

**2024 Washington Model Organization of  
American States General Assembly**

# **Washington Packet**

## **Third Committee**



**Washington Model**

**Organization of American States**

Institute for Diplomatic Dialogue in the Americas



**OAS**

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**April 8-12, 2024**

**ADDRESSING DIGITAL DISPARITIES AND COVID PANDEMIC EFFECTS TO ENSURE EQUAL EDUCATIONAL ACCESS FOR MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES**

Third Committee

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Guatemala,

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

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

Article 34 (l) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which urges that “The Member States agree to devote their utmost efforts to accomplishing “urban conditions that offer the opportunity for a healthful, productive, and full life” amongst other basic goals;

Article 95 (a) of the OAS Charter establishes that member states should “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 51 of the Charter of Organization of American States (OAS), which states that “The Member States will develop science and technology through educational, research, and technological development activities and information and dissemination programs. They will stimulate activities in the field of technology for the purpose of adapting it to the needs of their integral development. They will organize their cooperation in these fields efficiently and will substantially increase exchange of knowledge, in accordance with national objectives and laws and with treaties in force”;

Article 52 of the Charter of Organization of American States (OAS) states that “The Member States, with due respect for the individuality of each of them, agree to promote cultural exchange as an effective means of consolidating inter-American understanding; and they recognize that regional integration programs should be strengthened by close ties in the fields of education, science, and culture”;

Article 9 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter (IADC) asserts “The elimination of all forms of discrimination, especially gender, ethnic and race discrimination, as well as diverse forms of intolerance, the promotion and protection of human rights of indigenous peoples and migrants, and respect for ethnic, cultural and religious diversity in the Americas contribute to strengthening democracy and citizen participation”;

CONSIDERING:

The strain certain individuals in Member States undergo to obtain access to computers and the internet;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

Disparities in technology are far more seen in minority groups, homeless individuals, and low-income individuals as brought to light during the COVID-19 Pandemic;

The increasing demand for access to the internet due to the influx of virtual programs, virtual schooling, and online communication;

FULLY AWARE OF:

The Department of Human Development and Education (DHDE) duties and their use of the Educational Portal of America to carry out educational and sustainable development plans;

The Competitiveness, Innovation, and Technology Section of the Department of Economic Development's plans to advance economic growth with technology;

The negative attitudes certain individuals in marginalized communities have towards technology and its advancement;

DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT:

The fact that approximately 170 million children were deprived of in-person education for roughly one out of two school days between March 2020 and March 2022 according to the World Bank result brief "Tackling the Learning Crisis in Latin America and the Caribbean";

The accessibility to technological devices for marginalized communities in Member States and the effects that the COVID-19 Pandemic had on technological advancement;

The measures currently being taken to accommodate persons in marginalized communities who need access to the internet; and

RECALLING:

E/2021/33 "Committee for Development Policy", United Nations General Assembly (2021), which recognizes and reaffirms that "Support should be provided for a sustainable and inclusive transformation of the economies of least developed countries, including through building productive capacities in the health and education sectors, investing in digital infrastructure, developing science, technology and innovation capabilities, designing and implementing green industrial policies, and pursuing the diversification of economic and export structures.";

E/2021/33 "Committee for Development Policy", United Nations General Assembly (2021), which reiterates "The Committee recommends that the Council call upon Member States and international organizations to accord priority access to special modalities for least developed countries within the support measures proposed to address the impacts of COVID-19",

RESOLVES:

1. To applaud the OAS on current efforts being made to provide remedies for the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on members of marginalized communities, as well as the Inter-American Development Bank for providing funding to middle and lower-income individuals in the Americas.
2. To request that organizations such as the Inter-American Development Bank fund services designated for ensuring equal education access to marginalized communities by:
  - a. Conducting a need-base analysis to disburse funds to Member States that have a considerable number of families without access to stable internet connection by The Department of Financial Services under the Secretariat for Administration and Finance in the OAS.

- b. Having Member States, with the help of NGOs, complete a formal application process to access these funds, which can be requested at a maximum of three times per year. The request must be approved by The Department of Financial Services and The Department of Human Development, Education, and Employment of the OAS. Examples of how to use this fund:
  - i. Offer programs to teach marginalized individuals' technological literacy as some may not have the necessary skills to navigate the internet.
  - ii. Offer free classes or workshops tailored to individuals in marginalized communities on how to use educational technology, including computers and the internet, and its importance.
  - iii. Provide facilities that can be transformed into Cyber Cafés in lower-income areas.
  - iv. Advertise the growing need for internet connectivity in modern society.
  - v. Fund a Technological Education Assistance Plan for marginalized communities by having schools introduce technological skills into the curriculum.
  - vi. Have High Schools and Higher Education institutions offer after-school programs such as robotics, data analytics, and other extracurricular activities to promote the development of technological skills through peer-to-peer interaction.
  - vii. Provide Government subsidies to schools to create device lending programs for students including laptops, tablets, portable internet modems, and an electronic interlibrary loan system for academic resources.
  
- 3. To recommend Member States allocate a minimum of 4% of their education budget to help schools in marginalized communities that have had their students' education significantly disrupted by the COVID-19 Pandemic with an enhanced digitized curriculum that will enable students to succeed in modern society.

Approved for form and substance: \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature of Delegate)

(Country Represented)

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**THE OAS ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO PREVENT CRIMES  
AGAINST HUMANITY**

Second Committee  
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Ecuador

Topic No .1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 3(g) of the OAS Charter, which declares that “The American States condemn war of aggression; victory does not give rights”

Article 28 of the OAS Charter, which declares that “Every act of aggression by a State against the territorial integrity or the inviolability of the territory or against the sovereignty or political independence of an American State shall be considered an act of aggression against the other American States.”

Article 106 of the OAS Charter, which states that “There shall be an Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, whose principal function shall be to promote the observance and protection of human rights and to serve as a consultative organ of the Organization in these matters.

RECALLING:

AG/RES. 2 (XXXVII-E/09), “Suspension of the Right of Honduras to Participate in the Organization of the American States”, which emphasizes that all Heads of State must fulfill their duties as an OAS member and responsibility to uphold the Charter concerning protecting human rights domestically and internationally, as well as maintaining democracy.

CP/RES. 1240/23/rev. 1, “Actions against the Rule of Law that put at risk the transition of power of government in Guatemala”,

CP/RES. 1235/23/rev. 1, “Promotion and Strengthening of Good Practices in the Matter of Fighting Sexual Harassment”, which reasserts the advocacy of women in the fight against sexual harassment and violence, and urges the OAS to update the laws and take action against perpetrators of sexual harassment for justice for women”

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The 2022 Report of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States “The Responsibility to Protect and the Organization of American States: a Path Forward for Atrocity Prevention and Response in the Americas”;

CONSIDERING:

The commitment of Member States to the principles of the OAS Charter, including the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

The grave nature of crimes against humanity and their impact on global peace and security;

The growing significance of international efforts to prevent and address crimes against humanity;

**BEARING IN MIND:**

The importance of cooperation among Member States and international organizations to prevent, investigate, and prosecute crimes against humanity effectively;

The responsibility of the international community, including regional organizations such as the OAS, in preventing and addressing crimes against humanity;

**NOTING:**

The persistence of crimes against humanity in various parts of the world, including in the Western Hemisphere, and the need for concerted action to prevent and combat such brutalities; and

**DEEPLY CONCERNED:**

That Latin America experiences at least 33% of the world's homicidal violence, despite being home to just 8% of the world's population, according to Instituto Igarapé;

That in 2016, 17 of the 20 most homicidal countries and 47 of the 50 most homicidal cities on the planet were located in the region, according to Instituto Igarapé;

That, on average, more than half of the people in South America (56%) and half in Central America and the Caribbean (50%) report fearing violence, according to the Institute for Economics and Peace,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To affirm the commitment of Member States to uphold the principles of the OAS Charter and international law, including the responsibility to protect populations from crimes against humanity:
  - a. Ensure that domestic legislation incorporates provisions criminalizing crimes against humanity and establish effective mechanisms for investigation, prosecution, and punishment of perpetrators.
  - b. Enact national laws to provide reparations to victims of crimes against humanity and their families.
  - c. Conduct public awareness campaigns and outreach initiatives to inform the population about the importance of combating crimes against humanity and the role of national mechanisms in achieving accountability and justice.
2. To stress the importance of strengthening the capacity of Member States to prevent, investigate, and prosecute crimes against humanity:
  - a. Hold perpetrators of crimes against humanity accountable for their actions through fair and impartial trials.

- b. Member States should cooperate with international and regional tribunals, such as the International Criminal Court, and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in cases where national systems are unable or unwilling to prosecute.
3. To call upon Member States to ratify and fully implement relevant international treaties and instruments related to the prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity, including the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as outlined in the resolution adopted at the second plenary session of the OAS, held on June 4, 2014:
  - a. Member States should engage in diplomatic efforts to encourage other countries to ratify and implement relevant treaties and instruments.
  - b. Launch national and regional advocacy and awareness campaigns to highlight the importance of ratifying and implementing international treaties related to crimes against humanity.
  - c. Establish peer pressure mechanisms or peer review processes among Member States to encourage compliance with international obligations related to crimes against humanity.
4. To encourage Member States to establish or strengthen national mechanisms for the investigation and prosecution of crimes against humanity, ensuring the independence, impartiality, and effectiveness of such mechanisms:
  - a. Member States should establish specialized units or prosecutorial offices dedicated to investigating and prosecuting crimes against humanity.
  - b. Provide training and capacity-building programs for judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officials, and other relevant stakeholders involved in handling cases of crimes against humanity.
  - c. Ensure the establishment of robust victim and witness protection programs to safeguard individuals who come forward to report crimes against humanity and testify in judicial proceedings.

- 5. To request the Secretary General of the OAS to continue supporting Member States in their efforts to prevent and address crimes against humanity, including through the provision of technical assistance, and coordination of regional initiatives:
  - a. Develop and implement early warning systems to identify and address situations where populations are at risk of crimes against humanity.
  - b. Offer incentives or financial aid and development assistance on the condition that Member States ratify and implement international treaties related to crimes against humanity.

Approved for form and substance: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature of Delegate)      \_\_\_\_\_ (Country Represented)  
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**REDUCING VIOLENCE IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE THROUGH EDUCATIONAL  
PROJECTS AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS**

Third Committee

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Colombia

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2(f) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which states that the fundamental goal is “To promote, by cooperative action, their economic, social, and cultural development.” and Article 2(g), which stresses the need to “eradicate extreme poverty, which constitutes an obstacle to the full democratic development of the peoples of the hemisphere”;

Chapter VII, Article 31 of the Charter of the OAS, which states “Inter-American cooperation for integral development is the common and joint responsibility of the Member States, within the framework of the democratic principles and the institutions of the InterAmerican system. It should include the economic, social, educational, cultural, scientific, and technological fields, support the achievement of national objectives of the Member States, and respect the priorities established by each country in its development plans, without political ties or conditions.”, and Article 32, which states, “Inter-American cooperation for integral development should be continuous and preferably channeled through multilateral organizations, without prejudice to bilateral cooperation between Member 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.”;

Chapter VII, Article 34 of the Charter of the OAS, there is an agreement to devote the utmost effort to accomplish goals such as: “fair wages, employment opportunities, and acceptable working conditions for all” and “rapid eradication of illiteracy and expansion of educational opportunities for all”;

Article 50 of the Charter of the OAS, which states, “the Member States will give special attention to the eradication of illiteracy [and] will strengthen adult and vocational education systems.”;

Article 3 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which states that Member States are “committed to combating the serious problems of poverty, social exclusion, and inequity and to address their underlying causes and their consequence.” and “will strengthen and foster policies and programs directed towards the achievement of societies that offer all people opportunities to benefit from sustainable development with equity and social inclusion”;

Article 8 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which states that “The promotion of decent work, the fight against unemployment and underemployment, as well as addressing the challenges of informal labor are essential elements for achieving economic development with equity.”;

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

Article 1(2) of the Social Charter Plan of Action, which states the need to “Promote employment generation and access to decent, dignified, and productive employment, among others, by fostering greater

coherence between educational, economic and labor policies, the establishment of new enterprises, and gradual formalization of the informal economy.”;

#### CONSIDERING:

That, according to the United Nations Global Study on Homicide, “In 2021, young men aged 15–29 years in the Americas were those most at risk of homicide, with an estimated rate of 53.6 male victims per 100,000 male population in that age group – twice the average male homicide rate in the Americas (27) and more than five times the global male homicide rate of 9.3 per 100,000 male population” and “the preponderance of male victims starts to become apparent from 10–14 years of age in the Americas.”;

That the Wilson Center Reports on the Americas highlights a lack of opportunity and economic despair that has led to “the world’s highest homicide rates, rampant extortion, communities controlled by youth gangs, domestic violence, and impunity for most crimes”;

Programs such as Homeboy, a church funded program whose purpose is to work with at-risk youth to intervene, rehabilitate and reintroduce gang members in East Los Angeles and GRASP (Gang Rescue and Support Project), a peer-run intervention program that works with youth who are at-risk of gang involvement or are presently active in gangs, helps families of gang victims, and serves as a youth advocate, have seen tremendous success in their areas of work through deliberate care. In 2022 Homeboy had 593 Trainees who served in the 18-month training program, 4,998 Community Clients Served, 493 Substance Abuse Sessions, 1,986 1-on-1 Legal Consultations, 2,762 Mental Health Sessions, 5,517 Case Management Appointments, and 6,464 Tattoo Removal Treatments all while being a non-profit organization.;

The Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) is composed of the Office of the Executive Secretary for Integral Development and the Department of Human Development, Education and Employment, which supports the efforts of member states to increase access to quality education and life-long learning opportunities for all; and

#### TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The World Bank Organization is currently managing projects across the Americas, to include: 384 projects on rural services and infrastructure, 189 on urban services and housing for the poor, 197 on pollution management and environmental health, 214 on climate change, and 223 on education;

The International Labor Organization’s statistics, there are high unemployment rates of youth (15-24) being 21.4% due to lack of opportunity and 1 of every 2 workers is enduring “informal conditions.”;

Programs such as Homeboy, a church funded program to work with at-risk youth and to intervene, rehabilitate and reintroduce gang members in East Los Angeles and GRASP (Gang Rescue and Support Project), a peer-run intervention program that works with youth who are at-risk of gang involvement or are presently active in gangs, helps families of gang victims, and serves as a youth advocate, have seen tremendous success in their areas of work through deliberate care. In 2022 Homeboy had 593 Trainees who served in the 18-month training program, 4,998 Community Clients Served, 493 Substance Abuse Sessions, 1,986 1-on-1 Legal Consultations, 2,762 Mental Health Sessions, 5,517 Case Management Appointments, and 6,464 Tattoo Removal Treatments all while being a non-profit organization,

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate all Members States on their efforts to provide opportunity and combat violence through social programs and development projects.
2. To increase the number of vocational training schools in Member States to build a skilled labor workforce, who will then be able to advance the projects and goals of the World Bank Organization in their respective country, overseen by the Department of Human Development, Education and Employment.
  - a. Funding will be requested from the International Development Bank and the World Bank Organization.
  - b. The vocational training schools will be run by in-country trainees with oversight from the World Bank Organization.
  - c. Graduates of the vocational schools will be linked to projects matching their training.
3. To create a program, overseen by the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), for ex-gang members to work with youth, especially in at-risk neighborhoods, to discourage involvement in crime, requesting funding on behalf of the World Bank and the Ministers of Education of the Americas – or any other organism that acts as such.

Approved for form and substance: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

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

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**INTEGRATING CRIME AND GANG REDUCTION INITIATIVES INTO DEVELOPMENT  
PROJECTS AND POLICIES**

Third Committee

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Panama

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

NOTING:

Article 30 of the Charter of the Organization of American States remarks 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.”;

Article 37 of the Charter of the OAS encourages Member States to “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.”;

The problem of gang violence and activities that threaten the lives of millions of people in our region. This problem spreads to almost every country within the OAS and wreaks havoc on our democracy. These criminal activities cost billions of dollars annually in damage and take thousands of lives per year. This also disrupts the peace and security of individual countries and cannot be solved by just one state government;

According to the United States Department of Justice, gangs are defined as “An association of three or more individuals; Whose members collectively identify themselves by adopting group identity, which they use to create an atmosphere of fear or intimidation, frequently by employing one or more of the following: a common name, slogan, identifying sign, symbol, tattoo or other physical marking, style or color of clothing, hairstyle, hand sign or graffiti; Whose purpose in part is to engage in criminal activity and which uses violence or intimidation to further its criminal objectives.”;

Programs such as Homeboy Industries, based in Los Angeles, California, USA, have created successful initiatives to help combat gang-related issues. They have successfully rehabilitated former members into employed members of society. Homeboy Industries’ success has allowed it to spread worldwide and partner with multiple countries, such as Mexico and El Salvador to create similar programs; and

RECALLING:

CP/RES. 1241 (2476/23) “Addressing Guns, Gangs, And Violence In The Member States Of The Organization Of American States,” recognizes the rise in violence caused by gangs due to the access of illegal firearms; It also recognizes the “threats to the security and well-being of citizens in the member states;” Additionally, the resolution affirms the commitment to “prevention, investigation, and prosecution of all crimes associated with gangs;” Prevention is the most pertinent aspect in lowering the crime rates, as well as rehabilitation,

RESOLVES:

1. To commend Member States in their ongoing to tackle crime and gang violence.

2. To establish a program to help gang members leave gangs and be reintegrated into society, including the following:
  - a. Providing education and training to learn employable skills.
  - b. Working with employers to employ these workers.
  - c. Helping former members find housing for themselves and their families,
  - d. Removal of gang tattoos and other visible tattoos that may harm chances of work (health services may participate in the removal).
  
3. That each country establishes goals and criteria regarding gang remediation, recognizing local circumstances, and collect data that includes the following:
  - a. The reduction in gang and criminal activities (measured by police and government crime data).
  - b. Number of people who have left gangs and gained lawful employment.
  - c. Economic growth in industries hiring ex-gang members.
  
4. To promote the partnership of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Non-Profit Organizations to establish this program with corporations, philanthropic donations, interest groups, and other organizations in providing funding to support this program.

Approved for form and substance: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

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

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