

**2026 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

**April 7-10, 2026**

## **ADDRESSING THE IMPACTS OF GENTRIFICATION BY EXPANDING HOUSING SUPPLY AND AFFORDABILITY**

Third Committee

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Argentina

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Articles 34(k) and 34(l) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which state that “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. To achieve them, they likewise agree to devote their utmost efforts to accomplishing the following basic goals: . . . Adequate housing for all sectors of the population, and Urban conditions that offer the opportunity for a healthful, productive, and full life”;

Article 6.2 of The Plan of Action of the Social Charter of the Americas, which says member states will “Promote the social inclusion of persons in situations of poverty and excluded groups through appropriate urban and rural land management schemes”;

Article 6.3 of The Plan of Action of the Social Charter of the Americas, which says member states will “Encourage the promotion of financing mechanisms, including mortgages and home micro-financing for the building, acquisition, or expansion of housing, and promote programs that allow improved access to land and to affordable housing”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development under the United Nations, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 11 on inclusive and sustainable cities, which urges members to “make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”;

The work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and other multilateral institutions studying housing affordability, urban poverty, and the role of housing supply constraints in the region, which conclude that strict rent controls and high protection against eviction often lead to a contraction in supply, as owners choose to keep units vacant or move them to the informal sector where they have no legal oversight, reducing the quality of the housing stock as maintenance becomes unprofitable; and

CONSIDERING:

That gentrification is the process by which rising investment and development in historically lower-income neighborhoods can increase property values and rents, change community culture, and displace long-term residents;

That sharp rent increases and displacement pressures have been reported across the Hemisphere, including in large metropolitan areas, and that these pressures disproportionately affect low-income households, racial and ethnic minorities, and indigenous communities;

That Member States must balance urban revitalization with integral development and human rights, ensuring that investment and modernization do not undermine the dignity of persons or the social fabric of communities;

That overly rigid price controls and excessive regulatory burdens can reduce rental listings and new construction, while legal certainty and streamlined permitting can increase housing supply and improve market stability;

That recent regulatory reforms in Argentina, which removed rent price controls, resulted in a decrease in rent price of approximately 75% in real terms by the second quarter of 2025 since its implementation in 2023 according to IDECBA, and that supply of rental housing increased 195.23% according to The Statistical Observatory of the Real Estate Market;

That voluntary cooperation through the OAS can help Member States exchange best practices and technical assistance to expand housing supply, improve transparency, and mitigate involuntary displacement,

RESOLVES:

1. To commend Member States and local authorities for efforts to promote inclusive urban development and to address housing affordability challenges affecting the Hemisphere.
2. To encourage Member States, where consistent with national law and their constitutions, to expand housing supply by reducing unnecessary regulatory and administrative barriers, including by:
  - a. Digitizing and simplifying permitting and licensing processes for new construction and rehabilitation, including clear timelines and transparent criteria.
  - b. Reviewing land-use and zoning frameworks to enable context-appropriate increases in density and mixed-use development, particularly near transit and employment corridors.
  - c. Modernizing land registries to strengthen property rights, reduce informality, and facilitate responsible private investment.
3. To propose the creation, under the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), of a voluntary Inter-American Housing and Urban Development Exchange (IAHUDE) to:

- a. Convene periodic forums for participating Member States to share best practices on housing supply expansion, neighborhood revitalization, and displacement mitigation.
  - b. Develop a non-binding toolkit of policy options, including approaches that have increased formal rental listings and reduced incentives for informal markets.
  - c. Facilitate peer-to-peer technical assistance upon request, to include advise on reforming the housing permit process, aid with obtaining housing market data, and assistance with land administration modernization.
4. To recommend that Member States strengthen individual property rights and protections of renters through transparent and enforceable contracts by:
- a. Ensuring robust legal processes and means of swift dispute resolution for both landlords and tenants in accordance with national law; and
  - b. Promoting regulatory reforms that reduce barriers to the renting market, reinforcing freedom of contract with minimal government intervention.
5. To encourage Member States to promote the expansion of housing supply by removing harmful price controls and excessive regulations by:
- a. Reviewing and, when necessary, removing distortive rent caps or price controls to encourage increase in housing supply and decrease in price; and
  - b. Prioritizing market-driven housing construction rather than expansive government programs in general.

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

(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

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

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**ADVANCING REGIONAL COOPERATION ON EFFECTIVE RESPONSES TO GENTRIFICATION**

Third Committee

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Suriname

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 3(j) of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which states that “Social justice and social security are bases of lasting peace”;

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

Article 13 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which emphasizes “the promotion and observance of economic, social, and cultural rights are inherently linked to integral development, equitable economic growth, and to the consolidation of democracy in the states of the Hemisphere”;

Article 33 of the OAS Charter, establishing 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”;

EMPHASIZING:

Resolution AG/RES. 2887 (XLVI-O/16) “Promotion and Protection of Human Rights” with a chapter on “Development, Well-Being, and Social Inclusion”, whose Section C refers explicitly to the promotion of economic, social, and cultural rights and the reduction of inequality and resolved to encourage Member States to adopt public policies that ensure equitable access to basic services, including housing, as mean to strengthening democratic governance and social inclusion;

That a successful campaign to mitigate the effects of gentrification on the region requires unanimous recognition of the severity of the issue and continuous strengthening of judicial capacities and combative efforts from all member states of the OAS, as well as improved cooperation and transparency in housing development and community work;

ACKNOWLEDGING:

The Caribbean Development Bank’s interventions in housing and urban resilience, particularly in small and vulnerable states facing rapid urban change and inequality;

The work of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, which has advanced research and policy solutions across Latin America and the Caribbean to mitigate displacement, promote equitable land use, and support community stability in rapidly urbanizing areas;

The efforts by World Habitat of supporting emerging housing solutions globally;

The dedication and work of the UN-Habitat division in assisting countries in issues of urban inequality and reconstruction in recent years from natural disasters and the pandemic;

Recognizing that while gentrification is not a primary domestic issue in Suriname, similar patterns of inequality, land-use pressure, and unequal access to development benefits exist due to environmental change and resource-based economic activities; and

#### DEEPLY CONCERNED:

By the recent surge in housing prices in the Americas as detailed by the Knight Frank's Global House Price Index, with Colombia seeing a 9.5% annual increase in home prices, Mexico following with 8.9%, Brazil 6.9%, and Chile trailing with a 3.5% annual increase;

By Latin America and the Caribbean remaining as one of the most unequal regions in the world with over 80% of all countries in the region showing a Gini index of inequality above 40 as reported by the World Bank Group;

With the rapid rise in urban population in Latin America and the Caribbean, as according to the World Bank Group around 81% of people in the region live in an urban setting, overloading major cities that struggle to keep up with housing and jobs development;

With the reports from organizations such as the Inter-American Development bank highlight widening inequality in having access to housing, further extending gentrification;

By the increasing pressure on land use and development across the region, including in smaller and environmentally vulnerable states, where economic activities and external investment may disproportionately impact local communities,

#### RESOLVES:

1. To applaud Member States' efforts in their efforts to improve urban living conditions and combat gentrification.
2. To recommend the establishment of an Inter-American Housing Monitoring Mechanism under the Organization of American States, in coordination with the OAS Secretariat for Integral Development and UN-Habitat, modeled after existing election observation missions, to monitor housing trends, evaluate anti-displacement policies, and provide standardized reporting using indicators such as affordability, displacement rates, and access to housing, while facilitating transparency and accountability among Member States;
3. To urge Member States, recognizing their priorities and context, to encourage private and public investment funds in affordable housing initiatives, including incentives for developers to include low-income housing units in urban projects in accordance with their national capacities and development priorities.
4. To encourage Member States, subject to their individual capacities, to explore domestic resource mobilization strategies, including housing subsidies, tax incentives, and public-private partnerships, to expand access to affordable housing.
5. To promote the creation of a regional affordable housing cooperation framework among Member States with the support of the OAS Secretariat for Integral Development, which facilitates technical



**STRENGTHENING HEMISPHERIC BORDER SECURITY WITH THE INTERAMERICAN  
WORKING GROUP ON COOPERATIVE BORDER SECURITY (IAWGCBS)**

Third Committee

Topic No. 2 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegations of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Panama, and El Salvador

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 16 of the Organization of American States (OAS) Charter stating jurisdiction of States within the limits of their national territory is exercised equally over all the inhabitants, whether nationals or aliens;

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

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

The Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), which emphasize the primacy of human rights, non-discrimination, and the obligation of States to ensure protection and assistance for all migrants at international borders;

EMPHASIZING:

That Program of Assistance on Control of Arms and Munition (PACAM) has trained over 4,000 officials and strengthened arms control across the hemisphere;

That the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission’s (CICAD) Counterdrug Capacity-Building Program strengthens intelligence and interdiction capacity through a cost-effective, multi-year approach;

That hemispheric border security is a shared responsibility which must protect sovereignty and human rights while facilitating lawful trade and remaining fiscally realistic for States with diverse capacities;

CONSIDERING:

That the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) and OAS governance programs provide transferable, low-cost training for border and security institutions;

RECOGNIZING:

The OAS with the Department of Public Security (DPS) in Bolivia include thirteen active projects as of the first half of 2026, demonstrating the Organization's operational presence and commitment to low-cost, scalable security practices;

The work of international organizations, including the United Nations (UN), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in advancing Integrated Border Management through programs such as the Immigration and Border Management Programme and the Container Control Programme, demonstrating measurable success in strengthening coordination, capacity, and border security outcomes among participating States;

AWARE OF:

The ongoing technical border cooperation and migration reforms that improve safety and reduce irregular crossing; and

CONCERNED THAT:

The lack of integrated border management practices, gaps in coordination between national agencies and neighboring states enables the expansion of illicit networks, including drug trafficking, arms smuggling, organized crime, and the expansion of children as child soldiers for cartels.

RESOLVES:

1. To commend the OAS Member States for advancing cooperative border security.
2. To encourage integrated border controls, shared intelligence, and community-based security measures with the expanded use of PACAM, CICAD, CICTE, and early warning systems:
  - a. Promoting safe, orderly, and regular migration.
  - b. Inviting continued technical border demarcation cooperation.
3. To establish under the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS), with participation from CICAD, CICTE, DPS, and coordination by the General Secretariat an InterAmerican Working Group on Cooperative Border Security:
  - a. Request that each OAS Member State upon signing appoint a multi-agency delegation composed of senior officials from border security, customs, migration, law enforcement, and relevant legal or human rights institutions, ensuring whole-of-government coordination in the implementation of cooperative border management practices.
  - b. Compile low-cost best practices including: integrated controls, synchronized patrols, community networks, rights based procedures and publish a hemispheric tool kit which includes but is not limited to (standardized low-cost guidance for effective border management, operational procedures for inter-agency coordination, intelligence sharing, joint enforcement, training modules, counter-illicit activity strategies, human rights standards, and adaptable best practices to strengthen border security).
  - c. Coordinate training exchanges emphasizing scalable improvements without major new infrastructure.
  - d. Invite the IACHR/RELE members to advise the Working Group on rights respecting border management (access to justice, transparency, freedom of expression, gender/intersectional approaches) to protect vulnerable populations throughout border processes.

- e. Develop and promote targeted guidelines and training modules for Member States to prevent, identify, and respond to the recruitment and exploitation of minors by transnational criminal organizations, including:
    - i. Strengthening cross-border information sharing on missing and at-risk youth.
    - ii. Supporting rehabilitation, reintegration, and protection programs for affected minors in coordination with relevant international organizations.
    - iii. Encouraging community-based prevention strategies aimed at reducing vulnerability to recruitment by criminal groups.
  - f. Meet online through secure forums for a period of one year to formulate best practices.
4. To request that the General Secretariat report to the next regular session of the General Assembly on progress, including:
- a. General levels of participation in the Working Group.
  - b. Best practices and toolkits issued:
    - i. A combined document with different new OAS Member States best practices.
    - ii. A document reporting the positive or negative changes in best practices within two years of the implemented change.
    - iii. To make public all documents and data.
5. To request that these best practices, tool kits, and combined data be sent out to all participating Member States upon the finality of the working group.
6. To request that if financial assistance is needed, OAS programs and Member States can voluntarily contribute each fiscal year; the execution of which shall be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program budget of the Organization.

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

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

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## **PROTECTING ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND INSTITUTIONAL AUTONOMY IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

Third Committee

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegations of Mexico and Guyana

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

The Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which affirms that democracy, fundamental freedoms, and education are essential conditions for peace, stability, and development in the Hemisphere;

Article 4 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which recognizes that freedom of expression, freedom of thought, and academic pluralism are essential components of democracy;

The Social Charter of the Americas, which recognizes education as a public good and a fundamental pillar for social inclusion, equality, and sustainable development;

The American Convention on Human Rights, which guarantees the right to freedom of thought and expression, as well as the right to education without discrimination;

The Inter-American Principles on Academic Freedom and University Autonomy, adopted by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), which articulate regional standards on the scope of academic freedom, institutional autonomy, non-discrimination, and protection against State and private interference;

RECALLING:

The work of the IACHR in documenting violations of freedom of expression and academic freedom throughout the Hemisphere;

Article 15 (3) of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which affirms that “The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to respect the freedom indispensable for scientific research and creative activity”;

Resolution A/HRC/59/L.11 of the United Nations Human Rights Council, which recognizes that academic freedom is a key dimension of the right to education, affirms that it is essential to scientific progress and the building of knowledge as a public good, and calls on States and academic institutions to ensure a safe, inclusive, and enabling environment for evidence-based inquiry, debate, and discussion;

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which affirms that everyone has the right to education and to freely participate in cultural and intellectual life;

#### TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

Reports by Amnesty International documenting cases of political interference, intimidation, and repression affecting students, faculty members, and academic institutions in the Americas;

Findings of the Academic Freedom Index produced by the V-Dem Institute indicating that academic freedom has declined in more than one-third of countries in the Americas over the past decade;

Documentation by Scholars at Risk reporting dozens of attacks on higher education communities in the Americas during the 2024-2025 academic year, including arrests and violent incidents targeting students and faculty;

The work of the Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA) in promoting the effective implementation of the Inter-American Principles on Academic Freedom and University Autonomy and in strengthening networks of defenders across the Hemisphere;

Studies by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the World Bank highlighting the positive relationship between institutional autonomy, academic freedom, innovation, and long-term economic development;

The principles established by the International Labour Organization (ILO) regarding freedom of association, professional independence, and decent working conditions for educators and researchers;

#### CONSIDERING:

That academic freedom and institutional autonomy are essential to ensuring the quality, credibility, and independence of higher education systems;

That undue political, economic, or ideological interference in universities undermines democratic governance, weakens public trust, and restricts the free exchange of ideas;

That protecting academic freedom strengthens democratic institutions by promoting transparency, accountability, and society's access to knowledge and scientific progress;

#### CONCERNED:

That heavy reliance on government funding in many public universities may increase the vulnerability of academic institutions to political pressure, potentially influencing research agendas and institutional decision-making; and

#### EMPHASIZING:

That Member States have the responsibility to respect, protect, and promote academic freedom in accordance with their international human rights obligations;

That universities and higher education institutions must remain autonomous in governance, curriculum design, research agendas, and internal decision-making processes,

RESOLVES:

1. To invite Member States to reaffirm that academic freedom and institutional autonomy are fundamental components of democratic governance, freedom of expression, the rule of law, and scientific and social progress across the Americas.
2. To encourage Member States to publicly reaffirm the essential role of higher education institutions as spaces for open inquiry, pluralism, and evidence-based policymaking, and as fundamental contributors to democratic resilience and sustainable social development.
3. To encourage Member States to adopt and strengthen national legal frameworks that protect higher education institutions from political interference, censorship, and undue external pressure, in accordance with inter-American human rights standards, including:
  - a. Guarantees for freedom of teaching, learning, research, and publication.
  - b. Transparent, merit-based, and politically independent procedures for the appointment of academic leadership.
  - c. Legal safeguards ensuring institutional self-governance in higher education.
  - d. Protections against undue interference in hiring decisions, research agendas, admissions policies, and curriculum design.
4. To recommend that Member States strengthen protections for academic staff and students by:
  - a. Upholding labor rights and freedom of association in accordance with ILO standards.
  - b. Preventing intimidation, harassment, or retaliation within the academic community.
  - c. Supporting the development of institutional protocols to prevent and address gender-based violence and discrimination within higher education institutions.
  - d. Ensuring access to effective remedies in cases involving violations of academic freedom.
5. To encourage Member States to develop or strengthen national mechanisms to support scholars and students who face threats, displacement, or reprisals in connection with the exercise of academic freedom, including:
  - a. Emergency fellowships and temporary academic placements.
  - b. Visa facilitation and protection measures consistent with international law.
  - c. Partnerships with higher education institutions and civil society organizations to ensure the safe continuation of academic work.
6. To request the IACHR, in cooperation with CAFA and the V-Dem Institute, to continue monitoring and reporting on threats to academic freedom and institutional autonomy throughout the Hemisphere, including through the collection of voluntary annual reports from Member States

on progress made, ongoing challenges, and incidents affecting higher education institutions;

7. To request the IACHR to examine the feasibility of establishing a regional independent review mechanism tasked with receiving, assessing, and issuing non-binding recommendations on complaints involving violations of academic freedom and institutional autonomy;
8. To request the IACHR to develop non-binding regional guidelines on the protection of academic freedom and institutional autonomy in higher education.
9. To encourage Member States, particularly those with developing and small economies, to diversify funding sources for higher education institutions to reduce vulnerability to political or conditional financial pressures, including through alumni networks, regional research partnerships, shared faculty exchanges, and cross-border digital learning initiatives;
10. To encourage increased regional cooperation among OAS Member States to share best practices, legal frameworks, and institutional models that protect higher education governance structures from undue political interference;
11. To request the Secretary General to present a report on the implementation of this resolution to the next regular session of the General Assembly.

Approved for form and substance

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(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1.

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(Signature of Delegate)

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**PROMOTING COLLABORATION AMONG OAS MEMBER STATES TO ADVANCE  
INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS BORDER INSECURITY**

Third Committee

Topic No. 2 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of the Dominican Republic

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 2 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, which indicates that “To strengthen the peace and security of the continent” and “to promote...economic, social, and cultural development”;

Article 3 of the OAS Charter, which affirms that “economic cooperation is essential to the common welfare and prosperity of the peoples of the continent”;

Article 37 of the OAS Charter, which calls on Member States to “join together in seeking a solution to urgent or critical problems” affecting economic development or stability;

NOTING:

According to the Panamanian Migration Data, in the Fiscal Year 2023, more than 374,000 migrants traveled from South America through Panama’s Darien Gap. Additionally, data from the Current Population Survey shows that in 2022, 52 percent of all new immigrants, labeled legal or illegal, originated from the Western Hemisphere. This data displays a significant jump in immigration flow statistics from prior years/decade;

According to the Migration Policy Institute, irregular movements of people across borders have been the cause of strained infrastructures, legal systems, and social/political systems in countries that are encountering them;

BEARING IN MIND:

During a meeting hosted by the Council on Foreign Relations, the hosts concluded that the driving factors for migration within the Western Hemisphere have to do with economic, environmental, political, and social issues;

RECALLING:

AG/RES. 2939 (XLIX-O/19), Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development, which states the importance of promoting economic growth, institutional modernization and coordinated developmental policies among member states;

AG/RES. 2916 (XLVIII-O/18), which encourages cooperation within the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) to “strengthen governance” and promote “capacity building in vulnerable communities...”

## RESOLVES:

1. To thank the General Assembly for continuing resolution AG/RES. 2939 (XLIX-O/19), Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development,” which promotes economic growth, institutional modernization and cooperation among member states.
2. To encourage the integration of border security policies with integral development strategies by:
  - a. Expanding workforce training and wage incentive programs aimed at strengthening labor participation in sectors such as agriculture and construction.
  - b. Requiring coordinated planning between agencies responsible for security, labor, economic development and social services to develop policies that address migration, development and employment.
  - c. Encouraging the formalization of labor markets with high levels of migrant labor to strengthen economic stability.
3. To request member states across the hemisphere to strengthen and modernize border management systems through:
  - a. The implementation of standardized biometric registration and data sharing systems to improve migration tracking, particularly among countries in North America, Central America, and the Caribbean.
    - i. Encouraging commonality of migration databases between countries to ensure efficient information exchange.
  - b. Increasing technical and infrastructural cooperation among member states to support the modernization of border monitoring systems and the development of infrastructure in border regions.
    - i. Calling upon more developed states to provide training and guidance to countries with limited border management capacity.
  - c. Establishing capacity building programs for border security personnel that balances enforcement with human right protections, including:
    - i. Guidance on surveillance technology and operational procedures.
    - ii. Training in non-discriminatory and ethical treatment of migrants.
  - d. Ensuring that all biometric data collected be protected with the international standards of data privacy.
    - i. Limitation on how long data is stored and how it may be used

- 4. To request that member states annually report on the progress of capacity building programs and training initiatives through electronic submissions
  - a. promoting the sharing of findings among member states to strengthen regional collaboration.
  - b. Providing updates on measures taken to ensure data privacy of biometric measures and surveillance tools.

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

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

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