

**2026 Washington Model Organization of
American States General Assembly**

Electronic Packet

First Committee



Washington Model

Organization of American States

Institute for Diplomatic Dialogue in the Americas



OAS

More rights for more people

April 7-10, 2026

PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY BY RECOGNIZING CAREWORK

First Committee

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Uruguay

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 3(L) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which states: “The American States proclaim the fundamental rights of the individual without distinction as to race, nationality, creed, or sex”;

Article 33 of the OAS Charter, which 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”;

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

REAFFIRMING:

Articles 6 and 7 in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights from the United Nations recognizes that “everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law”, and “all people are equal before the law” and entitled to protection without any discrimination;

That the Inter-American Model Law on Care calls on states to regulate, redistribute, provide and promote care as a fundamental public good and to recognize unpaid caregiving as work, as well as outlining caregiving as the co-responsibility of both parents;

That Executive Order No. 16-03 from the OAS recognizes that the basic equality of the sexes are protected under the state’s civil and governmental institutions; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That due to diverse cultural influences, many women are forced into bearing the brunt of domestic labor in the home, making it nearly impossible for them to join the workforce and become financially independent,

RESOLVES:

1. To commend the OAS and the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) on the creation of an “Inter-American Model Law on Care” to continue striving for gender equality and recognition of the importance of domestic labor in the Americas.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN'S POLICE STATIONS TO ADDRESS DOMESTIC ABUSE

First Committee

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Mexico

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 3 (l) of the Charter of The Organization of American States, the American States which reaffirms the American States proclaim the fundamental rights of the individual without distinction as to race, nationality, creed or sex;

Article 5 of the Inter-American Convention of the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women which states: Every Woman is entitled to the free and full exercise of her civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, and may rely on the full protection of those rights as embodied in regional and international instruments on human rights, The States Parties recognize that violence against women prevents and nullifies the exercise of these rights;

BEARING IN MIND:

The effective implementation of the Convention requires a continuous and independent evaluation process, which in 2004 led to the creation of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belem do Para Convention (MESECVI);

That MESECVI works through evaluation and follow-up rounds that include;

- a. Evaluation of reports submitted by the states party to the convention on the measures they have adopted to address violence against women
- b. Follow-up of the implementation of the recommendations made the Committee of Experts
- c. The Committee of Experts is a technical body, composed of Experts designated by each of the States party
- d. The Conference of States Party is a political body that brings together each of the States that has signed and ratified the Convention
- e. Civil society organizations exchange information and experiences with the States Party and Experts in order to strengthen implementation of the Convention;

That Multi-Lateral Evaluation being the first phase of the evaluation process, the States Party commit to providing information on the measures they have implemented in the six action areas of the Convention which are Legislation, National Plans, Access to justice, Specialized services, Budgets and Information;

This phase ends with the publication of the Hemispheric report which Synthesizes information on compliance with the Convention in each of the States Party and Summarizes the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee of Experts on strengthening implementation of the Convention;

The second phase of Multi-Lateral Evaluation which analyzes the progress made and the specific measures adopted in compliance with the recommendations by the Committee of Experts who also provide information on the technical assistance they may need in specific areas;

This phase concludes with the publication of a Report on the Implementation of Recommendations;

With the results of these two phases, MESECVI promotes the ongoing exchange of good practices and lessons learned on the implementation of the convention;

APPLAUDING:

32 states of the Americas have ratified the Belem Do Para Convention;

28 States have participated actively in the MESECVI;

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That the report from the United Nations office on Drugs and Crime stated that in 2024, 50,000 of the 83,000 (60%) women and girls killed internationally were murdered by their intimate partners or other family members;

That 7,700 Women and Girls were murdered by an intimate partner/ family member in the Americas;

That 69% of these murders were committed by an intimate partner while 31% were carried out by other members of the family;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION:

That in a Policy Research Working Paper published by the World Bank Group in 2015 on Women's Police Stations and Domestic Violence in Brazil that in Metropolitan areas there has been a 70% reduction of average homicide rates in women ages 15-24; and

RECOGNIZING:

That while these efforts must be commended, there is still a large population of women in Metropolitan areas and rural areas that do not receive the benefits that Women's police stations offer,

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate the Member States who have committed to the creation and implementation of Women's Police Stations resulting in notable decreases in femicide.
2. To urge Member States who have yet to create Women's Police Stations to initiate their formation in metropolitan areas.

3. To recommend the Member States take into consideration the recommendations from the panel of experts with MESECVI when initiating the creation of Women’s police stations.
4. To recommend that states and civil society increase funding to combating violence against women to establish Women’s Police Stations and approach a gendered perspective on policing which includes:
 - a. Adequate staffing is proportionate to the population of the area that the station serves.
 - b. Sufficient protection and relocation services for victims of domestic abuse.
5. To request that information regarding the effectiveness of Women’s Police Stations be submitted to MESECVI in multi-lateral evaluations.

Approved for form and substance: _____

(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____

(Signature of Delegate)

(Country Represented)

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MEASURES TO IMPROVE GENDER EQUALITY ACROSS THE AMERICAS

First Committee

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Jamaica

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 3(l) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which proclaims “the fundamental rights of the individual without distinction as to race, nationality, creed, or sex”;

Article 9 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which calls for “elimination of all forms of discrimination, especially gender, ethnic, and race discrimination”;

Article 16 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states “education is key to strengthening democratic institutions,” and “to achieve these ends, it is essential that a quality education be available to all, including girls, women, rural inhabitants, and minorities”;

Article 28 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which ordains that “states must promote full and equal participation of women in political structures of their countries as a fundamental element in the promotion and exercise of a democratic culture”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The OAS Inter-American Commission of Women, which promotes the guarantee and protection of women’s rights;

The 1994 Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, known as the Convention of Belém do Pará;

The 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which is ratified by 189 members of the United Nations, requires that all States parties to take “all appropriate measures, including legislation, to ensure the full development and advancement of women for the purpose of guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on the basis of equality with men”;

Resolution AG/RES. 1941, adopted by the OAS General Assembly in 2003, which promotes women’s human rights and gender equity and equality by integrating gender perspective within the organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS and implementing activities and programs for integrating a gender perspective into the results of ministerial meetings on labor, justice, and education; and

RECOGNIZING:

The efforts of the United Nations Women Multi-Country Office in the Caribbean to eliminate gender-based discrimination across the region;

The gender gaps in labor markets due to sexual division of labor that limits women’s economic autonomy and negatively affects poverty levels among women;

That according to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), women spend three times more hours on unpaid care work than men;

That according to the Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (ECLAC), there are significant gender gaps in Latin America and the Caribbean in terms of both digital skills and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, which are vital to the participation of women in economic, political, and social life;

That according to the International Labor Organization (ILO), more than half of Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) women over the age of 65 do not receive labor income or a pension, while only a quarter of LAC men are in the same situation;

That according to the Global Taskforce for the Reduction of Maternal Mortality, an estimated 6.5 million unsafe abortions are performed within the Latin America and Caribbean region, leading to the maternal mortality rate (MMR) to be three times higher on average due to hemorrhaging and other complications;

That according to the Global Taskforce for the Reduction of Maternal Mortality, nine out of the ten deaths caused by unsafe abortions could be prevented with improved quality of care across the LAC region,

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate the Member States for their efforts in promoting gender equality.
2. To encourage Member States to adopt and implement their own national Policies for Gender Equality, which could potentially include:
 - a. integrating and mainstreaming gender perspective into legislative decisions; and
 - b. conducting gender analysis and training to bring an end to systemic discrimination against women.
3. To recommend the establishment of an OAS Gender Equality Progress Portal in which all Member States will:
 - a. Report any legislative decisions made towards the promotion of gender equality and women's rights;
 - b. Report any ratified international resolutions, conventions, or treaties regarding gender equality or women's rights;
 - c. Annually report the population and demography; and
 - d. Annually report the statistics of adolescent birth rates and crimes against women.
4. To request the OAS General Secretariat, alongside the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), to conduct an annual review on progress made towards implementing gender equality laws as well as an analysis on improving gender equality integration, which will:
 - a. Collect and publish data regarding the methods used by each Member State and their effectiveness;
 - b. Analyze further methods of gender inclusion to further advance the eradication of systemic gender discrimination;
 - c. Report the data to the General Assembly; and
 - d. Provide Member States with insight about potential methods to increase inclusivity and decrease discrimination.

5. To suggest funding for the OAS Gender Equality Progress Portal be achieved through:
 - a. Voluntary contributions from Member States, and that:
 - i. All contributions budgeted for gender equality be managed by the Commission of Women (CIM) and Inter-American Development Bank (IDB);
 - b. Grants from international organizations such as the World Bank, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF).



Approved for form and substance:

(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories:

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	(Signature of Delegate)	(Country Represented)
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**ENSURING FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS COMBATING DEMOCRATIC BACKSLIDING IN
THE AMERICAS**

First Committee

Topic No. 2 of the Agenda

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

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

Article 1 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which establishes the OAS as a regional organization dedicated to promoting peace, justice, solidarity, and cooperation among member states in the Americas;

Article 2 of the OAS Charter, which outlines the fundamental purposes of the organization including strengthening democracy, protecting human rights, supporting economic and social development, and encouraging peaceful conflict resolution;

Article 3 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which affirms the principles of national sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-intervention, and representative democracy;

Article 17 of the OAS Charter, which affirms the right of states to freely develop their political, economic, and cultural systems while respecting individual rights and principles of morality;

Article 19 of the OAS Charter, which establishes that no state has the right to intervene directly or indirectly in the internal or external affairs of another state;

Article 28 of the OAS Charter, which states that aggression against the sovereignty or political independence of one member state constitutes aggression against all member states;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The Inter-American Democratic Charter adopted in 2001, which affirms that democracy is both a right of the peoples of the Americas and an obligation of their governments;

RECOGNIZING:

The continued work of OAS Electoral Observation Missions and technical assistance programs in strengthening electoral integrity and democratic institutions throughout the hemisphere;

That inconsistent enforcement of democratic standards can undermine the credibility and legitimacy of multilateral institutions; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

By evidence of democratic backsliding in several member states, including documented declines in judicial independence, media freedom, and electoral transparency;

By reports from international monitoring organizations indicating multiple years of declining democratic performance scores in parts of the hemisphere;

That weakened democratic institutions correlate with increased political instability, diminished investor confidence, and heightened risks of civil unrest,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm that the promotion and defense of representative democracy constitute fundamental obligations under the Charter of the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Democratic Charter.
2. To commend the continued work of OAS Electoral Observation Missions and associated technical assistance programs for their contributions to strengthening electoral integrity and democratic governance across the hemisphere.
3. To encourage member states to strengthen domestic democratic institutions, including independent electoral commissions, judicial autonomy, and protections for civil society organizations.
4. To establish an Independent Democratic Standards Review Mechanism (DSRM) within the Organization of American States, tasked with evaluating the neutrality, consistency, and effectiveness of democratic defense measures.
5. To recommend that any collective action undertaken to safeguard democratic order adhere to the following principles:
 - a. Multilateral authorization through established OAS procedures rather than unilateral action by individual member states.
 - b. Equal and consistent application of democratic standards to all member states regardless of political alignment or economic influence.
 - c. Clear timelines, measurable benchmarks, and transparent reporting mechanisms to ensure accountability and institutional legitimacy.

6. To request that the Secretary-General submit an annual transparency report evaluating whether democratic defense measures implemented by the Organization align with the principles of sovereignty, equality among states, and collective decision-making.

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

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

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WORKING GROUP TO CURB VIOLENCE INFLICTED BY NONSTATE ACTORS

First Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Haiti

Topic No. 2 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2(b) of the Organization of American States (OAS) Charter, which stresses the importance of maintaining representative democracy while also adhering to the principle of nonintervention;

Article 12 of the OAS Charter, which states that “The fundamental rights of States may not be impaired in any manner whatsoever,” emphasizing the importance of sovereignty and individual states’ rights;

Article 25 of the OAS Charter, which affirms the necessity of unanimity in deciding peaceful procedures;

Article 3 part 1 of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, known commonly as the Rio Treaty, which asserts that, “an armed attack by any State against an American State shall be considered an attack against all the American States”;

AFFIRMING:

Article 1 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states that, “The peoples of the Americas have a right to democracy and their governments have an obligation to promote and defend it”;

Article 13 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states that, in summary, poverty adversely affects the consolidation of democracy and member states are committed to actions that reduce poverty and eradicate extreme poverty;

Article 23 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states that, in summary, each member state is responsible for its own electoral processes and ensuring that they are fair, free, and organized;

RECOGNIZING:

Recent interventions in the hemisphere which raise concerns that extrajudicial force has been used against presumed nondemocratic states without adherence to due process;

The need for a clear, unified opinion on when it is fair to intervene in another State’s democratic affairs that both honors each state’s sovereignty and ensures the rights of all peoples therein according to the OAS Charter, the American Convention on Human Rights, and the Inter-American Democratic Charter;

DECLARING:

All nations in the Western Hemisphere, and especially those who are members of the OAS, are threatened by nations which are affected by nonstate violent groups;

ALARMED BY:

The continuing humanitarian and security crisis, officially recognized by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and Haitian officials, in which widespread violence perpetrated by armed nonstate actors has significantly weakened the government's ability to ensure public safety and protect democratic institutions; and

CONSIDERING:

The need for clearer regional guidelines to assist member states in determining when international assistance may be appropriate in response to severe or critical violence perpetrated by nonstate actors, while maintaining and respecting national sovereignty and the principle of non-intervention outlined in the Inter-American states charter,

RESOLVES:

1. To commend Member States of the OAS for their continued commitment and efforts to eradicate violence from the hemisphere and maintain democratic governance.
2. To reaffirm that any external assistance provided to a member state experiencing severe violence perpetrated by nonstate actors shall only occur with the consent of the affected Member State's government and in accordance with the principles of sovereignty and nonintervention outlined in the Charter of the OAS.
3. To establish an Ad Hoc working group under the Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy, composed of representatives from participating Member States who are experts in democratic protection, terrorism, violence against nations, large-scale crime analytics and nonstate violence (with at least two representatives total from each category listed) for the purpose of developing objective indicators for assessing the severity of violence perpetrated by nonstate actors:
 - a. States with high levels or frequent occurrences of nonstate violence will be encouraged to join so that their voice can be heard in a matter that may pertain to them.
 - b. Based on available representatives in any given country, the number of representatives and their specific backgrounds are presented in a range.
4. To diplomatically convene once a year to discuss current efforts against nonstate violence, review regional developments related to nonstate violence, and assess the effectiveness of the established indicators and guidelines:
 - a. Following the first meeting, which will be virtual, Member States will determine which nation to meet in henceforth based on volunteering.
 - b. If Member States are unable to attend the ensuing meetings in-person due to travel restrictions, natural events, or any other reason, they are encouraged to attend virtually.
5. To encourage the working group to establish metrics that all participating members agree to through which levels of violence can be categorized as they see fit based on threat levels to their democracy as well as human rights.
6. To encourage that the working group be funded through voluntary contributions from member states and through existing resources within the Organization of American States, subject to review by the Permanent Council.

7. To recommend that the working group report their findings annually to the General Assembly and, in cases where violence perpetrated by nonstate actors reaches a high level (which is to be decided by the group), to the Permanent Council for consideration.

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

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

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STRENGTHENING PREVENTIVE COOPERATIVE MECHANISMS TO ADDRESS UNDUE INFLUENCE ON DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE IN THE AMERICAS

First Committee

Topic No. 2 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Argentina

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2(b) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which establishes as an essential purpose of the Organization “to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention”;

Article 1 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which affirms that “The peoples of the Americas have a right to democracy and their governments have an obligation to promote and defend it”;

Article 3 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which identifies as essential elements of representative democracy “respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; access to and the exercise of power in accordance with the rule of law; the holding of periodic, free, and fair elections...; the pluralistic system of political parties and organizations; and the separation of powers and independence of the branches of government”;

Article 4 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states that “Transparency in government activities, probity, responsible public administration... and freedom of expression and of the press are essential components of the exercise of democracy”;

Article 17 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which provides that “when situations arise in a member state that may affect the development of its democratic political institutional process... the government concerned may request the assistance of the Secretary General or the Permanent Council”;

Article 18 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which establishes that “when situations arise in a member state that may affect the development of its democratic political institutional process . . . the Secretary General or the Permanent Council may, with the prior consent of the government concerned, arrange for visits or other actions”;

Article 20 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states that, “In the event of an unconstitutional alteration of the constitutional regime that seriously impairs the democratic order in a member state, any member state or the Secretary General may request the immediate convocation of the Permanent Council to undertake a collective assessment of the situation and to take such decisions as it deems appropriate”;

CONSIDERING:

That contemporary threats to democratic governance increasingly manifest through disinformation, illicit political and campaign financing, cyber interference, and forms of economic pressure that erode public trust and institutional legitimacy without constituting an unconstitutional interruption of democratic order;

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That in the Americas, democratic governance has been affected by disputes involving contested electoral outcomes, political instability, and external pressures that have raised concerns regarding undue influence over domestic political processes;

That Member States possess differing institutional and technological capacities and therefore benefit from voluntary technical cooperation and the exchange of best practices aimed at preventing undue influence on democratic affairs;

That free, independent, and pluralistic media, as well as an active civil society, are essential components for strengthening democratic resilience and public confidence, particularly in mitigating the effects of undue influence;

That democratic stability and economic stability are mutually reinforcing, and that economic vulnerabilities may be exploited as a means of exerting undue influence on governance;

TAKING IN ACCOUNT:

Article 23 of the American Convention on Human Rights, which recognizes the right of every citizen “to take part in the conduct of public affairs ”;

Article III of the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption, which calls upon States Parties to adopt measures to “prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption in public functions ”; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That undue influence on democratic governance in the hemisphere increasingly manifests through interference in electoral processes, manipulation of public information environments, illicit political and campaign financing, and forms of external economic or political pressure that undermine institutional legitimacy;

By the events in the Republic of Haiti, where the absence of functioning, democratically elected national authorities, prolonged postponement of elections, and severe weakening of public institutions as a result of widespread insecurity have created conditions in which democratic governance is vulnerable to undue internal and external influence;

That in various Member States of the hemisphere, undue influence has been exerted through threats against electoral authorities, candidates, journalists, and civil society actors, as well as through coordinated disinformation efforts and illicit political financing that undermine public confidence in democratic processes and institutions;

That undue influence may also manifest through the progressive erosion of the separation and independence of the branches of government and the concentration of public power, thereby weakening constitutional order and the rule of law;

That undue influence on democratic institutions in any Member State produces political, social, and humanitarian consequences that extend beyond national borders and affect the stability and development of the hemisphere as a whole;

That the defense of democracy in the Americas constitutes a shared and collective responsibility, and that when democratic institutions are placed at risk through undue influence, the Organization must

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be able to engage in timely, cooperative, and consent-based action, in full respect of the principles of sovereignty, non-intervention, and the Inter-American Democratic Charter;

That the absence of structured preventive mechanisms increases the risk of polarization, institutional fragility, and loss of public confidence in representative democracy as a result of undue influence,

RESOLVES:

1. To commend the Member States of the OAS for their continued commitment to the promotion and protection of democratic governance, the rule of law, free and fair elections, and the safeguarding of fundamental rights and freedoms across the hemisphere, particularly in their efforts to prevent undue influence on democratic processes.
2. To entrust the Inter-American Juridical Committee (CJI), in its capacity as an advisory organ of the Organization of American States, with establishing a Democratic Governance Advisory Review Panel, to be implemented within twelve (12) months of the adoption of this resolution, for the purpose of assisting Member States in identifying and preventing undue influence on democratic governance, and specifically to:
 - a. Review voluntary requests submitted by Member States concerning potential risks to democratic governance, including undue influence on electoral integrity, public institutions, or political processes;
 - b. Provide confidential legal and institutional consultations to the requesting Member State regarding available democratic safeguards and cooperative responses aimed at preventing undue influence and strengthening institutional resilience;
 - c. Develop non-binding advisory opinions and recommendations regarding potential cooperative measures to prevent undue influence, consistent with the principles of sovereignty and non-intervention and within the framework of the Inter-American Democratic Charter; and
 - d. Ensure that participation in this advisory process remains entirely voluntary and does not obligate Member States to adopt or implement the recommendations provided.
3. To further entrust the Inter-American Juridical Committee with submitting an annual report to the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States summarizing:
 - a. The number of advisory consultations requested by Member States in relation to risks of undue influence on democratic governance;
 - b. The general categories of challenges identified, including trends related to disinformation, illicit political financing, and external interference; and
 - c. Non-confidential best practices and recommendations that may strengthen the capacity of Member States to prevent undue influence on democratic processes across the hemisphere.

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4. To encourage Member States to voluntarily participate in cooperative exchanges of best practices concerning the prevention of undue influence on democratic governance, including electoral transparency and the protection of democratic institutions, facilitated through consultations organized by the Inter-American Juridical Committee and relevant bodies of the Organization of American States, including annual technical consultations beginning within eighteen (18) months of the adoption of this resolution.

Approved for form and substance: _____

(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

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

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**STRENGTHENING JURISPRUDENCE TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE’S IMPACT
ON INDIGENOUS AND AFRO-DESCENDANT COMMUNITIES IN THE AMERICAS**

The First Committee

Topic No. 4 of the Agenda

Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Suriname

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 34 (a) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which asserts that the OAS should pursue integral development through “equality of opportunity, eliminating extreme poverty and equitable distribution of wealth”;

Article 30 of the Charter of the OAS, which emphasizes the commitment of member states to cooperate for integral development, including the advancement of scientific and technological capacities to address climate-change related issues, particularly those affecting the Indigenous and Afro-descendant communities;

Article 21 of the American Convention on Human Rights, which guarantees each citizen “use and enjoyment of his property” and states that “no one shall be deprived of his property” unless for legitimate reason;

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), which affirms in Article 25 that Indigenous People have: “the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters and coastal seas”;

NOTING:

Long-standing landmark decisions by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, such as *Saramaka People v Suriname* and *Yakye Axa Indigenous Community v. Paraguay*, which affirm the legal obligation of states to consult with Indigenous and tribal communities regarding development projects affecting their lands, and which call for free, prior, and informed consent;

Reports by Human Rights Watch that highlight disproportionate environmental and climate burdens faced by Indigenous and Afro-descendant populations in the Americas, including food insecurity, displacement, and threats to cultural survival;

Findings from the World Bank indicating that Indigenous peoples safeguard approximately 80% of the world’s remaining biodiversity, yet face disproportionate exposure to environmental degradation and climate-related risks;

Recent judgments from the Organization of American States and affiliated bodies emphasizing the increased food insecurity and natural disasters due to climate change in already extremely vulnerable communities; and

RECOGNIZING:

Findings from the World Economic Forum that Indigenous and Afro-descendant populations are seven times more likely to be displaced by climate change in an evolving climate landscape;

The need for states to reduce emissions in response to the impacts of climate change on Indigenous and Afro-descendant communities;

The importance of adopting legislative, administrative, and public policy measures to protect environmentally sensitive territories and to guarantee the resilience and adaptability of the communities living there;

The lack of acknowledgement of structural racism as a factor that helps explain why the environmental risk Indigenous communities face is not addressed with urgency;

Climate change as a human rights emergency with far-reaching effects on life, health, food, and housing;

The importance of integrating traditional ecological and environmental knowledge, as well as incorporating environmental justice and human rights protections,

RESOLVES:

1. To applaud the OAS and its Member States, HRW, UNDRIP, and the Inter-American Court on Human Rights for advancing policy initiatives that address environmental degradation and protect the rights of vulnerable communities.
2. To call on Member States to implement the key legal standard of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) to ensure indigenous sovereignty and decision-making over land use.
3. To request that the Inter-American American Commission on Human Rights:
 - a. Monitor and report annually on violations of environmental harm and damage;
 - b. Establish a Special Rapporteurship on Climate Change and Human Rights within the Americas;
4. To encourage partnerships with the World Bank, including the Climate Investment Funds (CIF) and Global Environment Facility (GEF) to expand funding for sustainable development projects that prioritize Indigenous land protection and community-led initiatives.
5. To urge Member States to strengthen national and regional jurisprudence by incorporating climate change impact into existing human rights legal frameworks, particularly in cases affecting Indigenous and Afro-Descendent communities.
6. To recommend increased regional cooperation among Member States and organizations such as the OAS to establish regional monitoring bodies to track climate-related human rights violations affecting Indigenous and Afro-descendant communities.
7. To create early warning systems for climate-induced displacement and environmental risks.

8. To facilitate capacity-building programs in strengthening local governance and legal institutions that are located in vulnerable or at-risk regions.

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

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

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SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND AFRO-DESCENDANTS AGAINST CLIMATE DEGRADATION THROUGH LAND REGULATIONS

First Committee
Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Peru

Topic No.4 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 22 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which asks Member States “to commit to face the impact of climate variability ... and the adverse effects of climate change that represent a risk increase in all countries of the Hemisphere, particularly for developing countries”;

Article 25 of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which affirms that “states shall give legal recognition and protection to [Indigenous] lands, territories and resources”;

Recommendation 6(f) of the Right to Self-Determination of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples report from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), which recommends that Member States discuss policies and programs “for the mitigation of the impacts of climate change, that take into account the differentiated impacts on indigenous and tribal peoples, and their own proposals to address these impacts”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

That the fifth main objective of the Inter-American Climate Change Action Plan 2023-2030 is to respond to the impacts of climate change, and to avert, minimize, and address loss and damage;

That the sixth main objective of the Climate Change Action Plan is to strengthen multilateral climate efforts and foster robust climate initiatives at regional and national levels;

Article 29 of the 2007 United Nations Declaration on The Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), which orders that “states shall establish and implement assistance programmes for Indigenous peoples for such conservation and protection, without discrimination”;

Article 32 of the 2007 UNDRIP, which requests that “states shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the Indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources”;

EMPHASIZING:

The Glasgow Climate Pact of the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference, which urges Member States to “actively involve Indigenous peoples and local communities in designing and implementing

climate action ... and undergo local and, where appropriate, subnational stakeholder consultation consistent with applicable domestic arrangements in relation to public participation and local communities and Indigenous peoples”;

The critical role that Indigenous peoples play in conservation due to their environmental and cultural knowledge and stewardship of 36 percent of the planet’s intact forests (as estimated by the United Nations Development Programme), as well as the critical role of Afro-descendant communities in nature conservation, promoting bio-diversity, and sustainability as recognized by the United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP16);

The UN Human Rights Council Resolution 48/13 (2021) recognition that “the consequences of [environmental damage] are felt most acutely by those segments of the population that are already in vulnerable situations including Indigenous peoples, older persons, persons with disabilities, and women and girls”; and

CONCERNED BY:

The IACHR report on Violence Against the Indigenous Peoples and Afro-descendants on the Caribbean Coast, which recognizes that “the absence of a comprehensive and effective land regularization process has allowed for the illegal occupation of their territories, facilitating dispossession, exploitation of their natural resources, and the consolidation of a model of internal colonization”;

The fact that, as UN partner organization GreenPeace elucidates, over 55% of mining for critical transition metals occurs near Indigenous lands across the Americas in spite of Indigenous land claims;

The reality that this pervasive logging and mining greatly contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, which further drives rapid, long-term climate change and intensifies threats to ecosystem biodiversity, water scarcity, deforestation, and human rights abuses,

RESOLVES:

1. To applaud Member States on previous actions to protect Indigenous and Afro-descendant populations against the adverse effects of climate change.
2. To request Member States to strengthen protections for Indigenous and Afro-descendant communities by facilitating state recognition of Indigenous and Afro-descendant land rights and full conferring of property titles. This includes:
 - a. Creating streamlined and formal policies for state recognition of native and Afro-descendant communities, which will allow communities to begin titling processes.
 - b. Geospatial mapping to establish large, contiguous ancestral territories rather than fragmented plots where feasible.
 - c. Reducing the cost, tax, and administrative burdens on Indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples through simplified fiscal, legal, and administrative requirements.

- d. Training Indigenous and Afro-descendant community members in surveying, geospatial mapping, and legal procedures to manage their own records.
3. To advance interhemispheric cooperation and strengthen multilateral efforts in combating climate change by establishing a task force from the OAS Department of Sustainable Development (DSD) to:
- a. Monitor illegal logging and mining operations within the Indigenous and Afro-descendant lands of Member States to support efforts to prevent them.
 - b. Supervise Member States' efforts to facilitate the process for Indigenous and Afro-descendant communities to obtain land rights, ensuring that they accomplish specific outcomes.
 - c. Provide technical assistance to, and build the capacity of, individual Member States to create and enforce these new regulations and programs.
 - d. Gather information to identify what technical, judicial, or other assistance Member States require in order to facilitate the legal recognition Indigenous and Afro-descendant lands.
 - e. Organize the provision of funding to Member States from the Development Cooperation Fund to support their efforts in enforcing these new regulations and programs.
4. To encourage Member States to gather invaluable perspectives and confront inequalities in designing and implementing climate change protections by supporting and instituting Indigenous and Afro-descendant-led community programs and organizing stakeholder consultations with Indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples and other concerned parties.

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

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

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PROMOTING CLIMATE RESILIENCE AMONG INDIGENOUS AND AFRO-DESCENDANT COMMUNITIES IN THE AMERICAS

First Committee

Topic No. 4 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Dominica

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 30 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which emphasizes the importance of Member States pursuing international social justice as part of their integral development, and recognizing it as one of the essential preconditions for peace and security;

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

RECOGNIZING:

That according to the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs’ Indigenous Peoples, “Indigenous peoples are among the first to face the direct consequences of climate change, due to their dependence upon, and close relationship with, the environment and its resources”;

That tourism represents a valuable economic opportunity for many American states, particularly for Small Island Developing States (SIDS), with the UN’s 2024 International Tourism in Small Island Developing States report finding that in 2023, international tourism made up an average of 31% of Caribbean SIDS’ exports;

That the degradation of the environment due to climate change not only endangers the livelihoods of individuals belonging to Indigenous communities, but also threatens the rich cultural heritage of Indigenous communities, who often have an intimate and essential relationship with the natural world;

REAFFIRMING:

Article XVIII(1) of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which affirms that, “Indigenous peoples have the collective and individual right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical, mental, and spiritual health”;

Article XIX of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which recognizes the essential right of Indigenous peoples to “a healthy, safe, and sustainable environment” and their right to the conservation and protection of the environment and the productive capacity of their lands or territories and resources, calling upon states to “establish and implement assistance programs for indigenous peoples for such conservation and protection; and

RECALLING:

The Inter-American Climate Action Plan 2023-2030, which emphasizes the need to “Foster regional cooperation and knowledge-sharing on national disaster risk management planning and policies, emphasizing aspects such as human rights, justice, infrastructure, and gender issues”;

Article 29(1) of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which states that “Indigenous peoples have the right to the conservation and protection of the environment and the productive capacity of their lands or territories and resources,” and that “states shall establish and implement assistance programs for indigenous peoples for such conservation and protection, without discrimination”,

RESOLVES:

1. To praise the Department of Sustainable Development (DSD) for supporting Member States in the push towards eco-friendly growth while promoting human rights and environmental protection and to commend the Department of Sustainable Development’s Disaster Risk Management (DRM) section on its Collaboratory on Data and Science for Risk and Resilience in the Caribbean program.
2. To propose that DRM, upon the occurrence of a devastating natural disaster that causes significant economic or cultural harm to Indigenous/Afro-descendant communities in any one of the Member States, upon request, employ a task force to work towards understanding the negative impacts of the disaster on said Indigenous/Afro-descendant communities. The task force will:
 - a. Study the economic harm caused to the community, considering the unique vulnerabilities of the economies of Indigenous/Afro-descendant communities to natural disasters;
 - b. Study the possible implications for the survival of Indigenous/Afro-descendant culture, recognizing the important link between many Indigenous cultures and the environment; and
 - c. Work directly with leaders or their equivalent of Indigenous communities to better assess the needs of the community.
3. To suggest that if the DSD carries out a project in a Member State that may impact Indigenous or Afro-descendant communities, said Member State may request that DSD name an Indigenous/Afro-descendant Advisor for the duration of the project. This role shall:
 - a. Be occupied by a leading community member or scholar of the Indigenous/Afro-descendant community that may be impacted by said project; and
 - b. Promote collaboration and communication between the impacted Indigenous/Afro-descendant communities and DSD, working to ensure that any negative impacts against said communities be minimized.
4. To consider the inclusion of an Ecotourism focus within the Department of Economic Development’s Culture and Tourism section:
 - a. In conjunction with the Inter-American Committee on Tourism, and upon request, the focus will be advising Member States on the creation of programs focused on ecotourism that economically benefit Indigenous and/or Afro-descendant communities; and
 - b. As part of the focus, the Culture and Tourism section may create an Ecotourism catalogue to highlight Member States that promote sustainable ecotourism while reducing negative impacts upon the socio-cultural environment.

5. To encourage Member States to continue to pass and maintain laws in accordance with the Advisory Opinions (OC-32/25) from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Practical Guide Climate Policies and Actions by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, or their national or regional equivalent, to regulate carbon emissions, pollution and deforestation.

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

Cosignatories: 1. _____ (Signature of Delegate) _____ (Country Represented)
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A SPECIAL RAPPORTEURSHIP AND COLLOQUIA TO UNDERSTAND AND ENHANCE THE EFFICACY OF GENDER-BASED LAWS IN THE AMERICAS

First Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Brazil

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING:

Article 9 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which asserts the commitment of the OAS to eradicate all forms of gender discrimination and intolerance to strengthen democracy in the hemisphere;

Article 30 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which seeks to promote integral development for people as necessary to the peace and security of the hemisphere, including but not limited to social, cultural, and educational development;

Article 33 of the OAS Charter, establishing that the improvement of social order is the primary responsibility of each State;

Article 47 of the OAS Charter emphasizes the importance of Member States in regard the development of education and culture aimed at improving the lives of individuals as fundamental to democracy, social justice, and progress;

FURTHER RECALLING:

Article 3 of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women (1994), which guarantees of right of women to be free from violence in all areas of life;

Article 8 (a) of the Inter-American Convention on The Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women, in which States agreed to promote awareness and observance of the rights of women to be free from gender-based violence; and

NOTING WITH CONCERN:

According to the Pan American Health Organization one in three women in the Americas age fifteen and older have experienced gender-based physical or sexual violence;

According to UNICEF nineteen percent (thirty-five million) children in Latin America and the Caribbean are exposed to gender-based violence aimed towards mothers, affecting their safety and mental health while also further the risk of these children perpetuating gender-based violence into adulthood;

According to the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean there have been 19,254 recorded femicides in the last five years throughout the hemisphere;

The Inter-American Development Bank determined that the overall cost of violence is 3.4% of the GDP throughout the hemisphere;

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime stated that the Americas ranked among the highest regions in terms of number of femicides,

RESOLVES:

1. To express appreciation and support for the efforts made by Member States thus far in combating gender-based violence in the hemisphere while noting that much work remains to be done.
2. To vociferously condemn the continued violence against women globally and throughout the hemisphere.
3. To direct the Secretary General to appoint a Special Rapporteur for Gender-Based Violence:
 - a. Strongly urging a female who is qualified as a human rights attorney focusing on gender equality and women's rights.
 - b. To serve for three years with the possibility of renewal from the General Assembly.
 - c. Specifically focusing on women and girls between the ages of 12 to 25, to determine the vulnerabilities and challenges they face entering adulthood and how these challenges can be overcome.
 - d. To examine the root causes of gender-based violence in young women and how they can be overcome so women have fuller access to democracy and laws preventing gender-based violence.
4. To direct the Special Rapporteur to organize a series of meetings and colloquia across the hemisphere to better understand the root causes of gender-based violence in 2027, each meeting will:
 - a. Hold a colloquium at OAS headquarters in March 2027 and solicit an invitation from one member state from each region, South America, Central America, and the Caribbean.
 - b. Invite members of the OAS secretariat, experts from Member States, ambassadors, embassy staff, and academics to discuss the root causes of gender violence in young women and the actions that can be taken to reinforce the confidence of young women to avoid potential futures that increase the likelihood of gender violence.
 - c. To discuss the vulnerabilities and challenges of women and girls between the ages of 8 to 24 to better understand the hazards and likelihood of gender violence upon entering adulthood.
5. To host a conference in 2028 in conjunction with the General Assembly with the purpose of presenting and providing data and information to facilitate further actions preventing gender-based violence and strengthening the efficacy of gender equality laws.
6. To seek funding for these meetings from the operating budget of the Organization of American States, Inter-American Commission of Women, the Member States of the OAS on a voluntary basis, and from the Gates Foundation.

7. To increase portion of the OAS general budget for the Inter-American Commission on Women from 2.04% to 2.25%, with a negotiated redistribution across other departments, to help defray costs associated with operative clauses 4 and 5, to facilitate more opportunities to gather and report data, as well as promoting better awareness of gender-based violence.

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

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

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**PREVENTING INFLUENCE ON THE DEMOCRATIC AFFAIRS OF MEMBER STATES
THROUGH STRENGTHENING ELECTION SECURITY AND FURTHER COMBATTING
CORRUPTION**

First Committee
Draft Resolution Presented by Canada

Topic No. 2 of the Agenda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2(b) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which establishes member states' commitment to "promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention";

Article 3(d) of the OAS Charter, which states that "The solidarity of the American States and the high aims which are sought through it require the political organization of those States on the basis of the effective exercise of representative democracy";

Article 1 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states that "The peoples of the Americas have a right to democracy and their governments have an obligation to promote and defend it";

Article 4 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which affirms that "Transparency in government activities, probity, responsible public administration on the part of governments, respect for social rights, and freedom of expression and of the press are essential components of the exercise of democracy";

Article 11 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states that "Democracy and social and economic development are interdependent and are mutually reinforcing";

Article 23 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which establishes that "Member states are responsible for organizing, conducting, and ensuring free and fair electoral processes;

That member states, in the exercise of their sovereignty, may request that the OAS provide advisory services or assistance for strengthening and developing their electoral institutions and processes, including sending preliminary missions for that purpose;

CONSIDERING:

That misinformation and outside influence are the most direct threats against the democratic institutions of the Americas;

That internal corruption is a violation of the rights of a nation's citizens and their right to a free and fair society;

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That according to Transparency International, the Americas regional corruption index score is 42 out of 100 points; these numbers are stagnant from assessments from prior years, and only 6 of the current member states scored above a 50 in 2026;

That numerous studies suggest that several OAS member states are not truly democratic and instead

are classified as authoritarian hybrid regimes;

That the World Democracy Index suggests the trend of democratic backsliding will continue without action, and few states have committed to the necessary actions, and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The commitment made by the OAS members to establish and protect institutions of democracy, as affirmed in the Inter-American Democratic Charter;

The Summits of the America's Mandate on Democracy, which commits to the promotion of free and fair elections, along with tackling the numerous obstacles that stand in the way of true democracy;

UN RESOLUTION 55/96, specifically Article One, section F, which calls for good governance through the strengthening of transparency and accountability in public institutions, and encourages criminalization of bribes or third party payments;

That Canada has already taken a number of steps ahead of its fellow member states to combat the issue of corruption and malicious influence, and ranks among the healthiest democracies in the world,

RESOLVES:

1. To encourage member states to draft and pass localized anti-corruption legislation; and to note that the Canadian Election Modernization Act (Bill C-76), which primarily safeguards against internal third party funding, may serve as a guideline for member states to reference and improve upon during the drafting process.
2. To urge member states to establish localized election security forces to prevent malicious influence.
 - a. The Canadian Security and Intelligence Threats to Elections Task Force (SITE) will provide member states with all information and resources available to aid in establishing these measures.
 - b. Further developed member states are encouraged to offer similar information and resources to member states with less developed elections infrastructure.
 - c. Should member states be unable to implement this measure even with aid from other members, the General Assembly may be petitioned for further funding in the interest of collective security.
3. To request the creation of an OAS Misinformation and Electoral Database modeled on the Canadian Digital Media Research Network, whose uses may include:
 - a. Providing citizens of member states with factual information.
 - i. Any information provided by any member state will be subject to scrutiny and fact-checking to ensure accuracy.
 - ii. To ensure this database is not misused to frame particular narratives, all information reported to the proposed database will first be scrutinized by a committee of member states. This will consist of members that lack close working relationships with one another to prevent potential coalition building and provide the database with the most accurate and neutral information possible.
 - b. Allowing citizens to educate themselves on electoral processes in their respective member states, which may provide a pathway for democratic reform.

- c. Limiting corrupt officials in affected member states from deliberately misleading their constituents and weakening their influence.

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

Cosignatories: 1. _____
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**IMPROVING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GENDER EQUALITY LAWS THROUGH
STRENGTHENING WOMEN’S POLITICAL POWER AND REPRESENTATION**

First Committee

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Colombia

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 3(i) of the Organization of American States (OAS) Charter, affirming that “The American States proclaim the fundamental rights of the individual without distinction as to race, nationality, creed, or sex”;

Article 3 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which states that member states have a duty to “offer all people opportunities to benefit from sustainable development with equity and social inclusion”;

Article 9 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter (IADC), asserting that strong democracy and citizen participation requires “the elimination of all forms of discrimination, especially gender, ethnic and race discrimination”;

Article 28 of the IADC, pledging that “States shall promote the full and equal participation of women in the political structures of their countries as a fundamental element in the promotion and exercise of a democratic culture”;

RECALLING:

AG/RES. 2908 (XLVII-O/17), “Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,” which reaffirms the commitment of Member States to eliminate discrimination and violence against women in the Americas;

The Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women (“Convention of Belém do Pará”), Article 7(b), which requires States to “apply due diligence to prevent, investigate and impose penalties for violence against women”;

The Ninth Summit of the Americas, OAS CMBRS 02554E02 (2022), which calls for the implementation of Summit commitments “from a gender equality and women’s rights perspective”;

ECLAC’s *Tlatelolco Commitment*, in which Latin American and Caribbean countries vowed to adopt “programs and systems...that ensure women’s full, equal and meaningful participation in public and political life and the economy and free up time for women, so that they can engage in employment and education, and enjoy their autonomy to the fullest”;

RECOGNIZING:

The Declaration of the Ministers and High Authorities of the National Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, which found that it is necessary to overcome “four structural knots of gender inequality” that impede the implementation of gender equality laws: socioeconomic inequality and poverty; sexual division of labor; concentration of power; and patriarchal cultural patterns;

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That the Gender Equality Observatory of Latin America and the Caribbean found that Latin America and the Caribbean are experiencing a “persistent care crisis”, and that households depend excessively on unpaid work by women, which leaves women without the time or income to pursue roles in the political sphere;

By ECLAC’s recent finding that “a quarter of women in Latin America still do not receive their own income, making them economically dependent and vulnerable”, and depriving them of the financial resources to run for political office;

By the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean report, which explains that while “women, on average, have a higher educational level, it is not reflected in their full participation in the economy, **politics**, science, and technology”;

By ECLAC’s 2023 Agenda, which reports that only 13% of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean already have systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment;

NOTING:

That quotas for women’s participation in national legislative bodies in many member states have raised the proportion of seats held by women;

That enforcement of quotas is essential; ECLAC found that at a regional political level, “countries with gender parity measures that include robust enforcement mechanisms had average female participation rates of 45% in 2023 —13 percentage points higher than the 32% average among countries with no such measures”;

That current quota laws are only partially effective, due to lax enforcement and female candidates’ low placement on party electoral lists;

That women are still underrepresented in top positions in legislatures and the executive branch, leaving them without the clout to ensure funding for gender equality laws and initiatives;

ACKNOWLEDGING:

The ongoing efforts of the Inter American Commission of Women (CIM) to provide assistance and guidance to Member States on gender mainstreaming, such as the Women’s Leadership and Empowerment project and the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP), which advances policies that expand women’s political participation and economic empowerment through capacity-building and leadership development;

Colombia’s National Public Policy on Gender Equity, anchored by the Ministry of Equality’s 2024–2034 National Action Plan, which seeks to increase women’s access to leadership positions in peacebuilding and security by implementing UNSCR 1325 (Women, Peace, and Security);

Regional programs led by the Organization of American States and the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention, such as the Hemispheric Reports on Femicide and the Inter-American Model Law on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of the Violent Death of Women; and

AFFIRMING:

That enhancing women's representation in local, regional, and national politics can help ensure the prioritization and funding for implementation of gender equality laws across the economic and social spectrum, in issue areas such as equal pay, parental leave, domestic violence, childcare, and access to credit for business,

RESOLVES:

1. To commend Member States for recognizing that gender equality is essential to strengthening democracy, protecting human rights, and promoting long-term development in the Americas, including through the enforcement of measures aimed at increasing women's equal representation in decision-making bodies and political institutions.
2. To establish a regional conference, held every four years, to:
 - a. strengthen collaboration among participating Member States through the sharing of best practices and successful initiatives to promote women in political and public life at all levels, from the national to the local;
 - b. Monitor the effectiveness of quotas and other mechanisms to achieve gender parity in politics, and collaborate on strengthening the enforcement and impact of such mechanisms;
 - c. Provide technical assistance to help participating Member States develop reliable, standardized reporting mechanisms on the representation of women in executive and legislative positions.
3. To call on OAS bodies to contribute to the work of the conferences, with the following bodies taking these actions:
 - a. The Inter American Commission of Women (CIM) will provide guidance and technical support to Member States working to improve gender parity and reduce systemic bias against women candidates and office holders;
 - b. The Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) will share information on initiatives designed to relieve the burden of unpaid care on women, and assist with efforts to integrate such initiatives into Member States' planning for increasing women's involvement in politics.
4. To invite ATENEA, a joint initiative of UN Women, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) to attend the conferences, and provide input for debates, proposals, and projects for political reform to achieve parity in women's political presence at all levels in the system.
5. To seek funding to help cover conference costs from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and to ask the OECD to consider changing its prioritization of gender equality projects from "significant" to "principle" for its Official Development Assistance (ODA) programs.
6. To measure the success of the initiative by establishing a dashboard of progress for each Member State, incorporating data contributed voluntarily by Member States and organized by the CIM, which will be updated every four years in conjunction with the conferences. The dashboard will include measures of gender equality such as:
 - a. the number and proportion of women running for political office at every level in the political system;

**STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GENDER EQUALITY LAWS AND
ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR WOMEN IN THE AMERICAS THROUGH A HEMISPHERIC
SUPPORT PLATFORM**

First Committee

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Paraguay

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 45(i) of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which states that “Adequate provision shall be made for all persons to have due legal aid in order to secure their rights,” underscoring the duty of states to guarantee legal assistance;

Article 1 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which states that “Everyone is born free and equal in dignity and rights. Member states reaffirm their commitment to universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms as essential elements to achieve social justice and strengthen democracy”;

Article 2 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which affirms that “The effective exercise of representative democracy is the basis for the rule of law and of the constitutional regimes of the member states of the Organization of American States. Representative democracy is strengthened and deepened by permanent, ethical, and responsible participation of the citizenry within a legal framework conforming to the respective constitutional order”;

HAVING EXAMINED:

Article 5 of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará), which establishes that “Every woman is entitled to the free and full exercise of her civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights, and may rely on the full protection of those rights as embodied in regional and international instruments on human rights. The State Parties recognize that violence against women prevents and nullifies the exercise of these rights”; and

Article 3 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women which affirms that “State Parties shall take in all fields, in particular in the political, social, economic and cultural fields, all appropriate measures, including legislation, to ensure the full development and advancement of women, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on a basis of equality with men”; and

FULLY ALARMED:

By the widespread impact of gender-based violence in the Western Hemisphere, where an estimated 123 million women and girls have experienced physical or sexual violence at some point in their lives, a figure highlighted in recent regional assessments published by the Pan American Health Organization; and

By the continued prevalence of intimate partner violence throughout the Americas, where approximately 25% of women between the ages of 15 and 49 have experienced physical or sexual abuse by a partner, according to regional estimates from the Pan American Health Organization;

By the extreme lethality of domestic violence globally, with an average of approximately 137 women and girls killed every day by a partner or close relative, as emphasized in recent analyses conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women,

RESOLVES:

1. To acknowledge the efforts undertaken by Member States to combat gender-based violence while encouraging continued strengthening of institutional protections.
2. To encourage each Member State to prevent and address gender-based violence and discrimination against women by strengthening the implementation and enforcement of gender equality legislation.
3. To strongly recommend the creation of a regional online platform, coordinated by the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), to serve as a connector between individuals experiencing any form of gender-based and/or domestic violence with legal resources and psychological assistance when needed.
4. To facilitate legal resources and pathways in collaboration with existing NGOs to promote the effective implementation of existing gender equality legislation:
 - a. The Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) to collect, report and analyze data on cases of gender-based and domestic violence with the aim of:
 - i. Identifying trends and patterns of gender-based violence to support the implementation of gender equality policies; and
 - ii. Providing data to OAS Member States to support the development and strengthening of gender equality policies.
5. To promote access to psychological and medical assistance for victims of gender-based and domestic violence through coordination between national public health services, legal aid institutions, and accredited non-governmental organizations in collaboration with the Pan-American Health Organization.
6. To convene annual meetings in which representatives from OAS Member States, Legal Aid Organizations, and the Technical Secretariat of the Follow-Up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) shall:
 - a. Assess the platform's effectiveness,
 - b. Identify challenges,
 - c. Review progress, and
 - d. Analyze anonymized data from cases related to gender-based and domestic violence.

7. To invite financial and technical cooperation from:
- a. The Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM),
 - b. The Pan-American Health Organization, and
 - c. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), to provide financial and technical assistance for the development and maintenance of the platform, ensuring its sustainability and effectiveness.

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

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

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