RESOLUTIONS OF THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF INTEREST TO CITEL

(THIRTY-SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION
June 3 – 5, 2007, Panama, Panama)

(Item on the Agenda: 11)

(Document submitted by the Secretariat of CITEL)
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

AG/RES. 2259 (XXXVII O/07) ............................................................................................................................................. 3  
STRENGTHENING HEMISPHERIC COOPERATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF CITEL EFFORTS TO PROMOTE TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION ................................................................. 3

AG/RES. 2263 (XXXVII O/07) ............................................................................................................................................. 6  
SUPPORT FOR THE COMMITTEE FOR THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES .............................................. 6

AG/RES. 2270 (XXXVII O/07) ............................................................................................................................................. 8  
CONFIDENCE- AND SECURITY-BUILDING IN THE AMERICAS .................................................................................. 8

AG/RES. 2272 (XXXVII O/07) ............................................................................................................................................. 11  
SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM .............................................. 11

AG/RES. 2304 (XXXVII O/07) ............................................................................................................................................. 15  
STRENGTHENING TECHNICAL COOPERATION FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT .............................................. 15

AG/RES. 2314 (XXXVII O/07) ............................................................................................................................................. 19  
NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION, RISK MANAGEMENT, AND ASSISTANCE IN NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTER SITUATIONS .......................................................................................................................... 19

AG/RES. 2338 (XXXVII O/07) ............................................................................................................................................. 24  
SUPPORT FOR AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE SUMMITS OF THE AMERICAS PROCESS .............................................. 24

AG/RES. 2354 (XXXVII O/07) ............................................................................................................................................. 27  
PROGRAM-BUDGET OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR 2008, QUOTAS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO FEMCIDI FOR 2008 ................................................................................................................................. 27
AG/RES. 2259 (XXXVII O/07)

STRENGTHENING HEMISPHERIC COOPERATION
IN THE FRAMEWORK OF CITEL EFFORTS TO PROMOTE
TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 5, 2007)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN resolution AG/RES. 2160 (XXXVI-O/06), in which the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) is requested to submit a follow-up report on its activities to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh regular session;

CONSIDERING:

That CITEL is the ideal forum for the coordination, discussion, and harmonization of regional strategies and policies on telecommunications and for the exchange of information in this area, so as to facilitate and promote the ongoing development of telecommunications in the Hemisphere, including information and communication technologies (ICTs); and

That the Fourth Regular Meeting of the Assembly of CITEL, held in San José, Costa Rica, adopted the Strategic Plan of CITEL for 2006-2010;

RECALLING:

That, in the Declaration of Santo Domingo: Good Governance and Development in the Knowledge-based Society, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the member states of the OAS request that “the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization of American States (OAS) continue to support the incorporation of ICTs into national development plans,” and further request the OAS to continue, through its General Secretariat, in particular through its specialized commissions, such as CITEL, coordinating regional efforts to develop initiatives and identify additional resources to provide greater access to ICTs and their use and benefits, thus contributing to bridging the digital divide; and

That, in resolution AG/RES. 2243 (XXXVI-O/06), “Support for the Implementation of the Declaration of Santo Domingo,” the General Assembly urged member states to attach priority to and continue supporting the implementation of the second phase of the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas and Plan of Action of Quito and, in accordance with that document, to continue adopting policies and regulations that promote the development and expansion of, and access to, infrastructure, especially in rural, remote, and underserved areas;

RECOGNIZING:

The importance of telecommunications and information and communication technologies for the political, economic, social and cultural progress of the countries, and that many countries in the region still do not have the necessary basic infrastructure, or long-term plans, laws, and regulations in force to promote ICT development and use;
The need to promote equitable, affordable, and universal ICT access everywhere so as to bridge the digital divide and create digital opportunities for all; and

The wide variety of activities undertaken by CITEL in 2006 to introduce technological advances, develop common positions for the member states of CITEL to take when dealing with the ITU, strengthen dialogue among members of CITEL, and expand training opportunities in order to promote the ongoing development and strengthening of the telecommunication sector in the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge authorities of member state governments to continue to promote the development, incorporation, and use of ICTs, and to request CITEL and the OAS General Secretariat to support such efforts.

2. To express its satisfaction with the work of CITEL to identify measures to strengthen hemispheric cooperation for the development of telecommunication infrastructure, and in creating an important platform for dialogue and exchange of experiences in order to move forward in this area.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat to implement the programs and projects set out in the Strategic Plan of CITEL for 2006-2010, especially those referring to the work of the second phase of the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas, promotion of the use of ICTs and the availability of broadband infrastructure, further human resource development and training, and preparation and follow-up on inter-American proposals, positions, and coordinated views for high-level international telecommunication meetings, so as to strengthen the regional position in the international context.

4. To instruct CITEL, with support from the General Secretariat:
   a. To continue reviewing, in the framework of the second phase of the Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas, the status of telecommunication/ICT services and connectivity;
   b. To identify the sectors with critical deficiencies where priority action is needed; and
   c. To present each year a report to the General Assembly that contains concrete proposals on how best to improve the status of ICTs in the countries, for wide dissemination in the member states, the private sector, and other interested groups.

5. To invite all member states to attach high priority to allocating resources to the telecommunication sector and to step up cooperation between developed and developing countries, as well as among developing countries, with a view to facilitating access to telecommunications infrastructure, especially in rural areas.

6. To urge the Secretary General to include CITEL projects and programs among such priorities as may arise for the mobilization of external resources.
7. To urge member states and permanent observers, individuals, and national and international public and private entities that so wish to support and/or participate in CITEL activities under way, in accordance with the CITEL Statute, to follow up on their progress, and make voluntary contributions to support the development and implementation of CITEL projects and programs.

8. To request the Permanent Council, through the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP), to invite the Secretariat of CITEL to submit reports periodically on the financial resources needed to implement its mandates.

9. To request CITEL to present to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh regular session a follow-up report on the implementation of this resolution.
AG/RES. 2263 (XXXVII O/07)

SUPPORT FOR THE COMMITTEE FOR THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 5, 2007)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND:

The Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities, adopted in Guatemala on June 7, 1999, which entered into effect on September 14, 2001 and has been ratified by 17 member states;

Resolution AG/RES. 2167 (XXXVI-O/06), on the “Establishment of the Committee Provided for in the Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities,” in which the Secretary General is requested to convene, in accordance with Article VI of that Convention, the first meeting of that Committee;

Resolution CP/RES. 913 (1577/07), “Committee for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities,” in which the offer by the Republic of Panama to host the first meeting of the Committee was accepted;

CONSIDERING that the first meeting of the Committee for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities was held on February 28 and March 1, 2007, in Panama City, in the Republic of Panama; and

HAVING SEEN the report on the first meeting of the Committee (CEDDIS/doc.28/07 corr. 1),

RESOLVES:

1. To express its satisfaction over the installation of the Committee for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities and the adoption of its Rules of Procedure and of the General Guidelines on the content of the reports of the states parties to the Convention; and to encourage the Committee to continue its work of monitoring implementation of the Convention, according to its approved work calendar.

2. To thank the people and Government of the Republic of Panama for their generous hospitality and their decisive and effective support for a successful first meeting of the Committee.

3. To create a specific fund of voluntary contributions, entitled “Specific Fund for the Committee for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities,” to be administered by the General Secretariat, in order to supplement financing for the activities of the Committee and its Technical Secretariat and for the participation of representatives appointed by those states parties that, owing to special circumstances, cannot finance such participation.
4. To request the Secretary General, through the Office of International Law, which serves as the Technical Secretariat of the Committee, to continue supporting the tasks assigned to the Committee.

5. To instruct the Permanent Council to follow up on this resolution, which will be carried out within the resources allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources, and to present a report on its implementation to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth regular session.
AG/RES. 2270 (XXXVII O/07)

CONFIDENCE- AND SECURITY-BUILDING IN THE AMERICAS

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 5, 2007)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly, in particular the section on the matters entrusted to the Committee on Hemispheric Security (AG/doc. 07/07);

RECALLING its resolutions AG/RES. 1121 (XXI-O/91) and AG/RES. 1123 (XXI-O/91), on strengthening peace and security in the Hemisphere; AG/RES. 1179 (XXII-O/92), AG/RES. 1237 (XXIII-O/93), AG/RES. 1284 (XXIV-O/94), AG/RES. 1288 (XXIV-O/94), AG/RES. 1353 (XXV-O/95), AG/RES. 1409 (XXVI-O/96), AG/RES. 1494 (XXVII-O/97), AG/RES. 1566 (XXVIII-O/98), AG/RES. 1623 (XXIX-O/99), AG/RES. 1744 (XXX-O/00), AG/RES. 1801 (XXXI-O/01), AG/RES. 1879 (XXXII-O/02), AG/RES. 1967 (XXXIII-O/03), AG/RES. 1996 (XXXIV-O/04), and AG/RES. 2113 (XXXV-O/05), on transparency and confidence- and security-building measures in the Americas (CSBMs); and AG/RES. 2246 (XXXVI-O/06), “Cooperation on Some Matters of Security in the Hemisphere”;

TAKING NOTE of the Chairman’s Conclusions of the First Meeting of the Forum on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures, held in Washington, D.C., on April 25 and 26, 2005 (CSH/FORO-I/doc.11/05); and the Rapporteur’s Report of the Second Meeting of the Forum on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures, held in Washington, D.C., on November 29, 2006 (CSH/FORO-II/doc.11/06);


CONSIDERING:

That in the Declaration on Security in the Americas, adopted at the Special Conference on Security, held in Mexico City, Mexico, in October 2003, member states affirmed that “[c]onfidence- and security-building measures and transparency in defense and security policies contribute to increasing stability, safeguarding hemispheric and international peace and security, and consolidating democracy,” and recommended that the Committee on Hemispheric Security meet periodically as the “Forum for Confidence- and Security-Building Measures” in order to review and evaluate existing confidence- and security-building measures and, if appropriate, consider new measures that would make it possible to ensure progress in this area; and

That, in the Declaration of Managua of the Seventh Conference of Ministers of Defense of the Americas, member states reaffirmed the fundamental importance of adopting and implementing confidence and security-building measures of the OAS for strengthening bilateral, subregional, and hemispheric relations, contributing to international stability, peace, cooperation, and security,

RESOLVES:
1. To urge member states to continue implementing, in the manner they deem most appropriate, the recommendations contained in the Declaration of Santiago and the Declaration of San Salvador on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and in the Consensus of Miami: Declaration by the Experts on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures: Recommendations to the Summit-Mandated Special Conference on Security.

2. To commend member states that have regularly submitted their reports on the application of the confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs) contained in the above-mentioned Declarations and Consensus; and to urge all member states to provide or continue to provide reports and information on the application of CSBMs to the General Secretariat, by July 15 of each year.

3. To instruct the Permanent Council to convene the Third Forum on Confidence-and Security-Building Measures, to meet in the second half of 2007, to examine the application of confidence- and security-building measures throughout the region and consider next steps.

4. To establish the goal of universal participation by all member states, by 2010, in the United Nations (UN) Register of Conventional Arms and the UN Standardized International Reporting of Military Expenditures; and to renew its request that member states provide said information to the OAS Secretary General by July 15 of each year.

5. To encourage OAS member states to share bilateral and subregional experiences regarding the development of standardized methodologies for measuring military expenditures and inform the Forum on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures on the results of those experiences.

6. To urge member states to generate additional trust and transparency through the development and exchange of defense white papers by all OAS member states, taking into account the guidelines adopted by the Permanent Council in its resolution CP/RES. 829 (1342/02), “Adoption of the Guidelines on Developing National Defense Policy and Doctrine Papers.”

7. To request the General Secretariat to make available to member states a secure communication network for the instantaneous exchange of information and notifications on confidence- and security-building measures.

8. To request the General Secretariat to update each year, on the basis of information submitted by member states each year by July 1, the Roster of Experts on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures, and to circulate it to the member states each year by July 30.

9. To request the General Secretariat to continue to contribute to greater confidence-building and transparency by improving the Committee on Hemispheric Security Website to facilitate access to member states’ reports and by sending periodic notes verbales on approaching reporting deadlines.

10. To request the Secretary General to transmit this resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary General of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the Association of South-East Asian Nations Regional Forum (ARF), and other pertinent regional organizations.
11. To instruct the Permanent Council and the General Secretariat, as appropriate, to carry out the activities mentioned in this resolution within the resources allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

12. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth regular session on the implementation of this resolution.
AG/RES. 2272 (XXXVII O/07)

SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 5, 2007)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Observations and Recommendations of the Permanent Council on the Annual Reports of the Organs, Agencies, and Entities of the Organization of American States (AG/doc….07 add.), particularly the Annual Report of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CP/doc….07);

REITERATING the commitments undertaken in resolutions AG/RES. 1650 (XXIX-O/99), “Hemispheric Cooperation to Prevent, Combat and Eliminate Terrorism”; AG/RES. 1734 (XXX-O/00), “Observations and Recommendations on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism”; and AG/RES. 1789 (XXXI-O/01), AG/RES. 1877 (XXXII-O/02), AG/RES. 1964 (XXXIII-O/03), AG/RES. 2051 (XXXIV-O/04), AG/RES. 2137 (XXXV-O/05), and AG/RES. 2170 (XXXVI-O/06), “Support for the Work of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism”;

REAFFIRMING that terrorism, whatever its form or manifestation and whatever its origin or motivation, has no justification whatsoever, is inimical to the full enjoyment and exercise of human rights, and poses a grave threat to international peace and security, institutions, and the democratic values enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and other regional and international instruments;

Noting with satisfaction the holding of the Seventh Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) in Panama City, Panama, from February 28 to March 2, 2007, the adoption of the Declaration of Panama on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure in the Hemisphere in the Face of Terrorism, and CICTE’s decision to hold a meeting of experts on the security of tourism and recreational facilities in the Americas;¹

NOTING ALSO that in that Declaration the member states stated that “critical infrastructure refers, inter alia, to those facilities, systems, and networks, and physical or virtual (IT) services and equipment, the disabling or destruction of which would have a severe impact on populations, public health, security, economic activity, the environment, democratic governance, or the ability of the government of a member state to operate effectively” and that they recognized the Panama Canal as an example of critical infrastructure for the Hemisphere;

WELCOMING the offers made by the Government of the Republic of Panama, in its capacity as Chair of CICTE, to hold, inter alia, an International Conference on Secure Trade and Transportation, a Forum between CICTE and Inter-American Civil Society, and a Training

¹ The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, because it regards it as criminal and unjustifiable, and, for reasons of principle, enters a reservation concerning adoption of the Declaration of Panama on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure in the Hemisphere in the Face of Terrorism, as it considers that said Declaration does not contain the elements needed for comprehensive consideration of the topic of terrorism. The grounds for our position are set forth in document CICTE/DEC. 1/07.
Program for Judges and Prosecutors on enforcement of the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism and international conventions for combating terrorism (CICTE/INF. 5/07);

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that at the aforementioned seventh regular session of CICTE the decision was made to establish an open-ended working group to conduct a substantive review of the CICTE Work Plan;

RECALLING the need to confront terrorism through sustained cooperation, with full respect for the obligations that international law imposes, including international human rights law, international humanitarian law, and international refugee law;

REAFFIRMING that the fight against terrorism demands the broadest possible cooperation among the member states and coordination among international and regional organizations, in order to prevent, punish, and eliminate terrorism in all its forms;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION that Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Grenada, and Uruguay ratified the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism in 2006 and 2007 and that other countries not yet party to this Convention have nonetheless made important headway;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION ALSO the holding of the fifth meeting of CICTE’s National Points of Contact, in Panama City, Panama, on February 28, 2007, and the strengthening of the National Points of Contact Network to facilitate and improve information exchange and to share best practices for cooperation in the fight against terrorism in the Hemisphere; and

WELCOMING the recently adopted United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, of September 8, 2006 (doc. A/RES/60/288), which calls for the intensification of all activities designed to enhance security and the protection of especially vulnerable targets, such as critical infrastructure and public places, and which builds on many of the elements proposed by the U.N. Secretary-General in his report of April 27, 2006, to the U.N. General Assembly, entitled “Uniting against Terrorism: Recommendations for a global counter-terrorism strategy” (doc. A/60/825),

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate its most vigorous condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as criminal and unjustifiable under any circumstances, in any place, and regardless of who perpetrates it, and because it poses a grave threat to international peace and security, and to the democracy, stability, and prosperity of the countries of the region.

2. To endorse the Declaration of Panama on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure in the Hemisphere in the Face of Terrorism, adopted by the members of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) at its seventh regular session; and to encourage the member states to implement the commitments contained therein.1

3. To acknowledge that terrorism is a threat to critical infrastructure; and to express the commitment of member states to take all necessary actions, in accordance with domestic laws and relevant international agreements, to prevent, mitigate, and deter potential terrorist threats to critical infrastructure in the Hemisphere, through the development and implementation of national measures and the strengthening of regional and international cooperation.
4. To reiterate that it is important for the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) to sign, ratify, implement, and continue implementing, as the case may be, the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, as well as pertinent regional and international conventions and protocols, including the 13 international conventions and protocols and United Nations Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001), 1540 (2004), 1566 (2004), 1617 (2005), and 1624 (2005), in order to find, deny safe haven to, and bring to justice, on the basis of the principle of extradite or prosecute, any person who supports, facilitates, participates, or attempts to participate in the financing, planning, preparation, or commission of terrorist acts or provides safe havens.

5. To call upon those member states that have not yet done so to ratify the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism and to implement it effectively.

6. To express its abiding commitment to fight terrorism and the financing thereof with full respect for the rule of law and international law, including international humanitarian law, international human rights law, international refugee law, the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, and United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

7. To express its satisfaction with the progress made by member states in the adoption of effective measures to prevent, combat, and eradicate terrorism; and to underscore the need to continue strengthening their application and that of cooperation mechanisms in the fight against terrorism at the bilateral, subregional, regional, and international levels.

8. To reiterate its satisfaction with the work of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) in identifying immediate and longer-term measures needed to strengthen hemispheric cooperation to prevent, combat, and eliminate terrorism, including technical assistance provided to states that request it in order to comply with their obligations under the various binding international instruments, in accordance with the CICTE Work Plan.

9. To encourage the work of the Working Group on the CICTE Work Plan, established at the aforementioned seventh regular session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), which will meet at the headquarters of the OAS General Secretariat, in Washington, D.C., as part of the preparatory process for the eighth regular session of this Committee.

10. To instruct the CICTE Secretariat to implement the programs and projects listed in the CICTE Work Plan for 2006-2007, in particular those that involve the protection of critical infrastructure, international cooperation, measures to prevent, control, and punish terrorist financing, through training programs for those officers of the law and the courts charged with investigating, prosecuting, and punishing these crimes; assistance in carrying out the Nine Special Recommendations on Terrorist Financing of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF); assistance in creating and launching Cyber Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs) in those countries where they do not yet exist; the inter-American Program for the Security of Tourism and Recreational Facilities in the Americas; measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring biological, chemical, and nuclear materials, and technical assistance to improve the quality of travel documents and similar documents and their security measures.

11. Once again to thank the member states and permanent observers that have contributed human and other resources to CICTE’s Secretariat to help implement the CICTE Work Plan.
12. Once again to call upon member states, permanent observers, and pertinent international organizations to provide, maintain, or increase, as appropriate, their voluntary contributions of funding and/or human resources to CICTE to enable it to perform its functions and enhance its programs and areas of activity.

13. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue providing, within the resources allocated in the program-budget of the OAS and other resources, administrative and any other support needed for the CICTE Secretariat, including support for the eighth regular session of CICTE, scheduled to be held at the headquarters of the OAS General Secretariat, in Washington, D.C., in the first quarter of 2008, including the three preparatory meetings for that regular session and those required for the Working Group on the CICTE Work Plan; for the sixth meeting of CICTE’s National Points of Contact that will take place in conjunction with that regular session; and for the upcoming Meeting of Experts on the Security of Tourism and Recreational Facilities.

14. To request the Chair of CICTE to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth regular session on the implementation of this resolution.
AG/RES. 2304 (XXXVII O/07)

STRENGTHENING TECHNICAL COOPERATION
FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 5, 2007)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN resolutions CIDI/RES. 144 (IX-O/04), AG/RES. 1982 (XXXIV-O/04), CIDI/RES. 163 (X-O/05), and AG/RES. 2078 (XXXV-O/05), “Strengthening Technical Cooperation for Integral Development”; CIDI/RES. 179 (XI-O/06) and AG/RES. 2203 (XXXVI-O/06) “Reiteration and renewal of commitments and mandates in the area of inter-American cooperation for integral development”; CIDI/RES 193 (XII-O/07) “Strengthening Technical Cooperation for Integral Development;”

CONSIDERING:

That, according to Article 94 of the Charter of the Organization of American States and Article 1 of the Statutes of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), CIDI is an organ of the OAS whose purpose is to promote cooperation among the American states for the purpose of achieving integral development and, in particular, helping to eliminate extreme poverty;

That the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Integral Development (2006-2009) provides that technical cooperation is important and embraces all member states, regardless of their level of development;

That the Special Multilateral Fund of CIDI (FEMCIDI) is funded with voluntary contributions from member states and that its purpose is to contribute to the financing of national and multinational cooperation programs, projects, and activities carried out under the Strategic Plan;

That the technical quality of the projects influences funding potential and effective project execution;

That it is necessary to develop a strategy for raising external funds to complement the important efforts of member states, so as to strengthen FEMCIDI's capacity to fund more projects;

The need for the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) to define, within its sphere of competence, guidelines and strategies for raising and managing additional funds from different sources to finance cooperation activities;

That the Strategic Plan indicates that, in the spirit of the partnership for development, national institutions taking part in cooperation activities will have to take into account the priority areas and the guidelines contained in the Strategic Plan, to ensure that the projects and activities related to the Plan are tied to mandates of the Summits, ministerial meetings, or meetings of the inter-American committees and give priority to those of a multinational character;
That CIDI, in its resolution CIDI/RES. 143 (IX-O/04), decided that cooperation programs, projects, activities, and initiatives generated by member states, within the framework of the Strategic Plan, must respond to the mandates of the General Assembly, the Summits of the Americas, the ministerial meetings, and the inter-American committees so that cooperation strategies deriving therefrom may be strengthened;

That the Strategic Plan indicates that cooperation activities in the areas of action must, to the extent possible, include in their formulation, implementation, and evaluation the following: (a) civil society participation; (b) environmental considerations; (c) human resource development; and (d) gender equality and equity;

That the technical secretariats of ministerial meetings and meetings of the inter-American committees provide support to member states in the preparation of projects funded with FEMCIDI resources and carry out activities to coordinate and execute said projects, as requested;

That the IACD is implementing a mechanism for evaluating cooperation activities funded by FEMCIDI, and has successfully concluded the third evaluation cycle;

That in addition to the evaluation conducted once a project is concluded, it is very important that projects have an adequate follow-up during the course of their execution;

That the Permanent Executive Committee of CIDI (CEPCIDI) has not yet concluded its consideration of the document “Criteria for the Presentation, Selection, and Evaluation of Projects Financed by FEMCIDI” (CEPCIDI/SCSD/doc.252/04 rev. 10); and

That, moreover, a process of reflection and consultation is taking place within CEPCIDI on the present structure of partnership for development, exploring numerous opportunities, with a view to strengthening it,

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate that technical cooperation for integral development programs, projects, activities, and initiatives generated by the member states must respond to the mandates of the General Assembly, in particular mandates of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Integral Development (2006-2009), the Summits of the Americas, ministerial meetings, and/or meetings of the inter-American committees, and contribute especially to the elimination of extreme poverty and that priority be given to those of a multinational character, while continuing to recognize the importance of national projects to member states.

2. To recommend to member states that, to the extent possible, the cooperation activities they present in the areas of action of the Strategic Plan include, as elements in their formulation, implementation, and evaluation, the following: (a) civil society participation; (b) environmental considerations; (c) human resource development; and (d) gender equality and equity; and to instruct the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD), when it considers cooperation projects, prepares the preliminary programming proposal for the Special Multilateral Fund of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (FEMCIDI), and evaluates technical cooperation activities, to verify whether the projects have included those elements, when appropriate.

3. To recommend once again to the ministerial meetings and inter-American committees that they consider the formulation of projects that implement the mandates and...
political decisions referred to in the preceding operative paragraph, for timely presentation by a member state for financing from a variety of sources, including FEMCIDI.

4. To urge all the member states to contribute to FEMCIDI and, to the extent possible, increase their contributions to finance partnership for development activities.


6. To instruct CEPCIDI to continue, and if possible to expedite, the process of reflection and consultation on the current structure of partnership for development, and to include in this process a comprehensive review of the norms governing the matter in the OAS, in light of the cooperation needs of the states and the diverse capacities of each, and taking into account the structural needs within the General Secretariat.

7. To further instruct CEPCIDI, in the framework of the aforementioned consultation and review process, to initiate a dialogue on the possibility of implementing new cooperation mechanisms and modalities allowing for a more efficient use of the capacities of the OAS as a multilateral organization and of the capacities of all the Member States, through cooperation among states with different levels of development in projects of particular benefit to the relatively less developed countries.

8. To these ends, to request CEPCIDI to convene, by March 30, 2008, a special technical meeting at which national authorities and experts in cooperation will participate to consider the matter.

9. To reiterate its request to the IACD to make special efforts to obtain additional financial and non-financial resources and, in that connection, to request that the Agency, within its capabilities, issue guidelines and define strategies for raising additional funds to finance partnership for development activities. In this connection, to instruct SEDI to present, by September 30, 2007, a proposed strategy for raising external funds and, in coordination with the Management Board, to arrange for its implementation.

10. To instruct the IACD to continue to foster increased collaboration and synergy among all areas of the General Secretariat that carry out cooperation activities financed with FEMCIDI resources or with resources from other sources, in particular those whose content is linked to the Strategic Plan, and to report to CEPCIDI on a regular basis in that regard.

11. To note the results of the third FEMCIDI project evaluation cycle conducted by the IACD (AICD/JD/doc.106/06).

12. To direct that the findings of that evaluation of the projects and programs be used by the partnership for development actors to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability of the positive results of partnership for development activities and to support the mobilization of other resources.

13. To instruct the General Secretariat to provide coordinated support to member states in the formulation, execution, and follow-up of cooperation activities.
14. To further instruct the General Secretariat to consolidate, update and distribute on a quarterly basis to member states, information related to all cooperation projects that are proposed, evaluated and carried out in the framework of the OAS, in order to have pertinent information for the process of reflection and decision-making mentioned in paragraph 6.

15. To instruct the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) to work with the member states to achieve optimum technical quality in the projects.

16. In this regard, to instruct SEDI to organize as necessary, prior to the start of the 2008 FEMCIDI programming cycle, subregional coordination meetings, in order to support member states in the development and design of projects, preferably with a subregional focus, that will lead, inter alia, to improvements in the technical quality of projects, the sharing of successful experiences, and best practices that can be more broadly applied.
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly, in particular the section on the work of the Committee on Hemispheric Security pertaining to natural disasters and risk management (AG/doc. 07);

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

By the devastation in several member states caused by diverse natural disasters, including floods and droughts caused by El Niño, a cyclical phenomenon associated with warm water currents in the Pacific Ocean, landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, and hurricanes which have resulted in losses suffered by their populations, including the tragic loss of life, substantial damage to their economic and social infrastructure, and the resulting negative impact on their development objectives and on their poverty eradication efforts, exacerbated by the diversion of financial resources to disaster response and away from sustainable development; and

The conclusions and recommendations of the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), also referred to as AR4 and published in 2007, whose summary for policymakers was adopted at the 10th meeting of Working Group I, in Paris, in February 2007 and which is pending approval by the Plenary;

The findings in that same report on climate change and sustainable development suggesting that a way to increase adaptability is to introduce climate change impact considerations in development plans, including measures for adaptation of land-use planning and infrastructure design;

REAFFIRMING the importance of urgently reducing the vulnerability of member states to natural hazards through the development of domestic natural disaster reduction strategies, mutual assistance, technical cooperation, land-use planning, and improvement of building codes;

RECOGNIZING the need to include a gender perspective in the Organization's activities related to natural disaster reduction and risk management;

CONSIDERING that effective natural disaster reduction and mitigation is dependent on a high degree of preparedness, effective mobilization, and coordination of the governments of the countries affected at all levels, as well as of the private sector and nongovernmental, community, and civil society organizations;

RECOGNIZING:

The important role of the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CSH) in coordinating cooperation among the organs and mechanisms of the Organization related to the various aspects
of security and defense in the Hemisphere, including natural and man-made disasters, in the framework of the Declaration on Security in the Americas;

The Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR), in accordance with its Statutes, and the Inter-American Emergency Aid Fund (FONDEM), as one of the principal regional instruments for assisting member states in preparing for, responding to, and reducing vulnerability to natural and other disasters, and as the advisory body to FONDEM and to the states parties to the Inter-American Convention to Facilitate Disaster Assistance;

The commitments made by member states to meet the natural disaster risk reduction goals of the Hyogo Framework for Action, adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (Kobe, Japan, January 18 - 22, 2005), including the important role of regional organizations in helping to achieve those goals;

The efforts of subregional intergovernmental organizations, such as the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA), the Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC), and the Andean Committee for Disaster Prevention and Assistance (CAPRADE), in support of implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action; and

The need to continue strengthening the Organization’s planning and management activities so as to respond more effectively to the frequent natural disasters in the Hemisphere;

RECALLING:

Its prior resolutions on natural disaster reduction and risk management [AG/RES. 2184 (XXXVI-O/06) and AG/RES. 2114 (XXXV-O/05)], on natural disaster reduction [AG/RES. 2024 (XXXIV-O/04), AG/RES. 1955 (XXXIII-O/03), and AG/RES. 1885 (XXXII-O/02)], and on OAS natural disaster reduction mechanisms [AG/RES. 1803 (XXXI-O/01) and AG/RES. 1755 (XXX-O/00)]; and

The commitment undertaken by the member states, set forth in the Plan of Action of the Fourth Summit of the Americas, held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, in November 2005, to substantially improve the capacity at national, regional, and hemispheric levels for risk mitigation; to implement early warning systems; to enhance disaster recovery, reconstruction, and resilience capabilities in collaboration with relevant regional institutions; and to explore with relevant international and regional institutions the coordinated development of effective public-private catastrophic risk insurance systems;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

That the First Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Sustainable Development, held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, on December 4 and 5, 2006, expressed in the Declaration of Santa Cruz + 10 that the impacts of natural disasters are devastating and negatively affect the quality of life of affected communities and the development of all countries of the Hemisphere and that risk prevention and mitigation measures can increase the resilience and reduce the vulnerability of communities;

That at that same meeting, the General Secretariat, through the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development and its Department of Sustainable Development, established the Inter-American Network for Disaster Mitigation (INDM);
That the 34 member states have been invited to designate their national operational focal points to coordinate and serve as national liaisons with the competent governmental, nongovernmental, and private organizations, within their national territories, for all INDM-related matters;

That in most countries the national operational focal points for the INDM are the government agencies responsible for natural disaster preparedness, prevention, and mitigation; and

That the General Secretariat, through the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development and its Department of Sustainable Development, cooperated with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in organizing the Regional Forum of the Americas on Laws, Standards, and Principles Relating to International Disaster Response (IDRL), held in Panama in April 2007; and

NOTING:

The ongoing coordination initiatives of the General Secretariat, through the Office of the Assistant Secretary General and the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development and its Department of Sustainable Development, with international financial institutions, and the important work of the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system in matters related to natural disasters, in their areas of competence,

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate the mandates set forth in resolution AG/RES. 2184 (XXXVI-O/06) and to continue to accord high priority to the topic of natural disaster reduction, risk management, and assistance in natural and other disaster situations.

2. To request the member states to continue attaching importance to climate variability, including the El Niño and La Niña phenomena, and the adverse affects of climate change, which represent additional risks for all the countries in the Hemisphere, especially for developing countries.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat, through the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development and its Department of Sustainable Development:

   a. To cooperate with member states and to coordinate its efforts with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA), the Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC), the Andean Committee for Disaster Prevention and Assistance (CAPRADE), relevant United Nations agencies, and other national centers in the member states , in order to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action; and

   b. To work closely with the appropriate national, regional, and international agencies on increasing the resilience of local communities and the most vulnerable sectors, with emphasis on developing and implementing risk self-assessment tools and systems; reducing the vulnerability of physical infrastructure, principally in the housing and education sectors; and
increasing the ability to adapt to climate variations, considering climate change scenarios, and including zoning, vulnerability maps, and planning for land use and tenancy; and

c. To work closely with the private sector, with international, regional, subregional, and national natural disaster preparedness and response agencies, and with nongovernmental emergency response organizations in eliminating obstacles to humanitarian assistance and to risk transfer, with particular emphasis on strengthening the necessary legal frameworks.

d. To compile and disseminate information on diverse regional and international experiences regarding insurance-related aspects of disaster prevention and mitigation, especially agricultural insurance for family-run small-scale farms or tenant farmers’ plots, in order to benefit the most vulnerable sectors.

4. To recognize the Inter-American Network for Disaster Mitigation (INDM) as the permanent hemispheric mechanism for strengthening practical cooperation among intergovernmental agencies in the area of disaster reduction, especially by sharing technical information and best practices.

5. To request the IACNDR, with support from the INDM, to update the Inter-American Strategic Plan (IASP) for Policies on Risk Reduction, Risk Management, and Disaster Response; and to urge the member states to establish near-term implementation timeframes for its recommendations, in accordance with the domestic laws in effect in their countries.

6. To request the Permanent Council, with support from the INDM, to convene, for the first half of 2008, a meeting of high-level national authorities on natural disaster reduction and risk management, with the participation of the private sector, of subregional, national, and international agencies and organizations, and of nongovernmental, community, and civil society organizations.

7. To urge each state party to the Inter-American Convention to Facilitate Disaster Assistance to designate a national coordinating authority pursuant to the terms of the Convention, taking into consideration the functions of the national operational focal points of the INDM, and to notify the General Secretariat of that designation.

8. Once again to invite those member states that have not already done so to give consideration to signing and/or ratifying the Inter-American Convention to Facilitate Disaster Assistance, as the case may be, and to adopt the measures necessary for its effective implementation.

9. To request the General Secretariat, through its Department of Sustainable Development, to work on strengthening the technical capacity of member states in the areas addressed in the Inter-American Convention to Facilitate Disaster Assistance.

10. To request the IACNDR and the General Secretariat to submit a joint annual report to the Permanent Council on the fulfillment of the mandates of the General Assembly and the Statutes of the IACNDR.
11. To instruct the Permanent Council and the General Secretariat to carry out the activities mentioned in this resolution within the resources allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

12. To request the Permanent Council to report on the implementation of this resolution to the OAS General Assembly at its thirty-eighth regular session.

13. To request the Secretary General to forward a copy of this resolution to the United Nations Secretary-General and to the competent subregional agencies.
SUPPORT FOR AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE SUMMITS OF THE AMERICAS PROCESS

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 5, 2007)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the Annual Report of the Permanent Council to the General Assembly on the activities of the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (AG/doc.________/07);

HAVING SEEN resolutions AG/RES. 2171 (XXXVI-O/06), “Follow-up and Implementation of the Mandates of the Declaration of Mar del Plata and the Plan of Action of the Fourth Summit of the Americas” and AG/RES. 2190 (XXXVI-O/06) “Support for and Follow-up to the Summits of the Americas Process”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the Declarations and the Plans of Actions adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the First Summit of the Americas (Miami, 1994); the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development (Santa Cruz de la Sierra, 1996); the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, 1998); the Third Summit of the Americas (Quebec City, 2001); the Special Summit of the Americas (Monterrey, 2004); and the Fourth Summit of the Americas (Mar del Plata, 2005);

RECALLING that, through resolution AG/RES. 1349 (XXV-O/95), the General Assembly established a special committee of the Permanent Council on inter-American summits management, and that, at its meeting of July 31, 2002, the Permanent Council decided to merge it with the Committee on Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities, thereby creating the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (CISC), in order to ensure effective, timely, and appropriate follow-up of the activities assigned to the Organization by the Summit of the Americas and to coordinate the Organization’s preparation, participation, and follow-up with regard to future Summits;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the acknowledgement at the Third Summit of the function that the CISC fulfills in coordinating the efforts of the OAS in supporting the Summit of the Americas Process and in serving as a forum for civil society to contribute to the Summits of the Americas Process; as well as the establishment of the Summits of the Americas Secretariat;

RECALLING that at Summits of the Americas, the Heads of State and Government recognized the important role played by the OAS in the implementation of decisions of the Summits of the Americas and that the Fourth Summit, in particular, recognized the pivotal role that the OAS plays in the implementation and follow-up of Summit mandates and instructed the General Secretariat to continue to act as technical secretariat; provide support for meetings of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG), ministerial meetings, and specialized conferences; coordinate the participation of civil society; and ensure the dissemination of information on the Summits Process and the commitments adopted by the countries;

RECALLING that at the Fourth Summit, the Heads of State and Government instructed members of the Joint Summit Working Group, comprising the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Economic Commission for Latin America and
NOTING that at the XLVI Meeting of the Summit Implementation Review Group that was held on September 12, 2006 at OAS headquarters, the Republic of Argentina officially transferred the Chairmanship of the Summits of the Americas Process to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the host country of the Fifth Summit of the Americas to be held in 2009,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states to continue to implement the commitments of the Summits of the Americas and to promote and disseminate them within their respective national administrations.

2. To renew the mandate to the Permanent Council to coordinate the activities assigned to the Organization of American States (OAS) by the Summits of the Americas.

3. To instruct the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization to continue to give the highest priority to carrying out the initiatives assigned to them by the General Assembly, in accordance with the mandates of the Summits of the Americas, and to report regularly on these activities, as appropriate, to the Permanent Council, the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), and the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (CISC).

4. To request that the General Secretariat, through the Summits of the Americas Secretariat, continue to serve as the institutional memory and technical secretariat of the Summits of the Americas Process, continue to support the follow-up and dissemination of Summits mandates, and continue to offer support to member states in implementing the mandates of the Declaration of Mar del Plata and its Plan of Action, as well as provide technical support in the preparation of the Fifth Summit of the Americas to be held in Trinidad and Tobago in 2009.

5. To request the General Secretariat to provide updates to the CISC and to the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) on the ongoing implementation and follow-up of the commitments undertaken in the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas, the Declaration of Nuevo León, and the Declaration and Plan of Action of the Fourth Summit of the Americas.

6. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue, through the Joint Summit Working Group, chaired by the OAS Summits of the Americas Secretariat, to coordinate and promote the implementation and follow-up, in all agencies, of the Plans of Action of the Summits of the Americas, the Declaration of Nuevo León, and the Declaration of Mar del Plata. To request, further, that it hold at least one meeting of the heads of the institutions of the Joint Summit Working Group agency heads each year to review progress made and plan joint activities, as a complement to the regular interagency meetings and provide assistance in the preparatory activities for the Fifth Summit of the Americas.
7. To request the General Secretariat to continue providing the necessary support for ministerial and sectoral meetings related to the implementation of Summit mandates and commitments on topics of interest to the OAS.

8. To request the General Secretariat to make efforts, through the Summits Secretariat, to promote and disseminate among the various social actors the mandates and commitments emanating from the Summits of the Americas so that these actors may contribute to their implementation.

9. To urge member states to continue contributing to the Specific Fund for the Summit Implementation Review Group in order to provide financial support for the Group’s activities.

10. To request the General Secretariat to submit to the Permanent Council systematic and detailed information on the budgetary and financial management of said Specific Fund.

11. To request the General Secretariat, within budgetary availability, to strengthen the Summits of the Americas Secretariat by providing it with the human and financial resources it needs to support follow-up and dissemination of the mandates of the Summits of the Americas.

12. To instruct the General Secretariat to carry out the activities mentioned in this resolution within the resources allocated in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources; and to instruct the Secretary General to seek additional voluntary funds to carry out the activities mentioned in this resolution.

13. To instruct the General Secretariat to report to the Permanent Council before the thirty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly on the implementation of this resolution.
The General Assembly,

Having seen:

The proposed program-budget of the Organization for fiscal year 2008, presented by the Secretary General on March 28, 2007 (AG/CP/doc.719/07);

The report of the Preparatory Committee on the proposed program-budget of the Organization for 2008 (AG/CP/doc.734/07); and

The Annual Report of the Board of External Auditors (JAE/doc.37/07), presented to the Permanent Council on May 2, 2007;

Noting:

That, at its thirty-first special session, the General Assembly, through resolution AG/RES. 1 (XXXI-E/06), approved the transitional quota scale for the OAS Regular Fund to finance the program-budget for the years 2007 and 2008;

That in this resolution the General Assembly instructed the Permanent Council to continue its consideration of a draft methodology to determine the quotas of the member states, taking into account the criteria established in Article 55 of the OAS Charter, the results of which will determine the applicable criteria for the 2009 program-budget and for subsequent years;

Considering:

That resolution AG/RES. 2257 (XXXVI-O/06) instructed the General Secretariat to submit to the Preparatory Committee a proposed program-budget for the Regular Fund for 2008, at a level for which the Secretary General can demonstrate available financing, but not to exceed US$81.5 million;

That, in accordance with Articles 54 and 55 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), the General Assembly approves the program-budget of the Organization and establishes the basis for setting the quota that each government is to contribute to the maintenance of the Organization, taking into account the ability to pay of the respective countries and their determination to contribute in an equitable manner;

That the Organization is mandated to give preference to priorities defined by its members, within the limits of its available resources;

That, pursuant to the salary policy of parity with the United Nations established in resolution AG/RES. 1319 (XXV-O/95) and Article 40 of the General Standards to Govern the
Operations of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (“General Standards”), the Secretary General adjusted the General Secretariat’s 2007 basic salary scales, and increased the post adjustment for the Washington, D.C., area; and

That, in accordance with Article 60.b of the OAS Charter, the Preparatory Committee transmitted to the General Assembly a report on the proposed program-budget of the Organization for 2008 (AG/CP/doc.734/07), along with its recommendations;

BEARING IN MIND:

That on December 14, 2005, the Secretary General issued Executive Order No. 05-13, “Restructuring of the General Secretariat,” which was subsequently revised on three occasions, and of which the version in force is Executive Order No. 05-13, Rev. 3 on March 30, 2007;

That Article 120 of the OAS Charter stipulates that in selecting the personnel of the General Secretariat, first consideration shall be given to efficiency, competence, and integrity; but at the same time, in the recruitment of personnel of all ranks, importance shall be given to the necessity of obtaining as wide a geographic representation as possible;

That the Secretary General is urged to continue his work to establish policies of gender equity and equality in the workplace and to make each manager accountable for the application of these policies

That Article 72.b of the General Standards stipulates that the amount of the Reserve Subfund shall be 30 percent of the total of the annual quotas of the member states, that this amount shall be reached through crediting to this Subfund the annual income in excess of the obligations and expenditures of the Operations Subfund, and that to the extent that the Subfund exceeds 30 percent of the total of the annual quotas of the member states, the excess shall be available for any purposes approved by the General Assembly;

That Article 90 of the General Standards sets out the required contents for the Secretary General’s presentation to the Preparatory Committee of the proposed program-budget and complementary information and that it is necessary to allow member states the time to review and analyze the budget proposal;

That in the message that the Secretary General delivered to the Preparatory Committee on March 28, 2007 (AG/CP/INF.565/07) he stressed the need to make budgetary provision for the payment of statutory cost-of-living adjustments and inflation in the 2008 program-budget;

That the Secretary General requested that member states endorse a nominal budget of US$87.5 million for 2008, which should be equivalent to the 2006 budget, adjusted for inflation and statutory cost-of-living adjustments applicable to 2007 (3.6%) and projected for 2008 (3.7%);

The decision of the member states at the Preparatory Committee on May 3, 2007 to authorize the Subcommittee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters of the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly to consider the Secretary General’s proposal for a budget ceiling for 2008 of US$87.5 million.

RESOLVES:

I. BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS
1. To approve and authorize the program-budget of the Organization for the fiscal period from January 1 through December 31, 2008, financed by the following funds at the corresponding levels:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(US$1,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Regular Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>87,500.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Voluntary Fund</td>
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<td>5,983.1</td>
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<td><strong>93,483.1</strong></td>
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</table>

2. To approve the specific levels of appropriations, by chapter, program, and subprogram, with the recommendations, instructions, or mandates as detailed below:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(US$1,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1 - SECRETARY GENERAL</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8,574.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>11A Office of the Secretary General</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,717.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>11B Department of Legal Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,239.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>11C Department of Planning, Control, and Evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>931.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>11D Department of External Relations</td>
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<td>1,050.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>11E Department of Press and Communications</td>
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<td>2,068.1</td>
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<td>11F Office of Protocol</td>
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<tr>
<td>581.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>11G Summits Secretariat</td>
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<td>986.7</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2 - ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL</strong></td>
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<td>20,153.3</td>
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<td>21A Office of the Assistant Secretary General</td>
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<td>1,311.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>21B Office of Conferences and Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>5,947.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>21C Un programmed Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>290.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>21D Office of Cultural Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,555.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>21E Coordinating Office for the Offices and Units of the General Secretariat in the Member States</td>
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<tr>
<td>7,058.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>21F Office of the Secretariat to the General Assembly, the Meeting of Consultation, the Permanent Council, and Subsidiary Organs</td>
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<td>1,067.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>21G General Assembly</td>
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<td>165.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>21H Coordinating Office for Specialized Units</td>
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II. FINANCING OF THE BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

1. To establish the Regular Fund budget ceiling for 2008 at US$87.5 million.

2. To instruct the Permanent Council to convene a Special Session of the General Assembly to be held no later than 31 October 2007 to determine the financing of the program-budget of the Organization for the year 2008 corresponding to the Regular Fund in accordance with the decisions taken by the General Assembly at that Special Session.

III. GENERAL PROVISIONS

A. BUDGETARY

1. Resource Management

Human Resource Policies

i. To request that the Secretary General endeavor to obtain a balanced distribution of human and material resources between the priority areas of the Organization in accordance with its four pillars, human rights, democracy, integral development, and multidimensional security.

ii. To request the General Secretariat to, as soon as possible, assign, reassign, or restore, as the case may be, the positions listed below, without incurring additional budgetary costs, and, if applicable, with personnel that possess the requisite experience, expertise, and qualifications for the performance of the respective functions:

a. As mandated by resolution AG/RES. 2257 (XXXVI-O/06) for budget year 2007:

- P4 – Support for the Chair of the Permanent Council (Subprogram 21A),
- P4 – Support for the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (Subprogram 51B)

b. For budget year 2008:
iii. To recognize that the General Secretariat has presented a report on the legal history of salary parity policy (CP/CAAP-2848/06 corr. 1); and (ii) to instruct the General Secretariat to submit recommendations with regard to personnel policy and its sustainability, in light of new mandates, the recent restructuring of the General Secretariat, and the financial status of the OAS by January 31, 2008.

iv. Geographic representation

a. To urge the Secretary General to develop, with technical assistance from the Department of Human Resources and all individuals involved in the hiring and selection process, a human resource policy that fully takes into account the principle of geographic representation in accordance with Article 120 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, and to present a report to the Permanent Council by January 31, 2008.

b. To request the Permanent Council through the CAAP to convene a special meeting to consider the recommendations of the Secretary General before the thirty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly.

v. Gender equity and equality

a. To instruct the Secretary General to achieve the objective of having women occupy 50 percent of posts in each grade level in the OAS organs, agencies, and entities, in particular at the P-5 grade level and above, and to attain gender balance at all levels of the OAS, bearing in mind the criterion of geographic representation.

b. To urge the Secretary General to continue his work to continue implementing policies of gender equity and equality in the workplace and to make each supervisor and manager accountable for the application of these policies.

vi. Trust positions

a. To extend the mandates in resolution AG/RES. 1839 (XXXI-O/01) for the Secretary General to study the General Secretariat’s policies on trust positions, and for the Permanent Council to consider recommendations for any necessary changes to the General Standards.

b. To instruct the Secretary General to submit his findings from the aforementioned study to the Permanent Council by March 1, 2008.

vii. Additional Resources
To request the General Secretariat to, as soon as possible, assign the amounts listed below, without incurring additional budgetary costs:

- Subprogram 41D, Office of International Law US$ 20,000, for the Technical Secretary of the Committee for the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against all Persons with Disabilities;
- Subprogram 51E, Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), US$ 30,000
- Subprogram 71G, Department of Social Development and Employment, US$ 20,000, in support of participation by workers’ representatives in the activities of the OAS

2. Quotas

a. Scale of quota assessments

i. To extend the mandate issued by the General Assembly at its thirty-first special session by way of resolution AG/RES. 1 (XXXI-E/06), instructing the Permanent Council to continue considering a draft methodology for assessing quotas to the member states—one that will take in account the criteria established in Article 55 of the OAS Charter and current data on the ability to pay of the member countries;

ii. To request the group of experts convened by the Secretary General, as stipulated in resolution AG/RES. 2257 (XXXVI-O/06), to conclude, no later than September 30, 2007, its consideration of the methodology for assessing quotas to the member states and to present a proposal for consideration by the General Assembly at a special session;

iii. To convene the General Assembly to meet in special session no later than December 14, 2007, to adopt a methodology for assessing quotas to the member states that will enter into force in 2009 and in subsequent years.

b. Payment of quotas

i. To encourage member state governments to continue to pay their quotas and their arrears pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 1757 (XXX-O/00), “Measures to Encourage the Timely Payment of Quotas,” as modified by resolution AG/RES. 2157 (XXXV-O/05).

ii. To extend the mandate of the Permanent Council to evaluate the existing measures and to consider new measures aimed at encouraging the timely payment of quotas, and to complete its report thereon for the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth regular session.
c. Regular adjustments to the quotas assessed to member states

i. To request the General Secretariat to prepare, at the end of each fiscal period, beginning with the end of 2007, an estimate of the cost of the statutory adjustments to the salaries of the staff members of the General Secretariat that were incurred during the fiscal period as a result of the Organization’s use of “smart parity” (as reported in CP/CAAP-2848/06 corr. 1) and as implemented by the General Secretariat in accordance with the recommendations of the International Civil Services Commission and to present a report to the Permanent Council of the relative variation of real costs versus estimates in the 2008 program-budget by no later than the start of the thirty-seventh regular session of the General Assembly.

ii. To request the Permanent Council, through the CAAP and with the support of the General Secretariat, to start, after receipt of the report referred to in the preceding paragraph, a consultation process regarding the possibility of adopting a methodology of regular adjustments to the quotas of the member states with the goal of preserving the real purchasing power of the program-budget.

3. Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States

a. To request the General Secretariat to continue to streamline and improve the management of the Offices of the General Secretariat in Member States, and to consolidate the full range of project activities under a unified program, in order to increase their efficiency and capacity to deliver the mandates of the Organization and to ensure the attainment of the expected results.

b. To request the General Secretariat to continue to examine the feasibility of entering into partnership agreements with other international organizations to offer services and to engage in cooperative endeavors and to collect fees for those services; and consider alternate cooperative arrangements such as the establishment of a network of offices with concurrent responsibilities to reinforce the quality of services to be delivered.

c. To request the General Secretariat to submit to the Permanent Council by December 1 of each year a report containing a strategy and annual work plan for each Office. The report should comply with uniform guidelines established by the Secretary General, and should report on progress made in achieving the preceding year’s objectives. In addition, it should lay out the objectives for the coming year. Where appropriate, the report should address any in-country partnership opportunities that may enhance OAS objectives.

4. The Establishment of a Structured Budget Preparation Process
a. To request the General Secretariat to implement a budget preparation process in order to conduct, prior to the start of the discussion and approval cycle of the proposed 2009 program-budget, the necessary consultations with the department heads and the member states in order to gather and present the data and reports that may be required at the onset of the cycle of meetings of the Subcommittee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters and to present a preliminary budget outline to the CAAP by March 15, 2008.

b. To remind the General Secretariat to adhere to strict observance of the scheduled dates for presentation of the proposed program-budget and accompanying information, as required by Article 90 of the General Standards.

5. Scholarships

a. To endorse with satisfaction Resolution CP/RES. 918 (1595/07) of the Permanent Council and of the Executive Council for Integral Development, the “Definitive Lifting of the Pause for granting OAS Fellowships” adopted in their joint session of 16 May 2007.

b. To authorize the General Secretariat, through the Department of Human Development, to use, for both new and second year graduate and undergraduate scholarships, in 2008 and in subsequent years, all appropriations approved for OAS scholarships under resolution AG/RES. 2257 (XXXVI-O/06) that have neither been appropriated nor spent in 2007 as a result of the pause mandated in AG/RES. 2257.

c. To authorize the General Secretariat to deposit in the Capital Fund for OAS Fellowship, Scholarship, and Training Programs under Article 18 of the Statutes of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (“IACD”) any unused or deobligated funds from scholarships under object 3 to the extent permitted under Article 99 of the General Standards, with the exception of unobligated funds in accordance with paragraph 5.b., above. In implementing this mandate, the General Secretariat shall consult with the IACD Management Board and CEPCIDI and shall report quarterly to CEPCIDI and to the Permanent Council.

6. Temporary Support Personnel

To adopt the Amendments to Article 23 of the General Standards adopted by the Permanent Council, ad referendum of this General Assembly, in CP/RES. 910 (1568/06) of November 9, 2006.

7. Fundraising

a. To acknowledge the Secretary General’s efforts to centralize the coordination of fundraising activities;
b. To instruct the General Secretariat to prepare and present to the Permanent Council a comprehensive fundraising strategy for the OAS that responds to the Organization’s mandates and priorities.

c. To instruct the General Secretariat to present a detailed report to the Permanent Council by March 15, 2008, on the amounts obtained by each dependency of the General Secretariat and by all the other organs and entities financed in whole or in part by the Regular Fund. This report should cover the 12-month period ending December 31, 2007, and should include the following information:

i. A list of all dependencies and entities involved in fundraising efforts, including any foundations raising funds on behalf of the OAS and its programs;

ii. Amounts raised, both cash and in-kind;

iii. Sources of the funds raised; and

iv. A breakdown of costs incurred by the Regular Fund, in terms of personnel and other expenses, to pursue fundraising efforts and to execute programs financed by the funds raised.

d. To consider, within the fundraising strategy, the feasibility of engaging the Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States in identifying external resources and opportunities for managing programs of other international organizations or permanent observers as a means of deriving management fees or other income-generating opportunities.

e. To recognize the support of the permanent observers and other donors and to encourage them to continue to provide cash and in-kind contributions to the programs, projects, and other activities of the Organization.

8. Amendments to the General Standards

To request the Secretary General to submit to the Permanent Council proposals for any amendments it considers must be made to the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat; and to authorize the Permanent Council to consider them, through the CAAP, and, if necessary, to approve them ad referendum of the General Assembly.

9. Foundations created by the General Secretariat

a. To instruct the General Secretariat to provide to the Permanent Council, by May 1, 2008 a list of the foundations, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and other private entities created by the General Secretariat as of December 31, 2007.

b. To instruct the General Secretariat to inform the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs about the General Secretariat’s participation in the creation of any new foundations, NGOs, and other private entities.
c. To request the General Secretariat to review current procedures for the effectiveness of its participation in the creation and support of foundations, NGOs, and other such entities, and to make appropriate amendments, if necessary, to carry out oversight processes of the General Secretariat’s activities with those foundations, particularly when they use the name of the OAS to raise funds, and to present a report to the Permanent Council before the thirty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly.

10. Civil Society Organizations

To request the General Secretariat to provide a report on the foundations, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations, and other private entities that carry out projects with Specific Funds, and provide details on their areas of activity.

11. Travel

a. To instruct the General Secretariat to present to the Permanent Council, no later than February 29, 2008, a progress report describing the improvements made to the travel procurement process resulting from the new contractual relationship that exists between the General Secretariat and its exclusive provider of travel services, as well as the new operative procedures that this new entity follows in order to provide these services in a manner that is satisfactory, efficient, and that is consistent with the recommendations on travel made by the Board of External Auditors in its report to the Permanent Council JAE/doc.37/07 and with the rules and regulations of the Organization.

b. To instruct the General Secretariat to implement more effective enforcement mechanisms for ensuring compliance with the rule established by the Permanent Council which requires that all tickets paid for by the Regular Fund, FEMCIDI, specific funds, and trust funds administered by the General Secretariat, be purchased in economy class, except for travel by the Secretary General, the Assistant Secretary General, and the Chair of the Permanent Council, and to report to the Permanent Council on a quarterly basis on any instances of noncompliance with those rules.

c. To instruct any offices and units using specific funds for travel purposes to provide a record to the donor on a quarterly basis.

12. Evaluation and control of results

a. To instruct the Secretary General to pursue efforts, for the purpose of improving the transparency and efficiency of the General Secretariat’s operations, to establish appropriate planning, control, and evaluation systems that will enable the member states to follow up on budget programming and control.

b. To instruct the General Secretariat to prepare, in consultation with member states, a framework for evaluating programs and projects that
responds to the mandates issued by the political bodies and the comparative advantages of the Organization, except for those financed by FEMCIDI, and to present a report to the Permanent Council.

13. **Conference and Meetings Services**

a. To instruct the General Secretariat to expand its review of the organization's interpretation and translation services to include the whole area of Conferences and Meetings services, and to present for the consideration of the Permanent Council, through the CAAP, by January 31, 2008, a comprehensive plan that thoroughly analyzes current services and needs and makes recommendations as to the most efficient and cost-effective means of delivering these services, at headquarters and away from headquarters, taking into consideration member states' requirements and overall needs and limitations of the organization in fulfilling its mandates.

b. To encourage the representatives of the member states who attend and/or who preside over the meetings of the Permanent Council, its subcommittees and working groups, to maintain a strict observance of scheduled start and finishing times of the meetings, in order to maximize the use of interpretation services that are available during the meetings scheduled in the calendar of conferences, and in order to avoid paying for unused interpretation services for time periods scheduled for such meetings.

B. **OTHER**

14. **Honoraria**

To maintain the sum of US$150 a day for honoraria paid to members of the following bodies entitled to such payment: Administrative Tribunal, Board of External Auditors, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Inter-American Juridical Committee, and Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

15. **Inter-American Commission on Human Rights**

To extend the budgetary authorization to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to cover payments to members of the Commission for special services, in keeping with Article 21 of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, up to a maximum of US$1,000 per month per member. This budgetary measure shall be taken without prejudice to the right to the payment of honoraria, as provided by the General Assembly in paragraph III. B. 13 of this resolution.

16. **Inter-American Court of Human Rights**

To extend the budgetary authorization to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to cover the payment of emoluments to judges of the Court, set in accordance with Article 17 of the Statute of the Court, up to a maximum of US$1,000 per month per judge. This budgetary measure shall be taken without
prejudice to Article 26 of the Statute of the Court and without prejudice to the right to the payment of honoraria, as provided by the General Assembly in paragraph III.B.13 of this resolution.

17. **Program-budget for 2009**

a. To instruct the General Secretariat to submit to the Preparatory Committee a proposed program-budget for the year 2009 at the level of US$87.5 million. Income shall include, *inter alia*: quota income, interest and rental income, contributions for technical supervision and administrative support from FEMCIDI and for recovery of indirect costs from trust and specific funds, and other miscellaneous income.

b. The total expenditure for object 1 should not exceed 64.38% in the 2009 Regular Fund program-budget, plus any statutory increases that may be required.

c. To reiterate that all resolutions submitted to the General Assembly that require Regular Fund financing must be accompanied by an opinion, on the availability of funds, from the CAAP or from the Subcommittee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters of the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly. Resolutions presented after the Preparatory Committee has completed its work may be adopted, but may not be executed, until the requisite opinion from the CAAP and reconfirmation by the Permanent Council are received.

d. Any mandate issued by the General Assembly or by the Permanent Council *ad referendum* of the General Assembly which requires expenditure of Regular Fund money shall not be implemented if the corresponding Regular Fund money is not included in the program-budget, unless Specific Fund money is available to pay the costs of implementing the mandate.

18. **Non-application of the reimbursement requirement set forth in Article 72.b of the General Standards**

As requested by the Permanent Council in resolutions CP/RES. 903 (1542/06) and 911 (1573/06), to dispense with the reimbursement requirement set forth in Article 72.b of the General Standards in the case of funds appropriated from the Reserve Subfund under those resolutions.

19. **International Public Sector Accounting Standards**

a. To instruct the General Secretariat to begin a study regarding the viability of implementing the International Public Sector Accounting Standards, starting with the fiscal year beginning on January 1, 2009, and in subsequent periods, and to report the General Secretariat’s findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the Permanent Council through the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (“CAAP”) by no later than June, 2008. To that end, after consideration by the Permanent Council of the CAAP’s recommendations, the Permanent Council is
authorized to adopt, with immediate effect, such amendments to the
General Standards as may be necessary, ad referendum to the next
General Assembly.

b. To instruct the General Secretariat to take the necessary measures to
ensure that financial and budgetary reports presented to the Committee
on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs are consistent with the
guidelines provided in the International Public Sector Accounting
Standards.

c. To instruct the General Secretariat to develop an appropriate mechanism
to consult on this matter with the Committee on Administrative Affairs
of the Permanent Council and to report periodically on the progress of
this endeavor.

20. Administrative and Financial Management Reports

To request the General Secretariat to present its administrative and financial
management reports on a quarterly basis. These reports are intended as a
management guide to the strategic allocation of resources and to report on the
General Secretariat’s compliance with mandates of the General Assembly that
address policies affecting administration and management. The reports should
include, \textit{inter alia}, the following components:

i. A discussion and analysis of the report at the management level that
summarizes the financial situation of the General Secretariat.

ii. Detailed financial reports, including budgetary execution of the Regular,
voluntary, specific, and trust funds.

iii. Reports on other administrative facets of the General Secretariat, such as
the impact of human resource policies on geographic representation and
gender equity and equality; performance evaluations of General
Secretariat staff; the human resources plan; post audits; personnel funded
by Specific Funds; activities of the Offices of the General Secretariat in
the Member States; fundraising for external resources to support the
activities of the Organization and other contributions to building
maintenance and improvements; recovery of indirect costs; performance
contracts; travel expense control measures; and any others requested by
the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs of the
Permanent Council.

21. Real estate and fixed assets plan

To instruct the General Secretariat to develop a comprehensive plan that analyzes
in detail the real estate maintenance, renovation, and management needs of the
Organization and the costs they involve. The plan should take into account the
physical space requirements of the General Secretariat and related bodies and
provide recommendations on the most efficient use of that space. The plan
should be presented to the Permanent Council before February 29, 2008.
22. Reports to the Subcommittee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters of the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly

To instruct the General Secretariat to present a report to the Subcommittee of Administrative and Budgetary Matters of the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly showing a list of the activities undertaken in order to comply with the dispositions of this resolution. This report should be presented along with the draft 2009 budget proposal that, pursuant to Article 90 of the General Standards, must be presented at least ninety days prior to the starting date of the thirty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly.

http://scm.oas.org/pdfs/2007/AG03607E.PDF