

I. GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND COUNCILS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly, whose duties and responsibilities are set forth in Chapter IX of the Charter, is the supreme organ of the Organization of American States. It meets each year, at the time stipulated in its Rules of Procedure. Under special circumstances and with the approval of two thirds of the member states, the Permanent Council may convoke a special session of the General Assembly. All member states have the right to be represented in the General Assembly and each is entitled to one vote.

The thirty-first regular session of the General Assembly was in San Jose, Costa Rica, June 3 through 5, 2001, chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica, His Excellency Roberto Rojas. The certified texts of the declarations and resolutions are published in Volume I of the Proceedings for that session (OEA/Ser.P.XXXI-O.2).

Declarations

In the *Special Declaration on the Colombian Peace Process [AG/DEC.25 (XXXI-O/01)]*, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs called upon armed groups to continue responding with gestures of peace to the firm policy of the State headed by President Andrés Pastrana.

In the *Declaration on the question of the Malvinas Islands [AG/DEC.263 (XXXI-O/01)]*, the General Assembly welcomed the Argentine Government's reaffirmation of its willingness to continue to explore all possible avenues for a peaceful settlement of the dispute and its constructive attitude toward the inhabitants of the Islands. It also reaffirmed the need for the governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to begin negotiations, as soon as possible, on the sovereignty dispute in order to find a peaceful solution to the protracted problem. It decided to continue to examine this topic at successive sessions until a definitive solution is reached.

Resolutions

Democracy

The General Assembly urged the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD) to continue to support the member states in their efforts to strengthen democratic institutions. It instructed the Permanent Council to study ways of bringing its political bodies into line with the priority that the Heads of State and Government gave to democracy at the Third Summit of the Americas and to pursue its comprehensive consideration of the Summits' priorities and priority topics on the inter-American agenda. For purposes of studying such topics, it instructed the Permanent Council to invite the organs, agencies, and entities of the system, as well as government and academic experts, and to organize special meetings for that purpose, when it deems it necessary. It asked the Permanent Council to continue providing any guidance necessary to the General Secretariat with respect to the activities it may carry out in the area of democracy and, in particular, to the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, on the basis of the priorities established by the Heads of State and Government in the Summits process and in the inter-American agenda. It also asked the Permanent Council to study and approve the UPD Work Plan for 2002, making certain that the plan included programs and activities to further the mandates related to the promotion and consolidation of democracy that the Third Summit of the America assigned to the OAS. It instructed the Permanent Council to continue to study the updated annual inventory of activities relating to the promotion of democracy in each area of the OAS General Secretariat, and to continue examining the fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 1637 (XXIX-O/99), "Permanent Specific Fund to Finance Activities Related to OAS Electoral Observation Missions," seeking possible alternatives for the fund's operation.

The General Assembly instructed the General Secretariat to: a) Consolidate ties and coordination among the various areas, units, and offices for the execution of programs and activities relating to the promotion of representative democracy, and to do so with the collaboration of the various organs, agencies, and entities of the system, so as to give due attention to and fulfill the mandates of the Summits of the Americas and the General Assembly; b) Propose the inclusion of specific programs and activities for adequately addressing and complying with the mandates received from the Third Summit of the Americas, contained in Chapter 1 of the Plan of Action, "Making Democracy Work Better"; c) Incorporate the topics addressed and the concerns raised during the special meetings of the Working Group on Representative Democracy when preparing its work plans and programs, and d) Regularly update, through the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, the annual inventory of activities relating to the promotion of representative democracy. [AG/RES. 1782 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly commended the Government of Guatemala for its efforts and the progress made in fulfilling the commitments of the peace accords. It supported the Government of Guatemala in its wish to continue benefiting from the Special Program of Support by signing a new agreement between that Government and the OAS General Secretariat entitled "OAS Special Program of Support for Strengthening Democratic Institutions in Guatemala". The Assembly also asked the General Secretariat to continue its support of efforts to consolidate democracy and peace in Guatemala, with the signing of the framework agreement. [AG/RES. 1820 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly again expressed deep concern at the continuing political crisis in Haiti, arising from the elections of May 21, 2000. It also took note of the initiative contained in the letter of the President of Haiti, and acknowledged the concerns expressed therein regarding the urgency of normalizing relations between Haiti and international financial institutions. The General Assembly urged the Government of Haiti to move swiftly to form a credible, independent and neutral Provisional Electoral Council (CEP) composed of nine members nominated by the Executive Branch, the Judiciary, political parties -including the Convergence, Fanmi Lavalas, and other political parties- and churches, both Catholic and Protestant. It called upon the Government of Haiti, political parties, and civil society and other relevant institutions of Haitian society to commit themselves fully to this end, in order to resolve the political crisis, strengthen democracy and respect human rights. It instructed the Secretary General to monitor and report to the Permanent Council on implementation of the commitments contained in AG doc.260/01 and to increase his efforts, in consultation with CARICOM and with other interested countries, to contribute more to resolution of the existing political crisis in Haiti, to its social and economic development, and to the strengthening of democracy and greater respect for human rights in that country. To assist him in these efforts the Assembly invited the Secretary General to establish a Group of Friends on Haiti from among interested OAS member states and permanent observers. It asked the Permanent Council to examine, as a matter of urgency, the mandate, modalities, budget, financing and other particulars concerning the establishment of a possible Mission to Haiti. Finally, the General Assembly instructed the Secretary General to work jointly with member states towards normalizing relations between Haiti and the international community. [AG/RES. 1831 (XXXI-O/01)]

The Assembly reaffirmed the resolve of all its member states to adopt an Inter-American Democratic Charter for the purpose of promoting and consolidating representative democracy as the system of government of all American states. To that end, it instructed the Permanent Council to strengthen and expand, by September 10, 2001, the proposed Inter-American Democratic Charter, in accordance with the OAS Charter, taking into account any consultations that member state governments may carry out in keeping with their constitutional procedures and democratic practices. In keeping with the guidelines for the participation of civil society organizations in OAS activities, the Assembly decided to make the proposed Inter-American Democratic Charter public, in order to help civil society form an

opinion. It also instructed the Permanent Council to convene a special session of the General Assembly to be held in Lima, Peru, by no later than September 30, 2001. [AG/RES. 1838 (XXXI-O/01)]

Juridical development

The Assembly convened the Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law (CIDIP-VI), whose agenda would be as follows: a) Standardized commercial documentation for international transportation, with special reference to the 1989 Inter-American Convention on Contracts for the International Carriage of Goods by Road, with the possible incorporation of an additional protocol on bills of lading; b) International loan contracts of a private nature, in particular, the uniformity and harmonization of secured transactions law; c) Conflict of laws on extracontractual liability, with an emphasis on competency of jurisdiction and applicable law with respect to civil international liability for transboundary pollution. [AG/RES. 1765 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly reaffirmed how important the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law was to the dissemination, awareness, application, and strengthening of international law developed in the inter-American framework. It also resolved to support the activities of the Permanent Council of the Organization and the General Secretariat to further the Program, and instructed the General Secretariat to continue to implement it. The General Assembly ordered that the Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law and the Inter-American System of Legal Information be promoted through the OAS Web page, by incorporating legal information on the work and activities of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs and consolidating electronic networks for exchanging information on different legal disciplines. The General Assembly asked the General Secretariat to publish the Inter-American Juridical Yearbook and a systematic, up-to-date work on the institutional framework and legal aspects of the inter-American system. It also asked the General Secretariat to continue to conduct Workshops on International Law and to promote the establishment of an Association of Professors of International Law to facilitate exchanges among lecturers and professors and to analyze the application of inter-American legal standards. The General Assembly also asked the General Secretariat, insofar as possible, to establish an information network through the legal departments or areas specializing in international law at universities or academic centers. It also requested that the General Secretariat continue the regional refresher courses on international law and, in particular, organize a course next year for the region made up of MERCOSUR member states. [AG/RES. 1766 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly urged those member states of the Organization that had not already done so to consider the possibility of ratifying or acceding to the Statute of Rome of the International Criminal Court, as applicable. It also urged the member states of the Organization to participate in the meetings of the Preparatory Committee of the International Criminal Court with a view to ensuring optimal operating conditions for the Court once it was established, for unwavering protection of the integrity of the Statute of Rome. It asked the Inter-American Juridical Committee to include on its agenda the mechanisms to address and prevent the recurrence of serious violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and the role of the International Criminal Court in that process. [AG/RES. 1770 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly welcomed the increase in the number of member states that had ratified or acceded to various instruments of international humanitarian law, particularly the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Convention of Ottawa) and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. It urged those member states that had not yet done so to consider ratification of, or if applicable, accession to the 1977 Additional Protocols I and II to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, and to consider making the declaration contained in Article 90 of Protocol I. The Assembly also called upon member states that had

not yet done so to consider ratification or, if appropriate, accession to the Statute of the International Criminal Court and the following instruments relating to weapons which may be excessively injurious or have indiscriminate effects: a) The 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (and the Protocols thereto); and b) The 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production, and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. It invited those member states that had not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the 1954 Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the event of Armed Conflict and to its 1954 Protocol, as well as to its 1999 Second Protocol on enhanced protection. The General Assembly urged member states that had not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child and to its Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict, as well as their recruitment into the armed forces and armed groups. It underscored how important it was for member states to pay special attention to the following: a) the widest possible dissemination of international humanitarian law throughout the population, particularly the armed forces and security forces; b) enactment of criminal legislation required to punish those responsible for war crimes and other grave breaches of international humanitarian law; c) enactment of the legislation to regulate the use of emblems protected under international humanitarian law and to punish the improper use thereof, and d) the obligation, in the study, development, acquisition or adoption of new weapons or means and methods of warfare, to determine whether their employment would violate international humanitarian law and, if so, not to adopt it for use within the armed forces or security forces nor to manufacture it for other purposes. The General Assembly urged the member states that had not yet done so to study, with the support of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the advisability of establishing national committees or commissions to implement and disseminate international humanitarian law. It urged member states and all parties to an armed conflict to respect the impartiality, independence, and neutrality of humanitarian action in accordance with the guiding principles adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 46/182, dated December 19, 1991, and to ensure that the staff of humanitarian organizations are protected. It invited the member states and the parties in a conflict to continue to cooperate with the ICRC in its various spheres of endeavor and to facilitate its work, in particular, by using its advisory services to support states' efforts to implement international humanitarian law. It also asked the General Secretariat to continue its work in the area of legal cooperation to promote the dissemination, ratification, and implementation of treaties on international humanitarian law and related inter-American conventions. [AG/RES. 1771 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly asked the Inter-American Juridical Committee to further study all human rights and biomedicine-related aspects and to initiate studies for the design of the agenda and topics of the next Inter-American Specialized Conferences on Private International Law (CIDIP) in order to promote the development of private international law in the inter-American system. It also asked the Committee to continue studying the different aspects of the enhancement of the administration of justice. The Assembly underscored the importance of holding the course in international law, as a contribution to a better understanding and increased publicity of legal topics in the inter-American system, and supported all efforts to enable more professors to be part of the course and to increase the number of fellowships so that students from all subregions might attend. It urged the member states to consider the possibility of defraying the costs of participation by national students and professors in it. The General Assembly resolved to support an information system through which the Organization might share its expertise in international law with the region's universities. [AG/RES. 1772 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly instructed the Permanent Council to continue to examine the need for a draft inter-American convention to prevent, punish, and eradicate racism and all forms of discrimination and intolerance. It asked the Inter-American Juridical Committee to prepare a study to facilitate the work of the Permanent Council. It also recommended to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights that

it continue to give special attention to this topic within the framework of the inter-American legal instruments now in force. [AG/RES. 1774 (XXXI-O/01)]

The Assembly called upon all OAS member states to consider signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to, as soon as possible and as the case may be, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and its Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, once the latter was open for signature. [AG/RES. 1776 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly resolved to convene the Fourth Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas, to be held in Trinidad and Tobago. It instructed the Permanent Council to prepare the agenda and the preliminary documents for that meeting and to set the date. The Assembly also instructed the Permanent Council to continue monitoring implementation of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Third Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas. [AG/RES. 1781 (XXXI-O/01)]

The Assembly urged those member states of the OAS that had not yet done so to sign or ratify the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, as appropriate, and to participate actively in the mechanism for follow-up on its implementation. It also invited states not members of the Organization, in particular the OAS permanent observers, to accede to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, in accordance with Article XXIII thereof [AG/RES. 1784 (XXXI-O/01)]. The General Assembly urged the States Parties to the Convention to take any measures they deemed appropriate to comply with the commitments they undertook upon ratifying the Convention. The Assembly asked the countries to reply promptly to the Questionnaire on Ratification and Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption. It instructed the Permanent Council to continue to foster the exchange of experiences and information among the OAS, multilateral organizations, and international financial institutions. It requested that the Permanent Council continue to examine alternative ways of financing activities aimed at providing any institutional support the States Parties may need to implement the Inter-American Convention against Corruption. The Assembly instructed the Permanent Council, in following up on the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption, to continue to study corporate social responsibility and the following subjects: training, experience acquired by national institutions, public sector procurement, incompatibilities between public office and private sector interests, and analysis of criminal laws on corruption and related offenses. The Assembly also asked the General Secretariat to continue carrying out the technical cooperation activities designed to contribute to the signing, ratification, or implementation of, or accession to the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and to strengthen exchanges of information and experiences among government authorities responsible for this area, including those of the Inter-American Network for Cooperation against Corruption. [AG/RES. 1785 (XXXI-O/01)]

Human rights

The General Assembly reaffirmed that the principles and standards set forth in the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man and in the American Convention on Human Rights had special importance with respect to protection of the rights of migrant workers and their families. It urged the member states, in keeping with the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas, to focus their efforts on universal adoption of the inter-American human rights system. The General Assembly reaffirmed the duty of states parties to the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations to comply with that Convention, including the right of their nationals, if detained, to communicate with consular officers, regardless of those nationals' immigration status, and the obligation of the states parties in whose territory the detention occurs to inform the foreign national of that right. In this connection, the Assembly called

the states' attention to Advisory Opinion OC-16 on this matter, issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. It instructed the Permanent Council to continue supporting the work of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in this area and to take into account the efforts of other international organizations on behalf of migrant workers and their families, with a view to helping to improve their situation in the Hemisphere and, in particular and where applicable, the efforts of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on the Human Rights of Migrants of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, those of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and those of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD). In keeping with the provisions of the chapter on migration in the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas, the General Assembly also asked the Permanent Council to: a) Study the adoption of measures to strengthen cooperation among states to address, with a comprehensive, objective, long-term approach, the manifestations, origins, and effects of migration in the region, as well as promote close cooperation among countries of origin, transit, and destination so as to ensure the protection of the human rights of migrants; and b) Prepare an inter-American program for the promotion and protection of the human rights of migrants, with the assistance of the appropriate organs and agencies of the inter-American system and of the United Nations. It invited the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) to consider the advisability of adopting joint cooperation programs in this area. It asked the IACHR to provide the Special Rapporteur for the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families with the necessary and appropriate means to perform his or her duties. It also asked the Commission to present a report on the status of the rights of all migrant workers and their families. The Assembly invited the member states, permanent observers, organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system, or other sources to contribute to the Voluntary Fund of the Office of the Special Rapporteur for issues involving the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families. The Assembly recommended to the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) that in the spirit of inter-American solidarity, which is a key factor in the integral development of member states, it support projects and activities on behalf of migrant workers and their families. [AG/RES. 1775 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly requested the Permanent Council to continue considering the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as it relates to the mandate contained in the Declaration of Quebec City and the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas. It also recommended to the Permanent Council that it continue pursuing mechanisms for the accreditation of representatives of indigenous peoples and the appropriate means to enable them to participate in its deliberations so that their observations and suggestions may be taken into account. The Assembly also recommended to the Permanent Council that a specific fund be established consisting of voluntary contributions to support the participation of representatives of indigenous peoples in meetings related to the Draft Declaration. Finally, it asked the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the Inter-American Juridical Committee, the Inter-American Indian Institute and other international organizations and entities to provide the support and advice required for the Permanent Council's work. [AG/RES. 1780 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly recommended to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) that it take account of the concerns and observations of the member states on the form and content of its annual report, in particular the report of the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression. It urged the Commission to continue to promote the observance and protection of human rights, in keeping with the provisions governing its competence and operations. The Assembly urged the member states, pursuant to the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas, to focus on the universal adoption of the inter-American human rights system. [AG/RES. 1783 (XXXI-O/01)]

The Permanent Council was instructed to consider the advisability of studying, in cooperation with the competent organs and agencies of the inter-American system, and taking into account the

conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas, the question of the rights and the care of persons under any form of detention or imprisonment. [AG/RES. 1816 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly reiterated its support for the work carried out by human rights defenders and acknowledged the valuable contribution they make to the protection, promotion, and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Americas. It deplored acts that directly or indirectly prevented or hampered the work of human rights defenders in the Americas and urged member states to step up their efforts to take the measures needed to guarantee the life, personal safety, and freedom of expression of human rights defenders. The Assembly invited member states to publicize and enforce the instruments of the inter-American system and the decisions of its bodies in this matter, as well as the United Nations Declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups, and institutions to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms. It asked the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to continue to pay due attention to the situation of human rights defenders in the Americas and to consider preparing a comprehensive study in this area. [AG/RES. 1818 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly underscored the importance of studying the link that may exist between the environment and human rights, recognizing the need to promote environmental protection and the effective enjoyment of all human rights. It asked the General Secretariat to conduct a study of the possible interrelationship of environmental protection and the effective enjoyment of human rights. [AG/RES. 1819 (XXXI-O/01)]

The Assembly expressed its support for the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights so that it might continue to carry out promotional, educational, and specialized training activities in the field of human rights at the national, regional, and hemispheric levels, so as to strengthen the effective exercise of those rights. It encouraged the states and international and regional financial institutions to support the various programs of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights and to contribute to its financing. The Assembly also instructed the Permanent Council to invite the Institute to continue to participate in the dialogue on the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights. [AG/RES. 1823 (XXXI-O/01)]

The Assembly acknowledged that on January 31, 2001, the Government of Peru had deposited with the OAS General Secretariat an instrument by which it reaffirmed that the acceptance of the contentious jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights issued by Peru on October 20, 1980, was fully in effect and binding in every respect on the Peruvian state, and that the effectiveness of that declaration of recognition should be understood to have been uninterrupted since its deposit with the OAS General Secretariat on January 21, 1981. The General Assembly also noted that the Government of Barbados had recognized the binding jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, under the terms set forth in Article 62.1 of the Convention. The Assembly reiterated that the judgments of the Court were final and not subject to appeal and that States Parties to the Convention had undertaken to comply with the rulings of the Court in all cases to which they are party. It urged the member states, in keeping with the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas, to concentrate on universalization of the inter-American human rights system. [AG/RES. 1827 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly instructed the Permanent Council to begin taking concrete steps aimed at implementing the mandates of the Heads of State and Government with respect to strengthening and improving the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights, as set forth in the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas. It also instructed the Permanent Council to continue to consider the participation of victims in proceedings before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; with the support of the General Secretariat and taking into account the views of the Court and

Commission, to study the relationship between the Regulations of the Commission, the Rules of Procedure of the Court, the provisions of the Statutes of those organs, and the American Convention on Human Rights; to promote the exchange of experiences and best practices in adjusting the provisions of international human rights law to domestic law; to continue to go into greater depth in the dialogue on the inter-American human rights system with a view to its improvement and strengthening by ensuring participation by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; inviting the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights and representatives of nongovernmental organizations, and promoting the participation of national institutions involved in the promotion and protection of human rights; to study the possibility of establishing a specific body under the aegis of the Permanent Council to address issues related to human rights; and to promote, within the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs, the exchange of information on institutional experiences and the development of national mechanisms for the protection of human rights, to obtain an overview, in the framework of the Organization, of the link that must exist between national systems for the protection of human rights and the inter-American system. The General Assembly also called upon the Organization's member states to focus their efforts on the universal adoption of the inter-American human rights system, pursuant to the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas. The Assembly also invited the Commission and the Court to continue supporting the strengthening of the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights and, in particular, to consider the possibility of including in their annual reports information on compliance by the States Parties with the recommendations, decisions, or judgments that the two organs issue in the period under consideration. It acknowledged the participation and contributions of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights and nongovernmental organizations in the dialogue on strengthening the system and urged them to continue to participate in that dialogue. It asked the Inter-American Juridical Committee to contribute to the work of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs in connection with the dialogue on the inter-American system for the protection and promotion of human rights, when the Committee so requested. [AG/RES. 1828 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly asked the Permanent Council to foster an exchange of views regarding the signature, signature and ratification, or ratification of, or accession to, as the case may be, all hemispheric human rights instruments and to continue to promote the adoption of concrete measures to strengthen and improve the inter-American human rights system, concentrating on universal adoption of the system and its implementation. The Assembly recommended to the Permanent Council that it prepare and convene, prior to the thirty-second regular session of the General Assembly, a specialized technical meeting, with government experts, other organs of the inter-American system, eminent jurists and experts, and civil society participating, to study opportunities to be seized and actions to be taken to achieve universal adoption of the inter-American human rights system and its implementation. It also instructed the Permanent Council to encourage voluntary contributions to the specific fund created to finance that technical meeting either in whole or in part. [AG/RES. 1829 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly reaffirmed its support for, and underscored the relevance and central importance of, the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol on the Status of Refugees, as the principal universal international instruments for the protection of refugees. It therefore urged member states to observe and fulfill their obligations in this area, in accordance with universal and regional instruments pertaining to refugee rights and human rights. Member states were encouraged, where applicable, to withdraw reservations made at the time of accession. The Assembly again appealed for inter-American cooperation in cases of mass internal displacement or the flight of refugees, to facilitate their return or resettlement, in accordance with international standards. [AG/RES. 1832 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly instructed the Permanent Council to initiate the study on the access of victims to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (*ius standi*) and its application in practice. It asked

the Permanent Council to consider initiating discussion of this study, with the support of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and civil society. [AG/RES. 1833 (XXXI-O/01)]

Hemispheric security

The member states were urged to comply with the recommendations contained in the Work Program of Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE). [AG/RES. 1789 (XXXI-O/01)]

The member states of the region were urged to participate, at the highest possible level, in the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. States of the region that had not yet done so were urged to sign and/or ratify the CTBT, as appropriate, so that it might enter into force as soon as possible. [AG/RES. 1791 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly resolved to advance, on every front, the work required to hold the Summit-mandated Special Conference on Security in 2004. It instructed the Permanent Council to hold, through the Committee on Hemispheric Security, no fewer than five sessions over the next two years for the preparation of the said Special Conference. The General Assembly also invited the member states to respond to the Committee on Hemispheric Security's "Questionnaire on New Approaches to Hemispheric Security" and asked the Permanent Council to prepare a study on the problems and risks to peace and security in the Hemisphere, as well as to conflict prevention and resolution. It urged the member states to continue to give the Committee on Hemispheric Security their opinions and views on the fulfillment of the security mandates from the Second and Third Summits of the Americas and asked them to provide the Permanent Council with any information they deemed relevant on the application of security-related sub-regional and bilateral agreements to which they were parties, thereby contributing to the process of studying hemispheric security, including its sub-regional aspects. [AG/RES. 1795 (XXXI-O/01)]

The Assembly resolved to request the Permanent Council to continue following developments in the work the United Nations was conducting in connection with the Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. It encouraged the member states to participate actively in the said United Nations Conference and urged them to consider implementing national and regional elements of the 2001 Program of Action that would flow from that UN Conference. It asked that the Permanent Council hold an annual meeting on small arms and light weapons, whose agenda would include a review of the status of implementation of national and regional elements of the 2001 Program of Action. [AG/RES. 1796 (XXXI-O/01)]

The member states were encouraged to apply, as appropriate, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission's (CICAD) Model Regulations when developing national legislation and regulations. The Assembly instructed the Permanent Council to continue discussing the advisability of undertaking a study concerning small arms and light weapons brokering and transit. CICAD was asked to continue its training programs in order to build up the member states' capabilities to implement the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and other Related Materials and to continue providing technical assistance to member states on those matters within its purview, in order to facilitate compliance with the above-mentioned Inter-American Convention and the application of the CICAD Model Regulations, as appropriate. The Permanent Council was asked to hold a seminar on stockpile management, destruction, and identification of small arms and light weapons. [AG/RES. 1797 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly urged the states of the region to deposit their instruments of ratification of the Treaty of Tlatelolco as well as of the amendments to the Treaty approved by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) in

resolutions 267 (E-V), 268 (XII), and 290 (E-VII). It reaffirmed the importance of strengthening OPANAL as the appropriate legal and political forum for ensuring unqualified observance of the Treaty in its zone of application and cooperation with the agencies of other nuclear-weapon-free zones. The member states were urged to negotiate multilateral or bilateral agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency for application of that Agency's safeguards to their nuclear activities. The General Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to continue striving for a nonproliferation regime that was universal, genuine, and nondiscriminatory in every aspect. [AG/RES. 1798 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly also reaffirmed its commitment to the principles of the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions and urged those member states that had not yet done so to sign and ratify the Convention as soon as possible. [AG/RES. 1799 (XXXI-O/01)]

It also urged the member states to sign and ratify the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials. [AG/RES. 1800 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly urged member states to implement, in the manner they deemed most appropriate, the recommendations of the Declaration of Santiago and the Declaration of San Salvador on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and of resolution AG/RES. 1179 (XXII-O/92). It also called upon them to provide to the General Secretariat information on the application of confidence- and security-building measures in the previous calendar year. It urged member states to continue promoting transparency in defense policy with regard to, among other things, modernizing the armed forces, including changes in their structure and composition, the acquisition of equipment and materiel, and military expenditures, in conformity with the said Declaration of San Salvador. It asked the Permanent Council to identify measures to promote the development and exchange of information concerning defense policies and doctrines and to hold a seminar on preparing defense policy and doctrine papers and then to present a report. It underscored the importance of full participation by all member states in the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, and of providing the information needed to prepare the United Nations Standardized International Reporting of Military Expenditures, in accordance with the pertinent resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly. The OAS General Assembly also renewed its request that member states provide said information to the Secretary General. It asked the Permanent Council to hold a meeting on the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions and the two United Nations confidence and security measures cited in the preceding paragraph, in order to increase understanding of and participation in this Convention and these UN measures, and allow for an exchange of views among member states. The Assembly recalled the mandate set forth in resolutions AG/RES. 1623 (XXIX-O/99) and AG/RES. 1744 (XXX-O/00), which instructed the Permanent Council to hold, each year, a special meeting of the Committee on Hemispheric Security with the participation of experts in the analysis and exchange of information on confidence- and security-building measures in the region, especially those identified in the said Declarations of Santiago and San Salvador. The Assembly asked the Secretary General to update each year, on the basis of information submitted by the member states, the roster of experts on confidence- and security-building measures, and to circulate it to the member states on an annual basis. It instructed the Permanent Council to continue to support the participation of the Committee on Hemispheric Security in regional security meetings and conferences, especially in the Fifth Conference of Ministers of Defense of the Americas. The General Assembly also asked the Permanent Council to continue encouraging the exchange of experiences in the area of confidence- and security-building measures with other regions, which could include the exchange of information between the Committee on Hemispheric Security and other international organizations working on the subject, such as the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Forum. It also requested that the Permanent Council conduct an exchange of experiences and information with the OSCE in the year 2002 at OAS headquarters. It instructed the Permanent Council to prepare an experts

meeting to evaluate implementation of measures identified in the Declarations of Santiago and San Salvador, and to consider future steps to further consolidate mutual confidence. The General Assembly also instructed the General Secretariat to coordinate with the Inter-American Defense Board to update the inventory of confidence- and security-building measures, based on reports presented by member states pursuant to resolutions AG/RES. 1623 (XXIX-O/99) and AG/RES. 1744 (XXX-O/00), and to facilitate access to that inventory. It further instructed the General Secretariat to prepare a catalogue of confidence- and security-building measures undertaken in other regions of the world, with a view to identifying best practices, and that it do so as a contribution to the above-mentioned experts meeting. The General Assembly was also instructed to make operational the cooperative communication network for instantaneous sharing of information on confidence- and security-building measures. [AG/RES. 1801 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly convened the Second High-Level Meeting on the Special Security Concerns of Small Island States, with a view to adopting a management model through which the security of small states could be appropriately and adequately addressed, as well as formulating a definition of security for small island states to be forwarded for consideration at the 2004 Special Conference on Security. It instructed the Permanent Council to formalize the site, agenda, and date of the said High-Level Meeting, to carry out the preparations for the holding of the High-Level Meeting, and to continue to address, through its Committee on Hemispheric Security, the special security concerns of small states and report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second regular session on the results of the High-Level Meeting. The Assembly asked the Secretary General to continue to support the efforts of the small island states to address their security concerns, including raising public awareness of these concerns. [AG/RES. 1802 (XXXI-O/01)]

Civil society

The General Assembly requested the Permanent Council, in accordance with the Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities (the Guidelines), to develop strategies to increase civil society participation in the OAS. It also asked that the Permanent Council study the feasibility of and modalities for enhancing and regularizing the dialogue between the OAS and accredited civil society organizations. Accordingly it asked the Council to prepare and hold a special meeting, with those organizations participating, and to thereby encourage appropriate and broad participation and equitable treatment of topics. The General Secretariat was instructed to put together a database on best practices of civil society participation in the OAS, based on the guidelines approved for such purposes, and to consult other international organizations about their activities to promote civil society's participation. The General Assembly asked the General Secretariat to support member states that so request, in their efforts to increase the institutional capacity of governments to receive, absorb, and act on civil society input and advocacy, particularly through the use of information and communications technologies. [AG/RES. 1834 (XXXI-O/01)]

Anti-drug Strategy

The General Assembly requested that CICAD examine the advisability of updating the 1996 Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere to reflect member states' renewed determination to combat all aspects of the ever-changing problem of drugs in the Hemisphere, taking into consideration the results of implementation of the MEM. It also asked CICAD to continue to support the development and strengthening of the MEM. It recommended that member states endeavor to expand and improve their infrastructure for the delivery of prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation services and asked CICAD to assist countries in developing proposals to raise the necessary international cooperation funding. The Assembly also recommended that member states broaden cooperation to improve the application of the pre-export notification mechanism of controlled chemical substances in order to prevent their diversion

for illicit uses. It instructed CICAD to continue to develop cooperation projects aimed at preventing and reducing illicit crops in member states by establishing viable, sustainable economic and social development alternatives. The member states, permanent observers and international trade institutions were urged to endeavor to maintain and strengthen trade-preference systems that support regional alternative development programs aimed at reducing illicit crops in the region, such as the Andean Trade Preference Act, the Caribbean Basin Initiative, the special provisions of the Generalized System of Preferences of the European Union (EU) for the Andean and Central American countries, and the EU-Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific (Lomé) Agreement. Member states were also urged to implement the recommendations in the Commission's Model Regulations Concerning Laundering Offenses Connected to Illicit Drug Trafficking and Other Serious Offenses; the Model Regulations to Control Chemical Substances Used in the Illicit Production of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances; and the Model Regulations for the Control of the International Movement of Firearms, Their Parts and Components, and Ammunition. The General Assembly asked CICAD to continue to assist member states to set up financial intelligence units and to expand the CICAD/IDB training for law enforcement and court officials who deal with money laundering. The General Assembly recognized CICAD's contribution, through its institutional strengthening program, to preparing and modernizing national anti-drug plans and strengthening national drug control commissions. It asked CICAD's Inter-American Observatory on Drugs to continue to support the member states in developing national systems for gathering statistical data and documentary information on all aspects of the drug problem. The Assembly also urged the member states, permanent observers and international financial institutions to continue to help finance the programs and projects implemented by CICAD in fulfillment of its work plan, in particular its demand reduction and illicit crop prevention and reduction program. It recommended to the member states that they adopt and strengthen information exchange and international cooperation mechanisms on money laundering, control of chemicals, and legal assistance, including the signature of international agreements. The Assembly underscored the importance of collaboration and coordination between the Secretariat of CICAD and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), the OECD Financial Action Task Force (FATF), and other competent international organizations. [AG/RES. 1778 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly acknowledged the importance of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism as a tool for objective measurement of the efforts made by member states and the Hemisphere as a whole to combat the drug problem and strengthen international cooperation. It urged the member states to continue lending firm political backing to and support the funding of the MEM through voluntary contributions with a view to making it permanent. The General Assembly requested that at future sessions, the political dialogue on the region's achievements in the fight against drugs be raised to the highest level possible, taking into account the results obtained in the implementation of the MEM and the experiences contributed by the member states. It instructed the Executive Secretariat of CICAD to continue to support the work of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism, particularly with regard to all matters related to conducting the second round of evaluations. [AG/RES. 1779 (XXXI-O/01)]

Antipersonnel Mine Removal

The General Assembly congratulated the Governments of Ecuador and Peru for signing with the General Secretariat the Agreements regarding the Program of Assistance for Integral Action against Antipersonnel Mines within their countries. It urged the General Secretariat to continue supporting the work begun by the Governments of Ecuador and Peru with a view to executing the activities included in the Program of Assistance for Integral Action against Antipersonnel Mines in Ecuador and Peru. It also called upon the General Secretariat to provide assistance and obtain voluntary contributions from member countries, permanent observers, and organizations to the specific fund for the mine-clearing programs and programs for integral action against antipersonnel mines carried out by Peru and Ecuador in their respective territories. [AG/RES. 1792 (XXXI-O/01)]

The Assembly reiterated its appeal to member states and permanent observers, as well as to the international community in general, for the continued collaboration and support needed for the Mine-Clearing Program in Central America (PADCA) and the other programs for Integral Action against Antipersonnel Mines (AICMA) in Central America. It instructed the General Secretariat to continue to carry out cooperation and coordination activities with the Central American Bank for Economic Integration, the United Nations, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Trust for the Americas, the Pan American Health Organization within the framework of the joint Mexico-Canada-PAHO cooperation program, and the Center for International Rehabilitation, in order to continue developing and implementing programs aimed at making the civilian population aware of the danger of mines, the socioeconomic reclamation of de-mined areas, care for antipersonnel-mine victims and their social and psychological rehabilitation, and training for persons with disabilities in the use of new information and communication technologies. It asked the Inter-American Defense Board (IADB) to continue to provide technical assistance to PADCA and again requested that the Inter-American Council for Integral Development pay special attention to the integral development of Central American rural areas in which antipersonnel mine-clearing has been completed. Finally, it urged the General Secretariat to continue to provide to the Central American countries, within the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources, the support necessary to continue the mine-clearing programs and the programs to heighten public awareness of mines, rehabilitate victims and their families, and begin socioeconomic reclamation of de-mined areas. [AG/RES. 1793 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly reaffirmed the goals of the global elimination of antipersonnel land-mines and the conversion of the Western Hemisphere into an antipersonnel-land-mine-free zone, urging member states to ratify or consider acceding to the Convention on the Prohibition of Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction ("Ottawa Convention") as soon as possible and to become parties to the 1980 United Nations Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and its four protocols, as soon as possible. It requested that the member states inform the Secretary General when they have done so. The Assembly encouraged member states to either request assistance from or provide assistance to the OAS Mine Action Team, as appropriate, through its mine clearance, stockpile destruction, mine awareness, and victims assistance programs, in order to advance mine action in the region. It asked the Secretary General to continue to consider the possibility of developing new de-mining programs in the Americas to assist affected member states and urged member states to participate in the Third Meeting of the States Parties to the Ottawa Convention. The General Assembly invited the member states to respond to the three elements of the "Managua Challenge" issued to the States of the Americas that had signed the Ottawa Convention. It again emphasized how important it was that all member states participate in the OAS Register of Antipersonnel Land Mines and encouraged member states that are parties to the Ottawa Convention to provide to the Secretary General a copy of their Ottawa Convention Article 7 transparency reports. The Assembly also encouraged member states that are not yet Parties to the Ottawa Convention to provide similar information with their annual submissions. [AG/RES. 1794 (XXXI-O/01)]

Natural disasters

Member states were urged to study and apply those IACNDR recommendations set out in the Report of the Inter-American Committee for Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR). The Assembly asked the Permanent Council to continue studying the recommendations made by the IACNDR. It asked the IACNDR to continue its work in accordance with the Statutes adopted by the Permanent Council and to report to the Permanent Council. The Secretary General was instructed to establish, in coordination with the IACNDR, an information network to exchange scientific and technical knowledge and experiences in order to strengthen coordination of national prevention and response agencies in natural disasters and to

convene, in accordance with the relevant mandates of the Third Summit of the Americas, a hemispheric meeting on disaster preparedness and mitigation prior to the thirty-second regular session of the General Assembly. He was also instructed to cooperate with the Inter-American Development Bank on a feasibility study on measures to reduce the cost of catastrophic insurance within the member states, in accordance with the relevant mandate of the Third Summit of the Americas, and to make this study available to the IACNDR for its consideration and further action. [AG/RES. 1803 (XXXI-O/01)]

Trade

The General Assembly instructed the General Secretariat to continue providing analytical support and technical assistance, and conducting related studies as part of the Tripartite Committee or as requested by the respective bodies established in the Ministerial Declarations of San José, Toronto, and Buenos Aires, under the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) process. It reiterated support for the Trade Unit's collaboration with the Tripartite Committee on trade- and integration-related activities, and for those cooperation activities with other specialized regional, subregional, and multilateral organizations and institutions. The General Assembly instructed the Trade Unit, through its Foreign Trade Information System (SICE), to continue its work of providing trade and trade-related information to the Hemisphere through its Web site; to continue its work in support of the FTAA process by maintaining, as a member of the Tripartite Committee, the official FTAA Web site; to maintain, as a member of the Tripartite Committee and on an ongoing basis, a calendar of the deadlines that the negotiating groups establish for receiving input from delegations; and to manage, as a member of the Tripartite Committee, the Document Distribution Service (DDS), a secure, confidential, instant, and reliable distribution system of the FTAA negotiation process documents. [AG/RES. 1813 (XXXI-O/01)]

Relations with other organizations, organs, agencies and entities

The General Assembly resolved to request the Permanent Council to continue to foster the exchange of experience and information among the OAS, other multilateral organizations, international financial institutions, the private sector, and civil society organizations, among other pertinent bodies, in order to coordinate and strengthen cooperation activities in the area of corporate social responsibility for the benefit of the member states. Accordingly, it instructed the Permanent Council to continue examining the topic of corporate social responsibility, in order to determine its scope and content within the inter-American context, ensuring that civil society and the private sector are appropriately and regularly consulted and that this process is enriched by the experience of other international, national, and nongovernmental organizations. The Assembly also called upon the Permanent Council to convene a meeting as early as feasible, and to seek for that purpose the support of the Inter-American Development Bank and other relevant inter-American organizations, with the participation of representatives of governments and civil society, including business and workers associations, to deepen dialogue on corporate social responsibility in the Hemisphere and raise awareness of key issues to be determined. [AG/RES. 1786 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly welcomed the decision taken by the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas (FIPA) to strengthen its ties with the OAS by its request that the General Secretariat of the Organization, through its Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD), provide technical support to the Technical Secretariat of FIPA. It instructed the General Secretariat, in accordance with the priorities set by the Permanent Council and its own possibilities, to provide FIPA with technical assistance in the preparations for the next meeting, to be held in Mexico in 2002. [AG/RES. 1804 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly acknowledged the activities carried out under the OAS/UN Cooperation Agreement and asked the General Secretariat to continue implementing the recommendations of the OAS/CARICOM General Meeting held in 1998; to continue and to strengthen cooperation between the

OAS General Secretariat and each of the following organizations: the United Nations, the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System, and the General Secretariat of the Caribbean Community. [AG/RES. 1817 (XXXI-O/01)]

Inter-American summit management

The General Assembly instructed the General Secretariat that, in any restructuring plan, it should take into account the functions assigned to the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) in coordinating the various dependencies of the OAS that have responsibilities for priority areas of the Strategic Plan, as established in Article 22.b of the CIDI Statutes. It specifically instructed the Secretary General to present a plan for organizing the General Secretariat's support of the implementation of Summits mandates in the area of cooperation, to rationalize the human and financial resources of the General Secretariat. The plan should also include measures for organizing the General Secretariat's support of political and technical meetings in priority areas for development. [AG/RES. 1812 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly invited the Inter-American Development Bank, as a partner institution in the Summit of the Americas process and an integral member of the inter-American system, to review its policies and procedures to ensure that the greater integration between the values and goals of the Summit process is fully reflected therein. It also encouraged the Bank to incorporate these priorities into the Bank's programs and review the Bank's activities to better support the implementation and follow-up of the Summit Plan of Action. [AG/RES. 1822 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly renewed the mandate to the Permanent Council to coordinate the activities assigned to the Organization of American States by the Summits of the Americas. It instructed the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization to continue to give top priority to carrying out the initiatives assigned to them by the General Assembly, pursuant to the mandates of the Summits of the Americas, and to report regularly to the Special Committee in this regard. The Assembly instructed the General Secretariat to act as the technical secretariat and institutional memory of the Summits process, in accordance with the Plan of Action of the Quebec City Summit, and to continue providing the necessary support to ministerial and sectoral meetings related to the implementation of Summit mandates on topics relevant to the OAS. It further instructed the General Secretariat to develop, in accordance with the Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities, suggestions on ways in which civil society organizations could help monitor and implement Summit initiatives for future recommendation to the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG). It also instructed the General Secretariat, in collaboration with other relevant multilateral organizations, to (a) coordinate the implementation of the Summit mandates assigned to the OAS; (b) coordinate the monitoring of and exchange of information on such implementation; and (c) develop clear mechanisms to assess said implementation. It welcomed the Memorandum of Understanding between and the letter signed by the presidents of the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank in which they commit to the establishment of a Joint Summit Working Group on coordinating support among other organizations associated with the Summit process in the implementation of the Quebec City Plan of Action, and requested the Secretary General to maintain a permanent dialogue in this regard with the presidents of both these institutions. It also asked the Secretary General to present proposals to the Permanent Council on how to strengthen and reform the institutional and financial mechanisms of the Organization to support the Summits of the Americas process, and instructed the Permanent Council to take the pertinent decisions in this respect. It also instructed the Permanent Council to allocate resources in the program-budget of the Organization that allow for the full and timely execution of this resolution. Accordingly, the Assembly instructed the Secretary General to carry out the activities mentioned in this resolution within those and other resources, and to create, in accordance with the instruction of the Third Summit of the

Americas, a specific fund made up of voluntary contributions to finance OAS activities in support of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG). [AG/RES. 1824 (XXXI-O/01)]

Modernization of the OAS

The General Assembly congratulated the Secretary General and thanked him for the initiative to evaluate the budgetary implications of the activities that will have to be carried out in order to fulfill the mandates entrusted to the OAS by the Heads of State and Government at the Summit of Quebec City. It instructed the General Secretariat to prepare a draft proposal for restructuring and modernizing the OAS, and entrusted the Permanent Council, through its Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs and the Special Committee on Inter-American Summits Management, with the job of making recommendations on the aforementioned proposal. The General Assembly also resolved to hold a special session of the General Assembly to adopt decisions on the aforementioned recommendations. [AG/RES. 1836 (XXXI-O/01)]

Gender-related issues

The General Assembly noted with satisfaction the Second Biennial Report to the General Assembly on Compliance with Resolution AG/RES. 1456 (XXVII-O/97), "Promotion of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará'." It also expressed its satisfaction with the progress made by the CIM and the member states in promoting the Convention and in attaining its objectives. The General Assembly encouraged the governments to ratify the Convention of Belém do Pará, and urged all member states to continue to promote measures to prevent, punish, and eradicate violence against women in the Hemisphere. Finally, it urged the Inter-American Commission of Women and the member states to continue to develop strategies to attain the objectives of this Convention, and to publish the results in the next CIM follow-up report. [AG/RES. 1768 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly received the first report on the implementation and promotion of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality, in fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00). It reaffirmed the governments' commitment to integrate a gender perspective into their national programs and policies. It welcomed the Secretary General's work and urged him to continue his efforts to implement the objectives of the Inter-American Program and to promote the incorporation of a gender perspective as an integral part of the Organization's activities, policies, programs, projects, and agendas. The Assembly also instructed the Secretary General and the Permanent Council to assign to the Inter-American Commission of Women, in the program-budget for 2002, the human and financial resources it would need in order to serve as an organ for follow-up, coordination, and evaluation of the Inter-American Program and of actions taken to implement that Program, bearing in mind the Organization's other priorities. It requested voluntary contributions to expedite implementation of the Inter-American Program. [AG/RES. 1777 (XXXI-O/01)]

The General Assembly urged the Secretary General to reaffirm the urgent goal that women should occupy, by the year 2005, 50% of posts at each level within the OAS organs, agencies and entities, particularly at the P-4 level and above. It called upon him to continue to make gender equity and equality one of the priorities in his continuing efforts to establish a new management culture in the Organization and to undertake, within the framework of the Permanent Council's discussions on the issue of matching organizational structure and staffing with mandates and resources, to achieve the above mentioned objective. It urged him to appoint qualified women as representatives and special envoys so that they might use their good offices in representing the Secretary General in matters relating to all areas and sectors. Finally the General Assembly urged the Secretary General to actively seek and support the nomination, election or appointment of qualified women to all vacant positions in the OAS. It asked the

Secretary General to continue his work to establish policies of gender equality in the workplace and to make each manager accountable for the application of these policies. The member states were asked to support the efforts of the Secretary General and of the President of the CIM by identifying, and regularly submitting, through their permanent missions to the OAS, the most highly-qualified women candidates to occupy positions of trust within the OAS and, to encourage more women to apply for vacant positions, which would be widely publicized in all member states. [AG/RES. 1790 (XXXI-O/01)]

Children and adolescents

The General Assembly urged the member states to consider signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to, as the case may be, "The Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction," "The Inter-American Convention on the International Return of Children, of July 15, 1989," and "The Hague Convention of 29 May 1993 on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Inter-country Adoption." It called on the States Parties to comply with their obligations under this Convention. The Assembly also instructed the Permanent Council, with the support and under the auspices of the Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI), to review the possibility of convening, in the near future, a meeting of government experts on the subject of the international abduction of children by one of their parents. It recommended that the meeting of government experts should consider preparing an inter-American program on cooperation to prevent and remedy cases of international abduction of minors by one of their parents. The program would have specific objectives, including the establishment of a network among the competent national bodies in the member states that would enable them to exchange information and cooperate with each other on the different regulatory and legal aspects involved in preventing and settling cases of abduction. It asked the Permanent Council to invite the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and the Inter-American Juridical Committee to lend their support and legal and technical assistance, within their respective spheres of competence, for the organization and holding of the meeting of government experts. It also asked the Inter-American Children's Institute to prepare a report on the status of international abduction of minors by one of their parents in the Americas, to be presented to the meeting of government experts. It then invited member states, permanent observers, international organizations, multilateral financial institutions, and civil society organizations to collaborate and cooperate with the meeting of government experts. [AG/RES. 1835 (XXXI-O/01)]

Twenty-eighth special session

The General Assembly opened its twenty-eighth special session in Lima, Peru, on September 10, 2001. Chairing the session was the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru, His Excellency Diego García Sayán. The special session was convened to consider and approve the Inter-American Democratic Charter.

PERMANENT COUNCIL

The Permanent Council, one of the organs by means of which the Organization accomplishes its purposes (Article 53 of the Charter), is directly answerable to the General Assembly. The Council is composed of one representative of each member state, especially appointed by the respective government with the rank of ambassador. Chapter XII of the Charter stipulates the functions and responsibilities of the Permanent Council, which takes up any matter entrusted to it by the General Assembly or the Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs. It serves provisionally as the Organ of Consultation, in accordance with the provisions of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance (TIAR). The Permanent Council sees to the maintenance of friendly relations among the member states and assists them in the peaceful settlement of their differences. It acts as Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly, unless the latter decides otherwise.

Inasmuch as the Permanent Council submits a detailed report of its activities to the General Assembly, only some of its activities and decisions are summarized here.

General Secretariat presentations

The Secretary General addressed the Permanent Council on several occasions. Prominent among these were the presentation he gave upon his return from Guatemala; his address on the occasion of the commemoration of the Santiago Commitment to Democracy and strengthening of the inter-American system and resolution AG/RES. 1080; and his address on compliance with resolution CP/RES. 799 (1298/01) "The Social and Economic Impact of the Terrorist Acts of September 11, 2001, on Member States and the Damage Done Especially to the More Vulnerable and Smaller Economies." The General Secretariat also presented a number of documents to the Permanent Council for consideration. Salient among these were the report on the "Action Plan," in compliance with the Windsor Declaration, the reports on the electoral observation missions in Nicaragua, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Guyana, and Suriname; the reports on the activities of various departments and units of the General Secretariat; the report on the status of quotas and transfers between chapters of the Program-Budget, the report on the change of benefits for contract staff; the report on the three-year plan of action to strengthen *Americas Magazine*, and the report on positions of trust within the Secretariat.

Presentations by the Assistant Secretary General

The Assistant Secretary General filed reports and on several occasions made observations on the following topics: Haiti, Honduras/Nicaragua, the three-year plan of the Columbus Memorial Library, natural disasters and Columbus Day.

Chair and Vice Chair

The Permanent Council was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Chile, Ambassador Esteban Tomic Errázuriz; the Permanent Representative of Colombia, Ambassador Humberto de la Calle; the Permanent Representative of Costa Rica, Ambassador Hernán R. Castro H.; the Permanent Representative of Dominica, Ambassador Swinburne S. Lestrade, and the Permanent Representative of Ecuador, Ambassador Blasco Peñaherrera. The Vice Chairs during this period were the Permanent Representatives of Honduras, Ambassador Elena Núñez de Ponce; Costa Rica, Ambassador Hernán R. Castro; Guyana, Ambassador M. A. Odeen Ishmael; Guatemala, Ambassador Ronald I. Ochaeta; and Grenada, Ambassador Denis Antoine.

Visits to the Permanent Council

The Permanent Council welcomed the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States; the Honorable Alfonso Portillo Cabrera, President of Guatemala; the Honorable Jorge Quiroga Ramírez, President of Bolivia, and the Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Honorable Ralph E. Gonsalves. It was also pleased to receive the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Haiti, His Excellency Joseph Philippe Antonio; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay, His Excellency Didier Operti; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador, Her Excellency María Eugenia Brizuela de Ávila; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela, His Excellency Luis Alfonso Dávila; the Minister of Culture of Colombia, Her Excellency Araceli Morales, and the Assistant Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Chile, Mr. Heraldito Muñoz. It was also honored by visits from Mr. Bernard W. Aronson, former United States Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs and Chairman of the Board of External Auditors; Mr. Carlos Aquino González, Director General of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture; His Excellency Lester Mejías Solís, Nicaragua's Ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva and Special Envoy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; George Alleyne, Director of the Pan American Health Organization; José del Val, Director of the Inter-American Indian Institute; Alejandro Bonasso, Director of the Inter-American Children's Institute, Secretary *pro tempore* of the CIFTA Consultative Committee; and José Pileggi, Chairman of COM/CITEL.

Resolutions

The resolutions the Permanent Council approved concerned the following matters: support for democracy in Haiti and the situation there; transitory suspension of the application of articles 95 and 96 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat, with respect to FEMCIDI; granting OAS permanent observer status to the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia; convocation of the twenty-eighth special session of the General Assembly; invitations to the sessions of the General Assembly; convocation of the Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities Responsible for Policies on Decentralization, Local Government and Citizen Participation in Municipal Government in the Hemisphere; Statutes of the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reduction; vote of thanks to the Government and people of the Republic of Costa Rica; convocation of the twenty-third and twenty-fourth Meetings of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs; date and place of the Sixth Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law (CIDIP-VI); the Draft Rules of Procedure for CIDIP-VI; the date of CIDIP-VI; a Seminar on "The Social and Economic Impact of the Terrorist Acts of September 11, 2001, on Member States and the Damage Done Especially to the More Vulnerable and Smaller Economies"; date of the Fourth Meeting of the Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas; and the transfer of appropriations from chapter 1 to chapter 8 to 9 of the Program Budget, 2001.

INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT

The Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) is an organ of the Organization of American States and is directly answerable to the General Assembly. It has decision-making authority in matters related to partnership for development and was established when the Protocol of Managua entered into force on January 29, 1996 (Chapter XIII). CIDI comprises all the member states of the Organization, which designate one principal representative each, of ministerial or equivalent rank, whom the respective government appoints. It may create such subsidiary bodies and organs as it deems necessary to perform its functions properly. Its purpose is to promote cooperation among the American States to achieve their integral development and, in particular, to help eliminate extreme poverty, pursuant to the provisions of the Charter, especially those set forth in Chapter VII with respect to the economic, social, educational, cultural, scientific, and technological fields. CIDI holds at least one meeting each year at the ministerial or equivalent level, and may convene such others as it deems pertinent in its area of competence. Execution and coordination of the respective activities are the responsibility of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development. The following bodies are answerable to CIDI: the Permanent Executive Committee (CEPCIDI), the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD), the Nonpermanent Specialized Committees (CENPES) and the inter-American committees.

First special meeting of CIDI

With all the member states in attendance, CIDI held its first special meeting at Organization headquarters on May 17, 2001. Ambassador Denis G. Antoine, Permanent Representative of Grenada to the Organization, chaired the meeting. Serving as Vice Chair was Ambassador Hernán R. Castro H., Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the Organization.

In furtherance of Article 95 of the Charter of the Organization, which concerns the formulation of a strategic plan which sets forth policies, programs, and courses of action in matters of cooperation for integral development, CIDI approved resolution CIDI/RES. 1 (I-E/01) establishing the guidelines that were taken into account in the preparation of the new Strategic Plan. It also asked the General Assembly's authorization to approve it, *ad referendum* the General Assembly's own approval at its thirty-second regular session, and to implement it as of January 1, 2002.

Given the fact that the OAS is assigned a paramount role in implementation of the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas and that the heads of state and of government attending that Summit decided to encourage the IACD's efforts to secure financing from both traditional and new sources, CIDI decided to ask the General Assembly that any restructuring plan should consider the functions assigned to the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) as coordinator of the various OAS offices and departments that have responsibilities in priority areas of the Strategic Plan.

CIDI also requested extension of the deadlines and amendment of the mandates that concern the IACD's responsibility for making recommendations on the Statutes of the OAS Fellowships Fund and other instruments to raise funding for the Organization's fellowship and training programs, and to come to an agreement with the member states on new mechanisms by which to carry out the strategies to increase opportunities for learning and fellowships in the region.

In resolution CIDI/RES. 5 (I-E/01) CIDI also approved a procedure for electing the members of the IACD's Management Board. Also, to pursue the work embarked upon in the priority areas, CIDI recommended that in the 2002 program-budget, the General Assembly approve the funding needed to hold ministerials and meetings of inter-American committees.

Through resolution CIDI/RES. 8 (I-E/01), CIDI established the eight nonpermanent specialized committees (CENPES) for the 2002 evaluation exercise and determined each one's membership. In resolution CIDI/RES. 9 (I-E/01), it reiterated its support for the General Secretariat's involvement with the FTAA process' trade- and integration-related activities and its collaboration with regional, subregional and multilateral specialized institutions.

Among other measures, CIDI convoked the following ministerials and meetings: the Second Meeting of Ministers of Education, held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in September 2001; the XII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor, held in Ottawa, Canada, in October 2001; a High-level Meeting to promote implementation of sustainable development in the hemisphere, which was replaced by the Third Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development, held at headquarters in February 2002; the First Meeting of Ministers of Tourism, which will be held in the Dominican Republic in 2002, and the First Meeting of Ministers and High-ranking Authorities in Science and Technology, which will be held in 2002.

Sixth regular meeting of CIDI

CIDI held its sixth regular meeting at Organization headquarters on December 12, 2001. All the member states were represented at the meeting, which was chaired by His Excellency Arturo Montenegro, Minister of the Economy of Guatemala; the meeting's Vice Chair was Mr. Hector González Urrutia, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador.

The meeting featured a dialogue amongst the heads of delegation, special guests and representatives of international organizations and cooperation agencies participating. The theme was "*Instruments of cooperation to respond to the socioeconomic impact of the terrorist acts of September 11, 2001 on member states and the damage caused, specifically to more vulnerable and smaller economies.*"

The participants in the dialogue concurred that it was still too early to tell whether the events of September 2001 would have fundamental, lasting effects on the hemisphere. Still, they emphasized the importance of multilateralism and the need to strive for consensus measures for cooperation for development that do not fail to take the long-term development objectives into account. It was noted that the effects of the events had been pronounced in the hemisphere, particularly among the smaller economies of the Caribbean and Central America. The meeting therefore reiterated that hemispheric and regional economic integration had to establish a platform of competitiveness to marshal the investment that development required. The meeting concluded that democracy and prosperity could not be sustained without a concerted effort to wipe out structural poverty, social alienation and income disparities.

One decision adopted by CIDI at this meeting was approval, *ad referendum* the General Assembly's approval at its thirty-second regular session, of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 2002-2005, which spells out the policies, programs and measures in the area of partnership for integral development for the next five-year period. The Strategic Plan envisions two strategic levels: a policy level aimed at strengthening dialogue, agreements and institutional mechanisms, and a programming level in which a number of areas are identified to ensure effective and focused execution of the Plan. The Strategic Plan's objectives are targeted at generating and implementing policies and programs to reduce poverty and inequality, and to implement and follow through with the mandates from the Summits of the Americas.

In resolution CIDI/RES. 106 (VI-O/01), CIDI asked the General Assembly to amend articles 3(m) and 31(a) of its Statutes so that CEPCIDI could develop the guidelines for preparation of the program-budget for partnership for development based on its Strategic Plan.

Because the new modality of cooperation funded with resources from CIDI's Multilateral Special Fund (FEMCIDI) necessitates changes in various provisions of statutes and rules of procedure, in resolution CIDI/RES. 107 (VI-O/01) CIDI extended the transitory application of the new texts of articles 15, 17, 20 and 23 of the FEMCIDI Statutes until such time as the IACD Management Board presented a report to CEPCIDI on the performance of the new modality of cooperation.

At its regular meeting, CIDI also considered and approved rules of procedure for the IACD's Management Board. In resolution CIDI/RES. 109 (VI-O/01), CIDI approved the schedule of specialized or sectoral meetings to be held in 2002. In resolution CIDI/RES. 110 (VI-O/01), it instructed CEPCIDI to continue to provide adequate support to help national agencies and entities that provide international cooperation to participate in its meetings and the activities of the IACD.

CIDI energetically condemned the terrorist attacks that occurred in the United States on September 11, 2001. In resolution CIDI/RES. 111 (VI-O/01) CIDI decided that within its area of competence, the IACD would step up efforts to support the member states, particularly those with the smaller and more vulnerable economies and the relatively less developed, with measures designed to soften the social and economic impact of those terrorist attacks. Therefore, CIDI called for a meeting of the Coordinating Committee of the programs of the inter-American system, to coordinate technical cooperation and the development programs conducted by the various organs, agencies and entities of the inter-American system that are part of the Committee, particularly in the case of those programs aimed at mitigating the impact of the terrorist acts of September 11.

Ministerial meetings in specific sectors

- Second Meeting of Ministers of Education

The Second Meeting of Ministers of Education held under the aegis of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) was in Punta del Este, Uruguay, September 24 and 25, 2001, in furtherance of the mandate from the Third Summit of the Americas. Attending were delegations from 19 member countries. In accordance with Article 27 of the Rules of Procedure, a preparatory session, an inaugural session, three plenary sessions and one closing session were held. At the meeting, participants discussed the various advances and challenges encountered across the hemisphere with the following issues: establishing comparable indicators, connectivity, horizontal cooperation mechanisms, civil society's involvement in education, and mechanisms to monitor and finance the priorities enunciated at the Third Summit. At the closing session, the ministers and heads of delegation adopted the Declaration of the Ministers of Education of the Americas, the Declaration against Violence, and the resolutions on follow-up mechanisms and on proposed projects in the education area.

- XII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor

Ottawa, Canada, was the venue for the XII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor, held October 17 through 19, 2001. The ministers concurred that globalization had to bring about social development as well as economic development in order to raise the standard of living for everyone in the region. The ministers recognized that the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001 had had tangible consequences. They also agreed on the role that government must play to ensure an adequate standard of social protection for workers and their families, in the face of the challenges that the changes

brought by the new economy pose. The delegations stated that the real integration of the Americas could not be envisioned without an instrument of social cohesion that ensured adequate social benefits for everyone. They further underscored the importance of social dialogue for the development of labor in the Americas, the need to modernize the legal apparatus in terms of labor laws and standards, the necessity of combating unemployment, supporting education, training, vocational training, establishing mechanisms to prevent discrimination against women in the workplace, and supporting the abolition of child labor everywhere in the hemisphere.

Inter-American committees within the CIDI framework

- **Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP)**

The Committee held its second meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica, September 10 through 13, 2001. It approved the *Agreement of Cooperation among Inter-American Port Authorities*. It also adopted the *2002-2003 Plan of Action of the Inter-American Committee on Ports*, which includes areas of strategic interest to pursue for the development of inter-American port cooperation, such as: modernization of ports and port reforms; excellence in port management; port security; sustainable development and environmental protection; port costs; port facilitation and the logistical chain; ports and the travel industry; developing the human potential, and relations with international organizations and the private sector. The meeting gave its support to the *Port Modernization in Central America Program*, which involves multiple technical issues (cabotage, navigational aids, intake of residue from ships, training, maritime law, environmental action, and others) to facilitate its execution. The Committee also approved the continuation of the three *Technical Advisory Groups (TAGS): Port Operations (chaired by Mexico), Port Security (chaired by the United States), and Navigational Safety and Environmental Protection (chaired by Argentina)*. The TAGs are advisory bodies composed of government experts and members associated with the private sector. The Committee expressed its solidarity with the people of the United States, condemning the terrorist events of September 11, 2001.

For its part, the Executive Board of the Inter-American Committee on Ports is charged with implementing the Committee's resolutions. It held its Third Meeting in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, December 3 through 5, 2001. There, the Executive Board identified and detailed the activities to be carried out under the CIP's Plan of Action, which the Committee had approved last September. The Executive Board decided to carry out an extensive training program. The latter will pool the efforts and resources of the Spanish State Ports, the OAS' Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development, UNCTAD, CICAD, IMO, US MARAD, and others. Technical studies will also be carried out for a better understanding of the port bidding and competition control procedures; lower port costs; better port statistics; quality control, and best practices.

- **Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development**

The Third Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development was held at Organization headquarters, February 11 and 12, 2002.

The 1996 Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development, held in Bolivia, charged the Organization of American States (OAS) with monitoring the various decisions and commitments undertaken in the Declaration and Plan of Action of Bolivia, by way of the Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development (CIDS). Initiatives were identified in five priority areas of activity: health and education; sustainable agriculture and sustainable forestry; sustainable cities and communities; water resources and coastal areas; and energy and minerals. A follow-up was done of these initiatives at the Third Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee for Sustainable Development.

The meeting was convened to comply with resolutions of the OAS General Assembly and subsidiary bodies, concerning the operations of the CIDS and the mandates from the Third Summit of the Americas, held in Quebec City in 2001. Its purpose was to: 1) review the progress made with execution of the inter-American program on sustainable development during the five years since the Summit on Sustainable Development in Bolivia; 2) contribute to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio+10), which will be held in Johannesburg in September 2002, with a hemispheric presentation on the integrated approach that the Americas have taken to the question of sustainable development; 3) identify means to revitalize the inter-American position on sustainable development in the Summits of the Americas process; and 4) strengthen the OAS' role as a forum for dialogue and integration among the various sustainable development sectors.

The meeting was the scene of a dialogue among the relevant sectors identified in the Bolivian Plan of Action. The ministers of the various sectors were invited to make presentations on the main areas of progress, important trends, the challenges and opportunities for the Inter-American Program on Sustainable Development, as specified in the Plan of Action of the Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, in 1996.

To prepare for the next CIDS, the member states, with the Secretariat's assistance, began to discuss which sustainable development issues should be the priorities, bearing in mind the international activities and policy discussions underway elsewhere, especially the most relevant activities and priorities in the hemisphere. The Secretariat could assist by preparing an analysis of the gaps, in order to determine which aspects of the Santa Cruz Plan of Action and which emerging issues are of concern, which of them are receiving considerable attention within the OAS and elsewhere, and which could be in need of more focused attention in the hemisphere.

- Nonpermanent Specialized Committees (CENPES)

The Nonpermanent Specialized Committees provide CIDI with technical support in dealing with specialized matters or to develop certain aspects of inter-American cooperation in priority areas of the Strategic Plan.

CEPCIDI convoked the CENPES' Fifth Meeting. The CENPES in the areas of education, economic diversification and integration, liberalization of trade and access to markets, social development and creation of gainful employment, scientific development and technology exchange and transfer, democratic institution-building, sustainable development and environment, and sustainable development of tourism, met at Organization headquarters, October 10-12, 2001. The Culture CENPE held its meetings via tele-conferencing, on the same dates.

The sectoral CENPES conducted the technical evaluation and qualified the proposals for partnership for development that formed the proposed programming that the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development proposed for FEMCIDI funding. The CENPES analyzed and evaluated 103 projects presented by 33 member states. Of this, 89 were given favorable recommendations and involved financing totaling US\$7,972,734. Of the 89 projects recommended, 48 are regional and 41 are national.

The IACD's Management Board approved the programming based on the recommendations from the CENPES. In 2001, the sector-based distribution of FEMCIDI funds broke down as follows: 25.2% for the education sector; 2.82 % for the culture sector; 8.04% for economic diversification and integration; 13.5% for social development and creation of gainful employment; 19.18% for science and technology; 9.54% for democratic institution-building; 14.03% for sustainable development and environment, and 7.7% for sustainable tourism development.

The distribution of the resources by geographic area was as follows in 2001: 27.8% for the English-speaking Caribbean; 27% for the countries of Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic; 19.5% for the Andean countries; 13.2% for the member states of MERCOSUR and Chile; and 12.4% went to Mexico and the United States.

- Permanent Executive Committee of CIDI (CEPCIDI)

During the period covered in this report, CEPCIDI held 12 meetings. The Fifth Regular Meeting of CIDI elected Ambassador Denis Antoine, Permanent Representative of Grenada, as Chairman of CEPCIDI, and Ambassador Luis Alfredo Ramos, Permanent Representative of Colombia, as Vice Chair of CEPCIDI for the 2000/2001 term.

To discharge its responsibilities, CEPCIDI was assisted by the Subcommittee on Policies in Partnership for Development and the Subcommittee on Program, Budget and Evaluation. Among its decisions, CEPCIDI approved the suspension of provisions, the organization of ministerial meetings in specific sectors, preparation and approval of provisions to govern the operations of the IACD, convocation of the meeting of the Nonpermanent Specialized Committees (CENPES) for 2001, and the extension of the deadline for execution of partnership activities and projects funded with resources from the Multilateral Special Fund of CIDI (FEMCIDI).

CEPCIDI was also in charge of the preparations for the First Special Meeting and Sixth Regular Meeting of CIDI. CEPCIDI discussed the draft agenda for the meeting and established the order of precedence of the delegations at both meetings.

Among the decisions adopted by CEPCIDI, *ad referendum* of CIDI's approval, was resolution CEPCIDI/RES. 67 (LXVI-O/01) whereby it suspended, for one year, application of articles 15, 17, 20 and 23 of the FEMCIDI Statutes, approved transitory application of new texts for those articles, and requested temporary suspension of Article 91 b) of the Organization's Charter and articles 95 and 96 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat. CEPCIDI recommended to CIDI, at its Sixth Regular Meeting, that application of those provisions be suspended until March 2002.

In May 2001, CEPCIDI approved resolution CEPCIDI 68 (LXVIII-O/01) wherein it approved the Rules of Procedure of the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD). The Management Board has already applied those Rules of Procedure and CIDI gave them final approval.