the pandemic and that can be useful for professionals in charge of the EMS";

EMPHASIZING:

The critical situation that many countries faced once the COVID-19 crisis erupted, as it has been evidenced by the OAS that "no country was prepared to face, contain, and mitigate such a pandemic, which, together with measures that included mobility restrictions, lockdowns, and social distancing, brought with it multiple adverse consequences in the economic, political-institutional, educational, and social spheres, as well in terms of crime, violence, and physical and mental health";

RECOGNIZING:

The active role of the Pan American Health Organization during the pandemic through multiple mechanisms, alliances and resolutions such as the CD59/FR 24 published on September 2021, in which regional strategies were implemented as a response to COVID-19 with the purpose of creating policies that allow the region to be self-sufficient;

The establishment of other initiatives such as the WHO Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) as technical instruments and networks for coordinated response to acute public health events and the prevention and control of infectious diseases outbreaks and public health emergencies; and

FULLY ALARMED:

By the impact of the COVID-19 as the World Health Organization reported that it has caused more than 6 million deaths globally, 4 million in the Americas; and by the economic consequences of the pandemic which include, according to estimates of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization (WTO) a decline of almost -5 percent points in the GDP, and contractions of approximately one quarter of the global value of exports and imports;

By the results of the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean 2020 launched by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), which points out to the region experiencing "its worst economic crisis in a century, with an estimated -9.1 percent contraction in regional GDP" and a 10 to 15 years setback in terms of income per capita, equality, poverty and unemployment,

- 1. To recognize the work of the OAS, the WHO, the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), the Member States, the regional, national and local health agencies and the first responders in addressing the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the resilience and strength of the citizens of the Americas in facing these difficult times.
- 2. To reaffirm the need for innovative and long-lasting strategies that address the preparedness for future pandemics, the process of recovery, reconstruction and resilience, and the

- consequences that go beyond the health systems into areas such as economic and social development, including the Compendium of Strategies, Tools and Actions by the Emergency Security Services and their Virtual Platform.
- 4. To request that the OAS General Secretariat works with its different thematic secretariats and specialized agencies in the design of an Inter-American Shielding Mechanism against Future Pandemics, consisting of a comprehensive legal, social, cultural, scientific, technological and medical framework to prepare the region for future infectious diseases, including the ability to efficiently and immediately respond to its social and economic consequences.
- 5. To suggest that the Shielding Mechanism results from the work of a task force of government and civil society representatives, with the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) and the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) serving as technical rapporteurs of said task force, and focusing their proposed strategies and mechanisms on the following areas:
 - a. Protocols for the adjustment in trade and economic operations in case of eventual lockdowns.
 - b. Increased and long-standing investments in public healthcare systems.
 - c. Social innovation practices to diversify regional economies and the sources of financial resources.
 - d. Inclusion of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development strategies as part of prevention and preparation mechanisms and the economic recovery measures.
 - e. Foster cross sectoral and global collaboration for coordinated pandemic responses.
 - f. Documentation and record-keeping of measures taken and their effectiveness.
- 6. To propose that the task force maps out and implements a hemispheric research initiative that engages actors and raises funding for the promotion of basic research projects that improve the existing mechanisms for efficient and effective of data on genetic sequencing, and the innovation and technologies required for prevention tracing, detection, and treatment of future pandemics.
- 7. To entrust the task force with the definition of a series of recommendations to the WHO to strengthen the International Health Regulations (IHR), so they can adjust to the current global context, and include new measures that evidence the technological, scientific achievements, and lessons of the COVID-19 responses.

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To request to the SEDI and the PAHO to report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its Fifty-third regular session.

WORKING TOWARD THE DECENTRALIZATION OF VACCINE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION IN THE AMERICAS

Special Committee Topic No. 3 of the Draft Agenda Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2e of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which states that one of the Organization's essential purposes is "To seek the solution of political, juridical, and economic problems that may arise";

Article 34 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which affirms that "Hemispheric cooperation contributes to the integral development of individual; to the elimination of poverty, social exclusion, and inequity; to the consolidation of democracy; and to prosperity for all peoples in the Americas";

Article 34 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which states: nter-American cooperation supports the efforts of member states to improve the quality of life of the inhabitants of the Americas. Cooperation is based on respect, solidarity, and complementarity";

Article 21 of the Social Charter, which stipulates that "Member states will adopt and execute, with the participation of the private sector and civil society organizations, strategies, plans, and policies to meet these challenges as part of their development efforts and for the benefit and enjoyment of all persons and all generations";

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights' RESOLUTION NO. 1/2021, "COVID-19 Vaccines and the Inter-American Human Rights Obligations," which affirms that "in accordance with the principle of equal protection and nondiscrimination, universal and equitable access to the vaccines available constitutes an obligation requiring immediate compliance by States, under which vaccines, technologies, and treatments developed to address COVID-19 must be considered public health goods that are freely accessible to all," and which observes that "current limitations on vaccine production and supply lead to scarcity that reduces options for acquiring and allocating vaccines among States and requires the development of criteria for prioritizing groups within them, adjusted to each national or regional context, which must be adopted transparently and in a participatory manner";

RECALLING:

Article 34 of the Declaration of Commitment of Port of Spain 2009 (Fifth Summit of the Americas), which affirms the "commitment to the implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005) to prevent the international spread of diseases such as pandemic influenza, yellow fever, dengue, malaria and others, and we commit to establish in our countries the basic capacities needed for surveillance and for responding to events that could constitute public health emergencies of international concern";

That, according to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (Press Release, April 7, 2021), "it is imperative that vaccines, as a global and regional public good, are available to all people, with equality and without discrimination, which is why their fair and equitable distribution must be ensured and, in particular, that they are accessible and affordable for low- and middle-income countries. Equity must be the key component not only between countries, but also within countries in order to end the acute phase of the pandemic"; and

CONSIDERING:

That the current cumulative death total related to COVID-19 in the Americas is the highest of any World Health Organization (WHO) region at approximately 2.7 million deaths;

That, according to the WHO, an estimated 65% of people in the Americas are fully vaccinated;

That Colombia was the first country in the Americas to receive COVID-19 vaccinations via the COVAX initiative on March 1st, 2021;

That Uruguay received the first round of Astrazeneca COVID-19 vaccine doses allotted to the country by the COVAX initiative on April 4th, 2021;

That Uruguay has received vaccines provided by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) totaling 148,800 to vaccinate the country's population of nearly 3.5 million people;

That the mechanism in which the COVAX initiative works depends on the generosity and therefore the donation of COVID-19 vaccination by larger nations, which cannot be considered a guarantee;

That the MRNA vaccine created to combat COVID-19 is a new technology, using messenger RNA to elicit an immune response, and has the potential to protect against other infectious diseases,

- 1. To commend the efforts of the COVAX initiative as well as progress made in regards to COVID-19 and other vaccinations by organizations such as, but not limited to, the WHO and PAHO.
- 2. To request that representatives of member states attend a meeting hosted by PAHO at the organization's headquarters in Washington, DC with special consideration being given to those in attendance being involved in:
 - a. Regional organizations within the western hemisphere such as, but not limited to, MERCOSUR, CARICOM, NAFTA and SICA.
 - b. Vaccine manufacturing with interest pertaining to COVID-19 and the future uses of the MRNA vaccine in the Americas, which may include the creation of local manufacturers or those already established brands, including Astrazeneca, Pfizer, Moderna, and others.
 - c. Health institutions, which may include WHO, PAHO and those located in individual member states who show interest.
 - 3. To stipulate that matters discussed in the aforementioned meeting specifically pertain to:
 - a. The locations of existing vaccine manufacturing sites, as well as to whom the site currently distributes.
 - b. Potential locations in which vaccine manufacturers can begin development, if deemed necessary, within the regional groups mentioned above.
 - c. Supplies, procurement of staff and their training, as well as other necessities needed to obtain optimal function of vaccine manufacturing sites.
 - d. Methods in which vaccines will be distributed within designated regional groups once production is complete.
 - 4. To encourage the sharing of vaccine-related technology and information between major COVID-19 manufactures—such as, but not limited to, Astrazeneca, Pfizer, Moderna and newly established vaccine producers within regional bodies—in an effort to avoid vaccine centralization.

- 5. To request that all data collected during the meeting—and subsequently after the implementation of vaccine manufacturing and distribution practices—be presented after the cessation of the meeting to health ministries in individual member states and at the next Summit of the Americans, as well as through any relevant OAS sessions thereafter.
- 6. To request funding from the OAS conference budget and a request to the Revolving Fund of the Pan American Health Organization, and should that be insufficient, to request additional funding from the Inter-American Development Bank, contributions from member states, and from observer nations.

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ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN ORGANIZATION FOR FUTURE PANDEMICS (IAOFP) AS A STRATEGIC PLAN OF ACTION TO PREPARE FOR FUTURE PANDEMICS

Special Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Haiti

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 38 of the Charter of the Organization American States, which proclaims "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 17 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which affirms "that the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is a fundamental right of all persons without discrimination and they recognize that health is an essential condition for social inclusion and cohesion, integral development, and economic growth with equality";

Article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights which affirms "the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health" including "the prevention, treatment and control of epidemic, endemic, occupational and other diseases"; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) reported a total of 2,630,911 COVID-19 deaths in the Americas as of February 28th, 2022;

That according to PAHO, only 63% of the Latin American and Caribbean region is considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19, and 14 countries in this region have yet to vaccinate at least 40% of their population for COVID-19,

- 1. To commend PAHO, individual Member States, and the OAS for their due diligence in controlling and preventing the spread of COVID-19.
- 2. To advocate that Member States support the OAS's creation of a new specialized subgroup between PAHO and the OAS to better deal with the prevention of future pandemics.
- 3. To encourage the establishment of the Inter-American Organization for Future Pandemics (IAOFP) as a liaison and subbranch of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the OAS to better respond to and prevent future pandemics through:
 - a. The coordination and distribution of information and resources for future health disasters.
 - b. The creation of a database within the OAS website which promotes accurate and reliable health information in a format that could be accessed by Member States.
 - c. To encourage Member States to donate their surplus personal protective equipment to the IAOFP to then be distributed to Member States who request it.

- d. To help Member States increase their accessibility of vaccines: including vaccination sites and distribution methods.
- 4. To promote an early warning system between Member States and the IAOFP in which Member States can take the proper precautions in the event of an outbreak of high spread and/or high-risk infectious diseases or viruses.

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THE INTRODUCTION OF PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES IN ORDER TO IMPROVE VACCINE PROCUREMENT/DISTRIBUTION EFFICIENCY THROUGH COLLABORATIVE MEASURES

Special Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Chile

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2(e) of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which says that one of its essential purposes is to: "To strengthen the peace and security of the continent";

Article 37 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, "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 38 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, 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 48 of the Charter of the Organization of American States asserts, "The Member States will cooperate with one another to meet their educational needs, to promote scientific research, and to encourage technological progress for their integral development. They will consider themselves individually and jointly bound to preserve and enrich the cultural heritage of the American peoples";

CONSIDERING:

Sixty-two percent of the population of OAS Member States are vaccinated against COVID-19, with some countries still in the 20-30th percentile;

Certain Latin American and Caribbean Member States have had slower vaccination rollouts than other OAS countries, due to poor executive decisions and cultural uncertainty towards the vaccine;

RECOGNIZING:

Countries such as Chile, Argentina, Canada, and Uruguay have had substantially more successful vaccination rates among OAS Member States, with individual state fully vaccinated rates ranging from 81-90%; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That according to OurWorldinData.org, some OAS Member States are unprepared with regards to vaccine distribution in the event of another pandemic, as Latin American and Caribbean countries have accounted for 28.2% of deaths worldwide, as of January 2022;

That some OAS Member States have had significantly slower vaccine distribution rates than other OAS Member States, as many did during the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic,

- 1. To commend the work that has been done by all Member States in vaccine procurement/distribution throughout the pandemic.
- 2. To create a summit consisting of all OAS countries called the PPSOAS (Pandemic Prevention Summit of the Organization of American States), with these common goals in mind:
 - a. Organizing a yearly summit that discusses vaccine distribution and procurement.
 - b. Informing OAS member states on safety measures to better protect their citizens.
 - c. Creating a plan for future pandemic outbreaks and how early vaccine procurement will be handled.
 - d. Using the states that have higher rates of vaccination and positive responses to health related legislation as examples to encourage other states to adopt similar legislation and practices.
- 3. The summit will be held once yearly, over the course of the second week of August.
- 4. Host countries will vary yearly; however, the countries that demonstrate positive vaccination rates and implement successful plans to combat future outbreaks will receive first bid on hosting the summit for the coming year.
- 5. Due to their successful vaccine distribution numbers during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as positive cultural support towards the vaccine, countries such as Argentina, Canada, and Uruguay can join Chile as examples of successful vaccination procurement and distribution.

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RECOMMENDATION TO ABOLISH VACCINE CORRUPTION THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A HEMISPHERIC REGIMEN

Special Committee

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of the Bahamas

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

HAVING SEEN:

Article 31 of the OAS Charter, which urges the Inter-American cooperation for integral development to be "the common and joint responsibility of the Member States, within the framework of the democratic principles and the institutions of the inter-American system" and 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 32 of the OAS Charter, which states "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 37 of the OAS Charter, which states that 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 38 of the OAS Charter, which declares that 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";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

OAS Resolution CP/RES. 1165 (2312/21) "Reaffirming the value of inter-American solidarity and cooperation for the elimination of COVID-19 from the Hemisphere and the globe";

OAS Resolution CP/RES 1187 (2350/21) takes into account "the advances in the development of vaccines against COVID-19, their widespread availability, application, and effectiveness in the host country of the OAS"; and

CONSIDERING:

That the region's distribution of vaccines is dependent upon the autonomy of certified physicians, and a lack of certification will lead to a state of corruption toward the legitimacy of administering the COVID 19 vaccine;

The distribution of the COVID 19 vaccine steadies the spread of the global pandemic, through the development of an increase in vaccine rates, reduction in contractions, and misconceptions,

- 1. To commend the Member States for their ongoing efforts in combating the unprecedented global pandemic and their continued support towards the achievement of economic prosperity.
- 2. To call upon Member States to voluntarily denounce misleading information, corruption, and fallacies in relation to the COVID 19 vaccine:
 - a. Ensuring the legitimacy of the credentials of those administering vaccines.
 - i. Physicians' rights to administer vaccines will be certified by the local health department.
 - b. Ensuring the vaccination status of each citizen falls under current Ministry of Health and Wellness guidelines.
 - c. Reassure citizens and Member States of the COVID 19 vaccines' safety.
- 3. To work towards implementing a regimen that allows for the distribution of vaccines to be accessible to all islands:
 - a. The Ministry of Health and Wellness will host vaccination sites where doses are administered in each island to ensure Bahamians are protected.
 - b. Funding for vaccine distribution will be given to the Ministry of Health and Wellness by the Government of The Bahamas.

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STRATEGY TO PROTECT THE TOURISM INDUSTRY IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE FROM FUTURE PANDEMICS

Special Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Guatemala

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 95(a) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which charges the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) with the duty to: "Formulate and recommend to the General Assembly a strategic plan which sets forth policies, programs, and courses of action in matters of cooperation for integral development, within the framework of the general policy and priorities defined by the General Assembly";

Article 95(c) of the OAS Charter, which directs the CIDI 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 37 of the OAS Charter, which states, "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";

Chapter 3 Article 17 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which states, "Member states reaffirm that the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is a fundamental right of all persons without discrimination and they recognize that health is an essential condition for social inclusion and cohesion, integral development, and economic growth with equity";

Article 3 of the OAS Charter, which states, "Every State has the right to choose, without external interference, its political, economic, and social system and to organize itself in the way best suited to it, and has the duty to abstain from intervening in the affairs of another State. Subject to the foregoing, the American States shall cooperate fully among themselves, independently of the nature of their political, economic, and social systems";

RECOGNIZING:

The mission of the Culture and Tourism Section of the OAS, which is "to support the development of tangible and intangible cultural and tourism assets and cement new and established links between the tourism and culture sectors to enhance the contribution of both sectors to economic and social development in OAS member states";

The likelihood of future pandemics and the need to prepare now to establish systems and protocols to ensure the economic security of the Western Hemisphere moving forward;

The potential of future disruptions in the tourism sector as Latin America and the Caribbean continue to become more dependent on this market, which grew more than 44 billion dollars between 2008 to 2018 according to the World Bank; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

By the 41% GDP output decrease in Latin America and 58% decrease in the Caribbean during 2020 as a result of tourism closures during the COVID-19 pandemic. These losses are especially significant because 26% of GDP output in the Caribbean and 10% in Latin America are dependent on the tourism sector, according to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

- 1. To commend Member States for their diligent cooperation with the Inter-American Committee on Tourism (CITUR) in enacting policies that have protected the travel and tourism sector throughout the global pandemic.
- 2. To encourage each Member State through its respective Ministry of Tourism, Chamber of Commerce, or other like-minded institutions to create training infrastructure which would provide instruction for local businesses, as well as businesses in the transportation industry to help them succeed during times of public health crisis. Such training would include:
 - a. The dissemination of known data on disease symptoms and methods of transmission.
 - b. The implementation of suggested sanitation practices.
 - c. The proper use of protective gear, social distancing, and quarantining.
 - d. How to access government publications on public health and travel requirements.
- 3. To encourage the Ministers of Tourism, Chamber of Commerce, or other like-minded institutions from each Member State to convene annually to share best practices in the tourism industry.
- 4. To recommend that Member States create a sufficient reserve of emergency equipment, based on data collected during the COVID-19 pandemic, including:
 - a. Personal protective equipment (PPE), such as masks, face shields, gloves, sanitation equipment, or any other items deemed necessary by the Member State.
 - b. Funds for the distribution of such PPE.
- 5. To recommend that Member States support proposals to establish hemispheric vaccination programs, insofar as such proposals do not infringe on the sovereignty of Member States.

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6. To propose that each Member State, through CITUR, report on the status of its strategy to promote and protect the tourism industry in the Western Hemisphere during the General Assembly of 2024.

STRATEGIC PLAN OF ACTION FOR FUTURE PANDEMICS

Special Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Bolivia

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

The Charter of the Organization of American States recognizes that representative democracy and diplomacy is an indispensable condition for the stability, security, peace, and development in the hemispheric region of American States;

Chapter VII, Article 30 of the 1948 Charter states that, "The Member States, inspired by the principles of inter-American solidarity and cooperation, pledge themselves to a united effort to ensure international social justice in their relations and integral development for their peoples, as conditions essential to peace and security";

The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the high dependence of Latin America and the Caribbean on imports of health technologies and equipment from outside the region, the vulnerability of global supply chains in emergency situations, and the imbalance in vaccine research, development, production, and distribution capacity in the Americas;

ALARMED BY:

The urgent need for establishing health facilities in Latin America and the Caribbean for the production of safe, effective, quality, and inexpensive vaccines and other health related technologies and equipment that meet the technical requirements which may be accomplished through regional collaboration and the exchange of relevant scientific and technical knowledge on mutually agreed terms;

GUIDED BY:

The Strategic Plan of the Pan American Health Organization for 2020-2025 developed by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), to ensure the development of future heath facilities, technologies, and equipment for the countries recognized by PAHO as in need of assistance;

REAFFIRMING:

The importance of financial and technological assistance needed with in the hemispheric region to allow Member States, especially the most vulnerable and developing nations, to mitigate the economic losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, for the purpose of strengthening hemispheric stability and security and to prepare for future pandemics and other threats to health; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

Resolutions CD59.R3 "Increase in the production capacity of essential medicines and health technologies" and CD59.R13 "Reinvigorating immunizations as a public good for universal health" approved by the 59th Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), in its session of September 2021 which outlined a plan forward in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic to prepare for and to decrease the chance of future pandemics,

- 1. To promote dialogue, collaboration, and cooperation among all the Member States through the development and creation of a subcommittee under the Committee on Hemispheric Security with the purpose of ensuring progress is made toward timely, universal, and equitable access to quality-assured, safe, effective, affordable, and essential medicines, health technologies, and personal protective equipment that are necessary in the time of public health emergencies as well as for long-term security planning for future pandemics, while ensuring the fair distribution of those medicines and technology in event of a public health crisis.
 - a. The purpose of the Pandemic Watch subcommittee will also have the Member States engage in dialog and collaboration on the topic of health and upcoming diseases in order to ensure all Member States are aware of upcoming disease and health related issues within Member States of the OAS for the purpose of combating and containing rising and upcoming diseases for the shared security of the organization.
 - b. The Pandemic Watch subcommittee will be composed of delegates chosen from each Member State that will meet bi-annually, with the first meeting being at the Real Plaza Hotel in La Paz, Bolivia if it is deemed safe by PAHO health officials, or through a virtual meeting hosted at the OAS Headquarters in Washington, D.C.
 - c. The first meeting of the Pandemic Watch subcommittee will tentatively be held from June 15-17, 2022.
 - d. From this first meeting, the Member States will elect a representative to go before the OAS General Committee to report on the findings and concerns of the subcommittee.
- 2. To call upon Member States to be fully aware of the health related updates PAHO releases so that dialogue with PAHO can continue smoothly and effectively, with the purpose of enacting and enforcing the guidance given by PAHO to ensure stability and security can still be maintained in the event of a disease outbreak.
- 3. To urge Member States to follow the Strategic Plan of the PAHO for 2020-2025, with a view of strengthening hemispheric coordination and cooperation to our greatest ability in order to be on watch for early signs of the next pandemic.
- 4. To urge Member States to continue to make the greatest efforts possible to continue strengthening their investment in their health technology and equipment, which allows for improvement and expansion of national and regional capacities for the development and production of necessary technology and equipment to fight the next pandemic, and overcome our region's vulnerability and external dependency during global health emergencies, allowing the achievement of adequate preparedness and response capabilities in our region.

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their health programs.

To call on international financial institutions to provide concessionary financing to developing countries, particularly small states, within the OAS based upon vulnerability, to mitigate economic losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and to boost those economies in order to assist them in the development of

CREATION OF A STRATEGIC COOPERATIVE INITIATIVE FOR PANDEMIC PREVENTION MEDIATION

Special Committee Top
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Barbados

Topic no. 3 of Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

ACKNOWLEDGING:

Article 1 of the Charter of the Organization of American States and the right of the people of the America's to a secure and just democracy, that democracy is the key to social, political, and economic successes relevant to the prevention and control of the current global pandemic outbreak of the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) virus;

That the goals of the Social Charter of the Americas Article 17 and the Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017 stating all people have the right to the highest possible standard of health and that member states must be responsible for and committed to the greater availability and access to quality health services, especially in light of global health crises, member states must actively work to promote health care and "strengthen their capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to chronic non-communicable diseases, current and emerging infectious diseases, and environmental health concerns";

That Member States must commit to strengthening regional and national cooperation according to Article 22 of the Social Charter of the Americas which states that members are obligated to commit to regional cooperation and "institutional capacity for disaster prevention, preparedness and response," in attempt to create a more efficient and effective potential to prevent, prepare, and respond to any natural disaster;

The importance of Article 23 of the Social Charter of the Americas which highlights the importance of "scientific and technological developments" to help reduce poverty and overall improve the standard of living, states must encourage scientific infrastructure and ensure the continuation of valuable education and scientific talent in order to spark advancement within individual societies and increase international information sharing and cooperation;

CONSIDERING:

That Independent Task Force Report No. 78, Improving Pandemic Preparedness: Lessons From COVID-19 Produced by the Council on Foreign Relations, states that cooperation and coordination is crucial to each state's combat against the COVID-19 virus and that sharing information, knowledge, medical equipment, and other resources are key to a swift recovery of all member states.

Close cooperation between each member state and organizations like the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Bank are essential to maintaining not only a strong health care response but an economic relief response as well;

That the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA) study, Preparing Society against Future Pandemics, argues that the effectiveness of the vaccines and the importance of being able to obtain them, noting that wealthier countries such as Chile and Canada were able to afford vaccines much easier than poorer countries who suffered due to high prices and an inability

to negotiate to procure needed medical equipment to combat the any virus and assist the healthcare sectors of every member state;

KEEPING IN MIND:

The millions of victims in the Western Hemisphere who experienced a lack of relief, nutrition, and resources as a result of a failed supply chain estimated by a December 13th, 2021 report done by the Council on Foreign Relations

The 4.5 million deaths from the COVID-19 virus of which the Western Hemisphere contributed 46.9% of, with the US leading the world death toll at 650,000 according to a United Press International report from August 29th, 2021;

The report, Preparing Society against Future Pandemics, from the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations (IFPMA) which lays the groundwork for more "equitable access to pandemic products" including improvement in infrastructure, supply chains, sustainable manufacturing, and increased global cooperation to detect and prevent future pandemics more effectively; and

GUIDED BY:

The need for member states to contain the spread and fight the effects of COVID-19, and the willingness to take the necessary steps to prepare for future outbreaks and be more resilient to the issues posed by the current pandemic climate,

- 1. To encourage the Inter-American council for Integral Development and the Inter-American Agency of Cooperation and Development to establish a Pandemic Prevention and Response Committee of the Americas (PPRA) consisting of the Chief Medical Advisors of each member state for the purpose of holding quarterly meetings to discuss and keep tabs on emerging diseases and issues that might arise with such a problem, as well as working directly with the Health Departments of each member state to exchange information and data to address their most pressing needs
- 2. To urge Member States to focus their policies more on the remoteness and resilience of the most vulnerable and impoverished sectors of their societies through measures such as:
 - a. Private-public partnerships to increase outreach.
 - b. A pandemic specific relief fund in case of a future emergency.
 - c. Pandemic specific policies to safeguard the jobs of citizens who are unable to work under pandemic conditions.
 - d. Medical equipment stockpiles through which countries can request needed supplies at a reduced cost.
 - e. Joint negotiation and purchase of critical medical equipment with other Member States to reduce the costs for those in the most need.

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pandemic related issues.

3. To urge all Member States to invest further into the health sector to expand health care as well as investing further in scientific infrastructure that will advance findings in science and specifically in pandemic prevention such as vaccinations and strategic plans to respond to certain levels of disease threat. Infrastructure maintenance must be a focal point for member states as the supply chain is interdependent and each state must have a functional supply chain that can resist the hardships of

CREATION OF A MULTILATERAL NETWORK FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE HEALTH IN THE AMERICAS (MNISHA) TO PREVENT FUTURE PANDEMICS

Special Committee Topic No. 3 of the Agenda Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegations of Costa Rica and United Mexican States

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 30 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which states: "The Member States, inspired by the principles of Inter-American solidarity and cooperation, pledge themselves to a united effort to ensure international social justice in their relations and integral development for their peoples, as conditions essential to peace and security," and 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";

Article 17 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which states that "Member states affirm their commitment to promote healthy lifestyles and to strengthen their capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to chronic non-communicable diseases, current and emerging infectious diseases, and environmental health concerns," and that "Member states also commit to promote their peoples' well-being through prevention and care strategies and, in partnership with public or private organizations, to improve access to health care";

Article 23 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which stresses that "Scientific and technological development helps to reduce poverty, improve living standards, and achieve integral development," and therefore "it is necessary to increase investment in education, scientific infrastructure, and applied research, as well as to take steps to promote and develop effective scientific talent and ensure that the increase in productivity and other advantages resulting from application of innovations benefit everyone";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

Guiding principle (d) of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which states that "Disaster risk reduction requires an all-of-society engagement and partnership. It also requires empowerment and inclusive, accessible and nondiscriminatory participation (...)";

Guiding principle (j) of the aforementioned document, which states that "addressing underlying disaster risk factors through disaster risk-informed public and private investments is more cost-effective than primary reliance on post-disaster response and recovery, and contributes to sustainable development" and guiding principle (m), which states that developing countries "need adequate, sustainable and timely provision of support, including through finance, technology transfer and capacity-building from developed countries (...)";

EMPHASIZING:

The agreement between the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the OAS that established the objective of enhancing cooperation between both institutions in the area of social inclusion and highlighted the importance of achieving universal health coverage in the Americas through the formulation and execution of social protection policies and more equitable and integrated health systems to move towards universal health coverage;

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That COVID-19 is a zoonotic disease, which according to the definition given by the World Health Organization (WHO) means that it has been transmitted "from a non-human animal to humans";

That about 75 percent of all new and emerging human infectious diseases are zoonotic and that their main drivers are triggered by human activities, such as biodiversity loss and climate change, according to the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES);

FULLY AWARE:

That, according to the OAS portal, the region of Latin America and the Caribbean has been the hardest affected by the COVID-19 crisis, taking into consideration the fact that it is home to 8.4% of the world's population, and accounted for 20.1% of COVID-19 infections and 32% of deaths by the end August 2021. This has placed the region in a critical situation, prompting it to re-evaluate strategies and public policies as well as to shift priorities related to productive, technological, and health capacities; and

RECALLING:

AG/RES. 2979 (LI-O/21) "Strengthening the role of the Organization of American States in advancing disaster resilience in the hemisphere", which invites "OAS member states, permanent observers, and global and regional disaster management agencies to provide official data, including information on the sharing of knowledge, expertise, lessons learned and good practices available to member states through cooperation, for inclusion in the Western Hemisphere database, to be used in facilitating effective preparation, response, and recovery, and so, in advancing resilience in any country that may be experiencing a disaster,"

- 1. To praise the commitment of all Member States to the economic and social recovery of the Americas from the COVID-19 pandemic as well as to the monitoring of the crisis and the support of the most vulnerable countries in the Hemisphere.
- 2. To encourage Member States to continue strengthening the cooperation between the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the OAS, in order to improve countries' capacities to respond to the needs of people with an integrated public health perspective.
- 3. To recommend the creation of a Multilateral Network for the Improvement of Sustainable Health in the Americas (MNISHA) under the PAHO, in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
 - a. The MNISHA will be formed by the Minister of Public Health of each Member State or its equivalent and a team formed by:
 - i. An interdisciplinary group of experts in human health, environmental sciences and animal health designated by the PAHO for a two-year term.
 - ii. Two observers selected by the PAHO and the Department of Sustainable Development (DSD) of the OAS.
- 4. The multilateral network will work on three essential issues and will be focused on, but not limited to, the following lines:
 - a. Comprehensive, informed, and resilient policymaking on health:
 - i. The establishment of principles and guidelines to attain sustainable public health.
 - ii. Scientific research on potential health threats in the human-animal-ecosystems interface.
 - iii. The design of policies to thoroughly address zoonotic diseases and other health threats framed within the human-animal-ecosystems interface.
 - b. The development of technical standards for sustainable public health infrastructure:
 - i. The analysis of new trends, products, technologies, and tools in sustainable health to be implemented in the region and the development of strategies for their application.

- ii. Partnership among countries and organizations to supply knowledge, technology and financial support to developing countries.
- c. Providing health risk evaluation programs, diagnoses of the human-animal-ecosystems interface conditions and specialized consulting for countries that require it, and suggesting a plan of action to strengthen sustainability and resilience in public health and accompanying its execution.
- 5. To suggest an annual virtual meeting allowing all Hemispheric States to share experiences and evaluate the progress achieved by the Network:
 - a. The language would be in English, with translators if necessary.
 - b. The meeting will be attended by the Minister of Public Health of each Member State or its equivalent, the PAHO and DSD observers, and financial supporters.
 - c. The meeting would produce a general report of shared experiences, providing data and relevant information of the meeting results.
- 6. To seek financial support from the PAHO, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the World Bank Group, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the Worldwide Wildlife Fund (WWF), NGOs and voluntary donations from Member States as well as Permanent Observers.

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INTRODUCING THE INTERAMERICAN INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE INSTITUTIONAL TRANSPARENCY AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION IN THE HEMISPHERE TO PREVENT FUTURE PANDEMICS

Special Committee Topic No. 3 of the Agenda Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegations of the United States of America and Belize

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2(e) of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which cites that one of its main purposes is to: "to seek the solution of political, juridical, and economic problems that may arise among them":

Article 30 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, establishes that Member States "pledge themselves to a united effort to ensure international social justice in their relations and integral development for their peoples, as conditions essential to peace and security" and that "integral development encompasses the economic, social, educational, cultural, scientific, and technological field (...)";

Article 31 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which establishes "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 inter-American system (...)";

Article 34 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which marks "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(...)";

CONSIDERING:

In accordance with the COVID dashboard of the John Hopkins University, there were more than 500 million infections that caused more than 6 million deaths, where almost a quarter were registered in the Hemisphere, and that it requires joint efforts in order to create multidimensional mechanisms in the face of future crises of this order;

Realities that new pandemics and new variants of viruses and vectors are likely to mutate in countries where vaccinations are not available or not prepared to handle them, which will inevitably bring new variants to industrialized countries through globalization, against which current vaccinations may not be effective as seen with COVID-19;

RECALLING:

The Pan-American Health Organization's (PAHO) efforts to provide technical cooperation to improve health of the countries of the Americas, as approved by the Permanent Council in Resolution CP/RES. 797 (1293/01;

CP/RES. 1151 (2280/20) "to continue engaging relevant multilateral institutions under the *Joint Summit Working Group* in order to promote coordinated inter-institutional responses and to support national

efforts of Member States in addressing the social, economic, health and security" where Member States resolved to "optimize the use of existing forums, mechanisms, and resources to serve as a coordination platform to address the pandemic and its consequences";

ICHR/RES. 1/2020 Human Rights in any state strategy, policy or measure aimed at dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences" which recommends "In the specific context of the pandemic, Member States have the duty to encourage applied research, innovation and the dissemination of new scientific technologies directly applicable to the fight against the spread of the pathogen and, especially, to the discovery of new treatment alternatives of the same"; and

EMPHASIZING:

That Goal 10 in PAHO'S Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018-2030 focuses on reducing mortality, morbidity, and stigma associated with infectious diseases that exacerbate poor health, poverty, and inequities in the Americas;

World Health Organization COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan: operational planning guidelines to support country preparedness and response (2020),

- 1. To congratulate the Member States for their commitments and efforts in the creation of projects and preventive mechanisms for the protection and guarantee of health and quality of life, as well as the strengthening of existing instruments to increase scope and efficiency of their application.
- 2. To encourage Member States to continue promoting policies regarding integral development, more specifically in the health system and the crisis the region suffered due to the COVID 19 and other pandemic diseases that affect the quality of life of the population.
- 3. To implement the Inter-Safe initiative aimed at establishing mechanisms to prevent future pandemics through improvements in the management and design of the information exchange among Member States and the Pan American Health Organization in order to strengthen the joint response in the case of a major threat to public health.
- 4. The initiative will be developed as follows:
 - a. The Executive Committee shall be in charge of the initiative together with the Secretary Department of Health and Human Services or its equivalent for the communication between the PAHO and the Member States.
 - b. To gather information about unknown or unusual infectious disease, in order to facilitate the work of health bodies in the emergency of a sanitary crisis; Member States should provide regular data from the representative of each Member State as well as from non- governmental organizations selected by the PAHO according to their criteria.
 - c. The personnel involved in collecting the data on a periodic basis must receive prior training by the PAHO personnel in each country. It is not limiting but the staff must be trained in epidemiology, health services, water and sanitation, logistics and communications.
 - d. Participants will be requested to send the information needed April 7 of 2024, in commemoration of International Health Day and start up from the next Pan- American Sanitary Conference in September 2022.
 - e. Communication that is intended to exchange must include but not be limited to data, statistics, symptomatology, place and date of the situation. This allows the PAHO to take specific actions that lead to the prevention of the spread of unknown diseases.

- 5. The information collected, as main value element of this initiative, will be analyzed by the Executive Committee with the support and expertise of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget and Administration who will handle a proposal based on their technical and scientific knowledge to the Member State being affected in order to assist them in the correct management of the issue.
- 6. To ask for technical support from PAHO, the World Health Organization and NGOs related to the topic and funding from the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank, as well as from any voluntary donations from Member States and Observer Members and other stakeholders.

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STRATEGIES FOR MASK PREPAREDNESS

Special Committee
Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Canada

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda Draft

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 17 of the Social Charter of the Americas, in which the Member States "reaffirm that the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is a fundamental right of all persons without discrimination and they recognize that health is an essential condition for social inclusion and cohesion, integral development, and economic growth with equity...affirm their commitment to promote healthy lifestyles and to strengthen their capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to chronic non-communicable diseases, current and emerging infectious diseases, and environmental health concerns. Member states also commit to promote their peoples' well-being through prevention and care strategies and, in partnership with public or private organizations, to improve access to health care";

Article 33 of the Social Charter of the Americas, in which the Member States are "inspired by the principles of inter-American solidarity and cooperation, pledge themselves to a united effort to ensure international social justice in their relations and integral development for their peoples, as conditions essential to peace and security. Integral development encompasses, *inter alia*, the economic, social, educational, cultural, scientific, technological, labor, health, and environmental fields, through which the goals that each country sets for accomplishing it should be achieved. Inter-American cooperation is a common and shared responsibility in the framework of democratic principles and the institutions of the inter-American system";

The Preamble of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, in which Members States agree that "the promotion and protection of human rights is a basic prerequisite for the existence of a democratic society, and recognizing the importance of the continuous development and strengthening of the inter-American human rights system for the consolidation of democracy";

RECALLING:

AG/RES. 2977 (LI-O/21), "Developments in the COVID-19 Pandemic and its Impact on the Hemisphere", which discusses the plan to combat the COVID-19 Pandemic, and calls "on Member States and OAS Permanent Observers to coordinate common positions in Multilateral Organizations aimed at facilitating jointly the post-pandemic recovery, paying special attention to the economic, productive, and financial difficulties aggravated by the pandemic" and "To urge Member States to make the greatest possible efforts to continue strengthening public investment in health, which allows for improvement and expansion of national and regional capacities for the development and production of raw materials, vaccines, diagnostic tests and therapeutics, in order to achieve a speedy recovery of regional health sectors and economies, and overcome our region's vulnerability and external dependency during global health emergencies, allowing the achievement of adequate preparedness and response capabilities in our region";

CONSIDERING:

The efforts that the UN, OAS, PAHO, and individual Member States have made in combating the coronavirus and providing citizens of the Western Hemisphere with proper protection equipment; and

EMPHASIZING:

That smaller protective mask producers in the Western Hemisphere have a stockpile of over 280 million masks that could be used in this effort;

That the World Health Organization has confirmed that one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of the coronavirus is the proper use of masks;

That the World Health Organization has confirmed 1% of confirmed people with COVID have died,

- 1. To recognize and congratulate Member States on their diligent work in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2. To encourage Member State to purchase protective masks from smaller mask producers within the Western Hemisphere.
- 3. To encourage the cooperation among Member States to get protective masks in local hospitals, schools, and places of worship to store them within Member States.
- 4. To encourage and help Member States effectively distribute protective masks to citizens when the Member States' requirements for a pandemic are met by helping organize mask drives at local hospitals, schools, and places of worship.

Approved for form an	nd substance:	
	(Signature of	Faculty Advisor)
Cosignatories: 1		
	(Signature of Delegate)	(Country Represented)
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ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PANDEMIC RESPONSE COMMITTEE

Special Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of El Salvador

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

HAVING SEEN:

Article 3 of the Charter of the Organization American States, which states, "The Member States, inspired by the principles of the interAmerican solidarity and cooperation, pledge themselves to a united effort to ensure international social justice . . . ";

Section 3 of the Plan of Action of the Social Charters of the Americas, which seeks "To progress toward universal access to health care and universal coverage of comprehensive and quality health care, with equity, accompanied by social protection models in health care for populations in situations of vulnerability.";

Section 4 of the Plan of Action of the Social Charter of the Americas, which asserts that "Each Member State has the primary responsibility for its development and, in choosing its economic and social system within a framework of democracy, should further the establishment of a more just economic and social order that will enable and contribute to the fulfillment of the individual.";

Section 3.1 of the Plan of Action of the Social Charter of the Americas, which seeks to "Strengthen the quality and equity of health care systems and seek to ensure their universal coverage through primary care, preventive and promotion actions, and social protection mechanisms.";

CONSIDERING:

The COVAX program, under the World Health Organization (WHO), which states that "the global pandemic has already caused the loss of hundreds of thousands of lives and disrupted the lives of billions more:

The pandemic has left several member states unable to combat and recover from the pandemic resulting in severe economic loses, COVID-19 cases, and casualties resulting in 2,703,420 deaths in the Americas as of 1 Apr 2022 and reported by the WHO;

Member states have been faced with uneven distribution of resources to include medical supplies and equipment, personnel, and vaccines; and

RECOGNIZING:

There has been no standardization across member states in actions taken to combat COVID-19, to include travel restrictions, resource availability, healthcare system, or pandemic protocol, which led to the unequal impact of COVID-19 throughout the region,

RESOLVES:

1. To express gratitude and appreciation for what the member states have done to best combat the global pandemic in their states.

- 2. To publish a guide for the purpose of establishing procedures that member states can follow to combat and respond to pandemics:
 - a. This guide may be used to cover anywhere from a limited endemic that may only exist within a member state to global pandemics.
 - i. The guide will consist of actions that can be taken such as mask wear, quarantine and isolation procedures, and vaccine protocols.
 - ii. The guide will establish travel protocols and guidelines that member states can take and will vary based on the severity of the pandemic.
 - iii. The guide will act as a QRM (Quick Reference Manual) that will provide suggested policies for member states to follow.
 - iv. Member states will not be required by any official authority to follow policies set by the guide.
 - b. To instruct the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to create a committee to oversee the creation and approval of this guide.
 - i. The committee should consist of infectious disease specialists, epidemiologists, and other science and medical professionals as appropriate.
 - ii. The committee will seek participation as well from the WHO and each member state.

Approved for i	form and substance:	(Signature of I	Faculty Advisor)
Cosignatories:	1(Signature	e of Delegate)	(Country Represented)
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