

## **I. GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND COUNCILS**



## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly is the supreme organ of the Organization of American States. It is composed of delegations of all the member states, each of which has the right to be represented and the right to one vote. The General Assembly defines the mechanisms, policies, actions, and mandates of the Organization. Its powers are defined in Chapter IX of the OAS Charter. Pursuant to Article 57 it shall convene annually during the period determined by the rules of procedure and at a place selected in accordance with the principle of rotation. 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.

As the inter-American agenda has expanded in recent years, so, too, has the number of items included on the agenda of the General Assembly. Reflecting this, the number of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly increased considerably: from 65 in 2003 to 86 in 2004.

### **Thirty-fourth regular session**

The thirty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly was held from June 6-8, 2004 in Quito, Ecuador. Under the presidency of His Excellency, Patricio Zuquilanda Duque, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ecuador, it adopted 5 declarations and 86 resolutions. The Proceedings of the General Assembly are published in the document of that name (OEA/Ser.P.XXXIV-O.2), which is divided into two volumes: Volume I, containing the certified texts of the declarations and resolutions, and Volume II, which contains the verbatim texts of the plenary sessions and other documents pertaining to this session.

### **Declarations**

*"Declaration of Quito on Social Development and Democracy, and the Impact of Corruption [AG/DEC. 36 (XXXIV-O/04)]:* It stated that development, democracy, and the fight against corruption were closely interrelated topics and, as such, should be addressed in a balanced and integrated way by our countries. [The Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation] also declared that corruption constituted a serious obstacle to the social development of their peoples and reaffirmed their commitment to fight this scourge, while remaining respectful of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states and the principle of nonintervention in domestic matters. The Declaration committed to deny safe haven to corrupt officials, to those who corrupt them, and to the proceeds of corruption, and to cooperate in their extradition as well as in the recovery and return of those proceeds of corruption to their legitimate owners; and they committed to enhance regional mechanisms for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters. It affirmed that political pluralism and sound political parties are essential elements of democracy. It underscored the importance of the Follow-up Mechanism for Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, the Inter-American Program for Cooperation in the Fight against Corruption, and the Inter-American Network for Cooperation against Corruption. It also confirmed the commitment to move forward toward overcoming poverty, hunger, and social inequality and toward the development of the Inter-American Program to Combat Poverty and Discrimination.

*Declaration on Elections in El Salvador [AG/DEC. 37 (XXXIV-O/04)]:* The General Assembly congratulated the people of El Salvador for the clear demonstrations of democratic culture during the elections and encouraged them to observe the policy of tolerance, dialogue, and understanding offered by the President of the Republic to strengthen democratic governance and the social development.

*Declaration on the Question of the Malvinas Islands [AG/DEC. 38 (XXXIV-O/04)]:* The General Assembly welcomed the reaffirmation of the will of the Argentine Government to continue exploring all possible avenues for peaceful settlement of the dispute and its constructive approach towards the inhabitants of the Malvinas Islands. It reaffirmed the need for negotiations to begin, as soon as possible, negotiations on the sovereignty dispute, in order to find a peaceful solution to the controversy. Consequently, it decided to continue to examine the issue at subsequent sessions of the General Assembly.

*Declaration on the Impact of the Energy Situation on the Development of Member States[AG/DEC. 39 (XXXIV-O/04)]:* The General Assembly expressed its concern at the burden imposed on developing countries by the international energy situation and called upon the appropriate bodies to examine this problem.

*Declaration on Respect for Representative Democracy in Ecuador [AG/DEC. 40 (XXXIV-O/04)]:* Declared its support for the initiative by the Government of Ecuador to continue the process of dialogue with all political, social, and economic sectors so that it may contribute to strengthening democratic institutions and foster economic and social development, as well as its support for the efforts of the Government and people of Ecuador aimed at consolidating the democratic institutional framework in the country.

## **Resolutions**

### *Democracy*

Promotion and Strengthening of Democracy [AG/RES. 2044 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Program for Democratic Governance in the Americas [AG/RES. 2045 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Access to Public Information: Strengthening Democracy [AG/RES. 2057 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Situation in Haiti: Strengthening of Democracy [AG/RES. 2058 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Human Rights*

The Human Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families [AG/RES. 2027 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Strengthening of Human Rights Systems Pursuant to the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas [AG/RES. 2030 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Human Rights Defenders: Support for the Individuals, Groups, and Organizations of Civil Society Working to Promote and Protect Human Rights in the Americas.” [AG/RES. 2036 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Study of the Rights and the Care of Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment [AG/RES. 2037 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Prevention of Racism and All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance and Consideration of the Preparation of a Draft Inter-American Convention [AG/RES. 2038 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Observations and Recommendations on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights [AG/RES. 2041 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Observations and Recommendations on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights [AG/RES. 2043 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Protection of Asylum-Seekers, Refugees, Returnees, and Stateless Persons in the Americas [AG/RES. 2047 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Internally Displaced Persons [AG/RES. 2055 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Legal development*

Inter-American Program for the Development of International Law [AG/RES. 2032 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Inter-American Specialized Conferences on Private International Law [AG/RES. 2033 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Promotion of the International Criminal Court [AG/RES. 2039 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas [AG/RES. 2040 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Observations and Recommendations on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Juridical Committee [AG/RES. 2042 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Promotion of and Respect for International Humanitarian Law [AG/RES. 2052 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Central American Democratic Security Model [AG/RES. 2053 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Social Development*

Poverty, Equity, and Social Inclusion [AG/RES. 1983 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Inter-American Committee on Social Development [AG/RES. 1984 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Report of the Third Meeting of Ministers of Education within the Framework of CIDI [AG/RES. 1985 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Report of the XIII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor [AG/RES. 1986 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Promotion of Corporate Social Responsibility in the Hemisphere [AG/RES. 2013 (XXXIV-O/04)]

White Helmets Initiative [AG/RES. 2018 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Draft Social Charter of the Americas: Renewal of the Hemispheric Commitment to Fight Extreme Poverty in the Region [AG/RES. 2056 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Hemispheric security*

Transparency and Confidence- and Security-Building in the Americas [AG/RES. 1996 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Proliferation of and Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons [AG/RES. 1997 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Follow-up to the Special Conference on Security [AG/RES. 1998 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials [AG/RES. 1999 (XXXIV-O/04)]

The Americas as a Biological- and Chemical-Weapons-Free Region [AG/RES. 2000 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Limitation of Military Spending [AG/RES. 2001 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Adoption of a Comprehensive Inter-American Strategy to Combat Threats to Cybersecurity: A Multidimensional and Multidisciplinary Approach to Creating a Culture of Cybersecurity [AG/RES. 2004 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Addressing Extreme Poverty, Inequality, and Social Exclusion as a Means of Strengthening Hemispheric Security [AG/RES. 2005 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Special Security Concerns of the Small Island States of the Caribbean [AG/RES. 2006 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education [AG/RES. 2007 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Inter-American Support for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty [AG/RES. 2008 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Consolidation of the Regime Established in the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) [AG/RES. 2009 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Fighting Transnational Organized Crime in the Hemisphere [AG/RES. 2026 (XXXIV-O/04)]

The Americas as a Zone of Peace and Cooperation [AG/RES. 2054 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Inter-American Summits Management*

Follow-up to the Special Summit of the Americas [AG/RES. 1992 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Mexico City Plan of Action on Decentralization and Strengthening of Municipal and Regional Administrations and Citizen Participation [AG/RES. 1993 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Support for and Follow-up to the Summits of the Americas Process [AG/RES. 1994 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Terrorism*

Amendments to the Statute of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism [AG/RES. 2010 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Protecting Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms While Countering Terrorism [AG/RES. 2035 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Support for the Work of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism [AG/RES. 2051 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Corruption*

Joint Efforts of the Americas in the Struggle against Corruption and Impunity [AG/RES. 2022 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Follow-up on the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and Its Program for Cooperation [AG/RES. 2034 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Civil society*

Increasing and Strengthening Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities [AG/RES. 1991 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Deming*

Support for the Program for Comprehensive Action against Antipersonnel Mines in Central America [AG/RES. 1995 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Support for Action against Antipersonnel Mines in Ecuador and Peru [AG/RES. 2002 (XXXIV-O/04)]

The Americas as an Antipersonnel-Land-Mine-Free Zone [AG/RES. 2003 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Natural disasters*

Natural Disaster Reduction [AG/RES. 2024 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Trade*

Free Trade and Investment in the Hemisphere [AG/RES. 1976 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Trade and Integration in the Americas [AG/RES. 2014 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Tourism*

XVIII Inter-American Travel Congress [AG/RES. 1987 (XXXIV-O/04)]

## *Scholarships*

Strategies for Raising External Funds and Expanding and Strengthening the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs [AG/RES. 1989 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Relations with other organizations, organs, agencies, and entities*

Continuing Participation in the Inter-American Council for Integral Development by Member States That Have Not Ratified the Protocol of Managua [AG/RES. 1978 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Follow-up on the Monterrey Conference on Financing for Development [AG/RES. 1979 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Report of the First Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Culture [AG/RES. 1980 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Strengthening Mechanisms for Political Dialogue for Integral Development [AG/RES. 1981 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Strengthening Technical Cooperation for Integral Development [AG/RES. 1982 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Status of the Preparation of the Draft Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development [AG/RES. 1988 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Study of the Relationship between Trade, Debt, and Financing [AG/RES. 1990 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Observations and Recommendations on the Annual Report of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission [AG/RES. 2015 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Cooperation between the Organization of American States and the United Nations System, the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System, and the General Secretariat of the Caribbean Community [AG/RES. 2016 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Support for and Follow-up on the Activities of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission [AG/RES. 2020 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Observations and Recommendations on the Annual Reports of the Organs, Agencies, and Entities of the Organization [AG/RES. 2025 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Fourth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology and First Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities on Science and Technology within the Framework of CIDI [AG/RES. 2049 (XXXIV-O/04)]

## *Women*

Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS [AG/RES. 1977 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Integrating a Gender Perspective into the Summits of the Americas [AG/RES. 2011 (XXXIV-O/04)]



Violence against Women: Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, “Convention of Belém do Pará” [AG/RES. 2012 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents, and Children [AG/RES. 2019 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women [AG/RES. 2021 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality [AG/RES. 2023 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Children*

Inter-American Program of Cooperation to Prevent and Remedy Cases of International Abduction of Minors by One of Their Parents [AG/RES. 2028 (XXXIV-O/04)]

XIX Pan American Child Congress [AG/RES. 2031 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Combating the Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Smuggling of and Trafficking in Children in the Hemisphere [AG/RES. 2050 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Indigenous peoples*

American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples [AG/RES. 2029 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Support for the Restructuring of the Inter-American Indian Institute [AG/RES. 2046 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Administration of the General Secretariat*

Modernization of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States [AG/RES. 2017 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Amendment of Article 19.a.iii of the General Standards on the Language Proficiency Requirement for Continuing Contract Eligibility [AG/RES. 2048 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Program-Budget of the Organization for 2005; Quotas and Contributions to FEMCIDI for 2005 [AG/RES. 2059 (XXXIV-O/04)]

### *Recognition and Vote of Appreciation*

Recognition of the Achievement of Mr. César Gaviria, Secretary General of the Organization of American States [AG/RES. 1975 (XXXIV-O/04)]

Vote of Appreciation to the People and Government of Ecuador [AG/RES. 2060 (XXXIV-O/04)]

## **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.

### **Chair and Vice Chair**

During the period covered in this report, the following ambassadors, permanent representatives chaired the Permanent Council: Ambassador Carmen Marina Gutiérrez Salazar (Nicaragua), Ambassador Aristides Royo (Panama), Ambassador Manuel María Cáceres (Paraguay). Serving as Vice Chairs were: Ambassador Lisa Shoman (Belize), Ambassador Michael I. King (Barbados), and Ambassador Joshua Sears (Commonwealth of The Bahamas).

### **Presentations**

Throughout the year, the Secretaries General, the Actino Secretary General and the Assistant Secretary General addressed the Permanent Council on numerous occasions concerning mission of facilitation undertaken in various countries of the region, including Colombia, Haiti and Venezuela and the process underway between Belize and Guatemala.. Reports relating to the management of the Secretariat were presented and speeches were given on the occasion of protocolary visits to the Organization.

### **Visits to the Permanent Council**

The Council welcomed the following presidents and officials: President of Colombia, Álvaro Uribe Vélez; Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ecuador, Patricio Zuquilanda Duque, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru, Manuel Rodríguez Cuadros; President of Guatemala, Oscar Berger Perdomo; Prime Minister of the Transitional Government of Haiti, Gérard Latortue; President of Senate Comité on Foreign Affairs of the United States, Richard G. Lugar; Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay, Didier Operti Badán, President of Costa Rica, Abel Pacheco de la Espriella; President of Suriname, Runaldo Ronald Venetiaan; President of Uruguay, Jorge Batlle; President of Honduras, Ricardo Maduro; President of El Salvador, Elías Antonio Saca; President of Haiti, Boniface Alexandre; Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Baldwin Spencer; President of Nicaragua, Enrique Bolaños Geyer; Prime Minister of St. Vincent and The Grenadines, Ralph E Gonsalves; President of Peru, Alejandro Toledo Manrique; Prime Minister of Dominica, Roosevelt Skerritt; Vice President of Colombia, Francisco Santos; Vice President of Panama, Samuel Lewis Navarro; Minister of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay, Leila Rachid de Cowles; Secretary of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, Luis Ernesto Derbez Bautista; former President of El Salvador, Francisco Flores; Minister of the Interior of Chile, José Miguel Insulza, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Alí Rodríguez Araque.

## **Lecture Series of the Americas**

During the period covered by this report, the following lecturers were received:

Former President of the United States, Jimmy Carter, speaking on the “Promise and Perils of Democracy”; and the President of the Inter-American Development Bank, Enrique Iglesias, speaking on "The Americas: From Economic Integration to Full Cooperation".

## **Resolutions and Declarations**

The resolutions approved during the period covered by this report are as follows and the full texts may be consulted on the OAS webpage:

CP/DEC. 26//04 Declaration of the OAS Permanent Council on the terrorists attacks perpetrated in Spain on March 11, 2004

CP/RES. 863 (1410/04) Invitations to the Thirty-fourth Regular Session of the General Assembly

CP/RES. 864 (1413/04) Specific Fund to Support the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities and in the Summits Of The Americas Process

CP/RES. 865 (1415/04) Request for a Supplemental Budgetary Appropriation in accordance with AG/.RES. 1974 (XXIII-O/03) to defray expenses related to the change of Administration in 2004

CP/RES. 866 (1418/04) Recognition by the Permanent Council of the Administration of Mr. Ronald Scheman, Executive Secretary for Integral Development and Director General of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development

CP/RES. 867 (1453/04) Granting the People’s Republic of China the Status of Permanent Observer to the Organization

CP/RES. 868 (1431/04) Internal Arrangement to Temporarily Resolve the Liquidity Situation of the Regular Fund

CP/RES. 869 (1436/04) Results of the Presidential Recall Referendum held in Venezuela on August 15, 2004

CP/DEC 27 (1446/04) Commemoration of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Entry into Force of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties on the Panama Canal

CP/RES. 870 (1446/04) Lecture Series of the Americas

CP/RES. 871 (1453/04) Salary Scale System for Staff Members in Countries where the United Nations does not circulate Salary Scales

CP/RES. 872 (1459/04) Update of Costs of Conferences and Meetings Funded by the OAS

CP/RES. 873 (1459/04) Amendments to the Specific Fund to Support the Elaboration of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

CP/RES. 874 (1459/04) Promotion of Transparency in the Selection of the Secretary General and the Assistant Secretary General

CP/RES. 875 (1460/05) Date, Place, and Agenda of the Meeting of Experts on Cooperation with respect to the denial of safe haven to corrupt officials and those who corrupt them, their extradition, and the denial of entry and recovery of the proceeds of corruption and their return to their legitimate owners

## **INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT**

The Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) 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. It may create such subsidiary bodies and organs as it deems necessary to best perform its functions. CIDI's 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 appropriate in its area of competence. Execution and coordination of the respective activities are the responsibility of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development. CIDI has the following subsidiary bodies: the Permanent Executive Committee (CEPCIDI), the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD), the Nonpermanent Specialized Committees (CENPES), and the inter-American committees.

### **Ninth Regular Meeting of the CIDI**

The Ninth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development was convened by CEPCIDI and held at the Organization's headquarters on May 4, 2004. Mr. Juan Carlos Garaguso, Director of Multilateral Cooperation of Argentina's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, was elected by acclamation to chair the proceedings of the Ninth Regular Meeting of CIDI. Mr. Alberto Morales, Director General of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador, was elected Vice Chair of the Meeting, also by acclamation.

The meeting then moved to elect the Chair and Vice Chair of CIDI's Permanent Executive Committee (CEPCIDI). Ambassador Salvador E. Rodezno Fuentes, Permanent Representative of Honduras, was elected by acclamation as CEPCIDI's Chair, while Ambassador Izben C. Williams, Permanent Representative of Saint Kitts and Nevis, was elected by acclamation to serve as the Permanent Executive Committee's Vice Chair.

The Director General of the IACD, Mr. Ronald Scheman, presented the annual report of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD), numbering the following among its most prominent achievements during this reporting period: (a) the successful first phase of the Educational Portal of the Americas, through which distance-learning opportunities are made available to the poorest and most unserved rural areas of the Hemisphere; (b) expansion of the Scholarship and Training Programs, which saw a surge in the number of scholarships awarded; (c) consolidation of the Government Best Practices Program, whose purpose is to act as one of the driving forces behind horizontal cooperation among governments of the region; (d) implementation of a number of agreements with the private sector; and (e) strengthening of the Special Multilateral Fund of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (FEMCIDI). Mr. Scheman ceased to be Director General of the IACD in May 2004.

CIDI then elected five members of the Management Board of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development. Belize, Honduras, and Mexico were elected by acclamation. The United States and Grenada were reelected to membership on the Board, also by acclamation.

The Inter-American Council established the eight Nonpermanent Specialized Committees (CENPES) for the 2004 evaluation exercise, one for each priority area in the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development. The membership of each of the CENPES was determined, and appears in resolution CIDI/RES. 148 (IX-O/04). In keeping with Article 31.c of the CIDI Statutes, the Council received pledges of voluntary contributions to the Special Multilateral Fund of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (FEMCIDI).

The Inter-American Council adopted resolutions CIDI/RES. 143 (IX-O/04) and CIDI/RES.144 (IX-O/04) and decided to refer each draft resolution to the General Assembly for consideration at its thirty-fourth regular session. The General Assembly adopted CIDI's recommendations. CIDI also took note of a report on the implementation of strategies to raise external funding and on expansion and strengthening of the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs. It adopted resolution CIDI/RES. 151 (IX-O/04) on those strategies. CIDI also decided to refer the report to the General Assembly, which adopted it at its thirty-fourth regular session, in resolution AG/RES. 1989 (XXXIV-O/04).

CIDI took note of the reports of the following sectoral meetings: the XVIII Inter-American Travel Congress; the First Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Culture; the Third Meeting of Ministers of Education; the Third Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports, whose Rules of Procedure it amended; the XIII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor; and the First Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Social Development, whose Rules of Procedure it approved. It also took note of the holding of the Fourth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology, in April 2004.

Among other matters considered, CIDI received a status report on preparation of the proposed Inter-American Program on Sustainable Development 2004-2007 and decided to refer that report to the General Assembly. It adopted resolution CIDI/RES. 150 (IX-O/04), in which it expressed its satisfaction for the initiatives adopted by the health and environment ministers of the Americas to find ways to support work in the health and environment sectors. It also adopted resolution CIDI/RES. 146 (IX-O/04) wherein it recommended to the General Assembly a study on the relationship between trade, debt, and financing inasmuch as the Heads of State and Government had reaffirmed their commitment to continue implementing solid macroeconomic policies and prudent monetary and fiscal policies and had recognized the important role that trade plays in promoting sustained economic development and growth. At its thirty-fourth regular session, the General Assembly adopted resolution AG/RES. 1990 (XXXIV-O/04).

CIDI took note of the report of the Permanent Council and of CEPCIDI on trade and integration in the Americas (document CIDI/doc.17/04) and also considered a draft resolution on the matter. The draft resolution was referred to the General Assembly for consideration at its thirty-fourth regular session, where it was adopted.

### **Sectoral meetings at the ministerial level**

#### *Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities*

The Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities, convoked under the umbrella of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), was held in Mexico City on August 23 and 24. Its theme posed the question: "What role does culture play in social

development and economic integration in our Hemisphere? Cosponsoring the meeting was Mexico's National Council for Culture and the Arts (CONACULTA). The objectives of this Ministerial Meeting were fully accomplished with approval of the Declaration and Plan of Action of Mexico, which reaffirms and bolsters the decisions in the Plan of Action of Cartagena de Indias.

Chairing the Meeting was Mrs. Sari Bermúdez, Chair of CONACULTA. The three items on the Meeting's agenda were as follows: culture as an engine for economic growth, employment and development; challenges faced by cultural industries; and culture as a tool for social cohesion and the fight against poverty.

The Ministers approved the Work Program of the virtual format of the Inter-American Cultural Policies Observatory, a decision based on a study done by Mr. Alejandro Ramos, commissioned by the technical secretariat. He took into account the comments and suggestions of the officers of the Inter-American Committee on Culture. The study proposed three phases for the Observatory's development. The first would be the virtual format as it was the most economical of the three. The other two could be implemented in succession, at some time in the future.

#### *First Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities on Science and Technology*

The First Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities on Science and Technology within the Framework of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) was convened by CIDI's Permanent Executive Committee (CEPCIDI) and held at the headquarters of the Andean Community of Nations in Lima, Peru, on November 11 and 12, 2004. Chairing the meeting was Dr. Benjamín Marticorena, President of Peru's National Science and Technology Council (CONCYTEC).

The Lima Declaration, approved by the ministers and high authorities, underscores the importance of linking efforts to promote science and technology with the broader objectives of the Summits of the Americas. This, they said, was of particular importance in meeting the need to create jobs to combat poverty and strengthen democracy, which is the theme of the forthcoming Summit, to be held in Argentina in 2005.

The First Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities on Science and Technology also approved the Plan of Action of Lima, which details the commitments undertaken by the member states in such areas as investment in science and technology; infrastructure building; and strengthening of national, regional, and hemispheric policies. The member states expressed their support for the 15 hemispheric initiatives, which included integrating a gender perspective into science and technology policies and programs; conducting activities to popularize science; creating networks in the Caribbean region, and so on.

#### **Inter-American committees within the framework of CIDI**

##### *First Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Social Development*

The First Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Social Development (CIDES) took place on April 5 and 6, 2004, at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago, Chile. The Minister of Planning and Cooperation of Chile, Mr. Andrés Palma; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile, Mrs. Soledad Alvear; and the Chairman of the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CEPCIDI), Ambassador Jorge Valero, officially opened the meeting. The meeting's program and documents are available at [www.oas.org/udse/cides](http://www.oas.org/udse/cides).

The following figure prominently among the Meeting's results: approval of the Rules of Procedure of the Inter-American Committee on Social Development; election of the CIDES officers: Chair, Chile; and Vice Chairs, El Salvador and Jamaica; adoption of the plan to follow to update the Inter-American Program to Combat Poverty and Discrimination; approval of the terms that the officers were to use to develop the CIDES Work Plan; El Salvador's offer to host the Meeting of Ministers of Social Development to be held in 2005.

The meeting provided an opportunity for a fruitful dialogue between the Committee and various entities and programs whose activities are relevant to the Committee's future work. These included ECLAC, the IDB, the IIN, PAHO, the IACD, and the Social Network of Latin America and the Caribbean. Also participating were the Pan American Development Foundation, the Inter-American Committee on Education, the Inter-American Committee on Culture, the Inter-American Commission of Women, and representatives of the International Humanitarian Fund proposed by Venezuela and of Argentina's White Helmets Program. There was an extensive exchange of national experiences in promoting social development and combating poverty, and the ideas shared will be used to put together a portfolio of best practices and combined programs that the Committee will be able to consult for reference purposes.

#### *Fourth Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology*

The Fourth Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology (COMCYT) was convoked pursuant to Article 8 of COMCYT's Rules of Procedure and held at OAS headquarters in Washington, D.C., on April 15 and 16, 2004. As its Chair, the Committee elected Dr. Arnoldo Ventura, special advisor in science and technology to the Prime Minister of Jamaica and Chairperson of the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development. Dr. Fernando Gutiérrez, Minister of Science and Technology of Costa Rica, was elected First Vice Chair; and Dr. Benjamín Marticorena, President of Peru's National Science and Technology Council, was elected Second Vice Chair.

During the meeting representatives of 32 countries of the Americas approved common proposals on hemispheric policies and applied strategies in science, technology, engineering, and innovation for the nations' cultural and socioeconomic development. The delegates affirmed that science, technology, engineering, and innovation are engines of economic and social progress and underscored yet again the need to incorporate them into the countries' development plans and strategies and promote them. The representatives prepared a summary policy document and a program of action for conducting regional projects and new working strategies to combat poverty; they also reconfirmed that regional integration and free trade in the Americas cannot be successfully achieved without rapid capacity building in science, technology, engineering, and innovation, particularly in those countries where this is most needed.

The elected officers of COMCYT and the OAS Office of Science and Technology spearheaded COMCYT in the direction of the First Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities on Science and Technology within the Framework of CIDI, held in Lima, Peru, on November 11 and 12, 2004.

#### *Second Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE)*

The Second Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE) was held at the headquarters of the Organization of American States, on October 18 and 19, 2004. In attendance were 22 countries. Presiding over the proceedings was Mr. Daniel González Spencer, Director General of International Relations of the Secretariat of Public Education of Mexico.

The Committee expressed its profound gratitude to Dr. Sofíaleticia Morales, outgoing Director of the Unit for Social Development and Education, in appreciation for the important contributions she had made both



toward the CIE's creation and to its activities and projects. The Committee also made note of the progress achieved in execution of the Hemispheric Projects on Equity and Quality, Secondary Education and Labor Competencies, and Teacher Education. It endorsed execution of the Regional Project on Educational Indicators (PRIE) and the Summit Project on Evaluating Educational Quality, coordinated by Brazil and Mexico, respectively.

The delegations of Colombia and Ecuador introduced a preliminary proposal for an Inter-American Program on Education for Democracy, Human Rights, and Peace. The proposal was presented together with a study titled "Strengthening Democracy in the Americas through Civic Education," done by the University of Maryland and coordinated by the Secretariat. The Committee set up a working group to put together the final proposal for the Technical Program.

The Committee also installed a working group to continue analysis of the results of the Questionnaire on Educational Reporting Practices and to consider its periodic administration, and also to design and conduct a workshop on educational reporting to be given as part of the Education Evaluation Forum to be held in May 2005, in Brazil. The Group is also to design and propose activities that will help build up the countries' capacity to cope with the greatest challenges in producing and reporting educational data.

Recognizing the relationship between the issues that the CIE and COMCYT deal with, the Committee established a joint CIE/COMCYT working group to prepare a joint work program on education in sciences from the early years, for presentation to the Fourth Meeting of Ministers of Education within the Framework of CIDI, to be held in Trinidad and Tobago in 2005. The initial link will be through the Hemispheric Project on Teacher Education.

#### *Nonpermanent Specialized Committees (CENPES)*

The Nonpermanent Specialized Committees are technical bodies to assist CIDI in dealing with specialized issues or in handling certain aspects of inter-American cooperation in the priority areas of the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development.

The Ninth Regular Meeting of CIDI elected the members of the eight committees, one committee for each priority area in the Strategic Plan: Education, Economic Diversification, Trade Liberalization and Market Access, Social Development and Creation of Productive Employment, Scientific Development and Exchange and Transfer of Technology, Strengthening of Democratic Institutions, Sustainable Development and Environment, and Sustainable Tourism Development.

Because of the modification that the IACD's Management Board made to the 2004 schedule of programmed activities of the Special Multilateral Fund of CIDI (FEMCIDI), the CENPES will meet at the Organization's headquarters, from February 16 through 18, 2005. They will analyze and evaluate the project proposals included in the Proposed FEMCIDI 2004 Programming Document, which the Secretariat is to have ready by January 15, 2005.

#### *Permanent Executive Committee of CIDI (CEPCIDI)*

During this reporting period, CEPCIDI held eight regular meetings and two joint meetings with the Permanent Council of the Organization. At its Ninth Regular Meeting, CIDI elected Ambassador Salvador E. Rodezno Fuentes, Permanent Representative of Honduras, and Ambassador Izben C. Williams, Permanent Representative of Saint Kitts and Nevis, as Chair and Vice Chair of CEPCIDI, respectively, for the 2004/2005 period. To fulfill its responsibilities, CEPCIDI was able to rely upon the support of the Subcommittee on Partnership-for-Development Policies; the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Evaluation; and the Working Group on Sustainable Development.

The Subcommittee on Partnership-for-Development Policies advanced preparations for the following meetings: the Fourth Meeting of COMCYT; the First Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Social Development; the Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities; the Second Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Education; and the First Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities on Science and Technology. The Subcommittee also studied mechanisms to strengthen the dialogue on policy and technical cooperation for integral development. It recommended draft resolutions, which CIDI approved and forwarded to the General Assembly.

CEPCIDI was in charge of the preparations for the Ninth Regular Meeting of CIDI. To that end, it considered the draft calendar and draft agenda for the meeting, reviewed the supporting documents and reports on each item on the agenda, and prepared the draft resolutions that CIDI adopted and those that were transmitted to the General Assembly for consideration at its thirty-fourth regular session.

CEPCIDI also considered the semiannual activities report and 2004 work plan of the Office of Science and Technology and the Trade Unit of the Organization. At a joint meeting held with the Permanent Council in April, the member states examined the results of the High-Level Meeting on Poverty, Equity, and Social Inclusion and began to consider measures to implement a follow-up of those results and the role that the Organization should play in the development area.

CEPCIDI reviewed the status of the FEMCIDI 2004 programming, which has, for a variety of reasons, experienced delays. When it looked at the specific situation of the technical cooperation activities, CEPCIDI received a special request from Grenada to participate in the FEMCIDI programming without making its contribution to FEMCIDI. CEPCIDI decided that given the devastation caused by Hurricane Ivan throughout Grenada, it would make an exception to Article 13.b of the Statute of FEMCIDI and allow Grenada's projects—both extensions of existing projects and new proposals—to go to the CENPES in February 2005 for technical analysis.

CEPCIDI received a report on the Third Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP). Among that meeting's recommendations was one on the need to amend the CIP's Rules of Procedure. That recommendation was transmitted to CIDI and the amendments were approved. CEPCIDI also received the conclusions and recommendations emanating from the "Western Hemisphere Port Security Conference and Trade Exhibition."

CEPCIDI's Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Evaluation monitored implementation of the mandate contained in resolution CP/RES. 831 (1342/02) on the use of excess resources from the Reserve Subfund of the OAS Regular Fund and considered a report on the implementation of strategies for raising external resources and expanding the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs. A draft resolution on this topic was sent to CIDI for consideration.

In response to the Subcommittee's recommendation, CEPCIDI established the categories of meetings that could be funded with resources from Subprogram 10K of the Organization's program-budget. The categories and requirements that would have to be met were spelled out in resolution CEPCIDI/RES. 102 (CV-O/04). The Subcommittee will continue to consider the allocation of resources for the meetings scheduled to be held in the CIDI area in 2005.

The Working Group on Sustainable Development completed preparation of the proposed Inter-American Program on Sustainable Development, which CEPCIDI will study in early 2005. The Group also did a follow-up on the initiatives of the ministers of health and environment of the Americas and the conclusions reached will be conveyed to the ministerial meeting that will be held in 2005 in the sustainable development sector.

In December 2004, CEPCIDI convoked the Eighth Meeting of the Nonpermanent Specialized Committees, to be held at OAS headquarters, on February 17 and 18, 2005.