

**B. FORTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**

13. This document presents the resolutions adopted during the Forty-first Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), held in San Salvador, El Salvador from 5 to 7 June 2011.

14. The session was attended by the ministers of foreign affairs of the Member States of the Americas and other official delegates. Also in attendance, were representatives of both the governments accredited as Permanent Observers and agencies of the Inter-American system, among them the Pan American Health Organization and the agencies that comprise the Summit Implementation Review Group. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador was elected President of this regular session of the General Assembly.

15. The theme of this General Assembly was “Citizen Security in the Americas,” the topic addressed by the heads of delegation in their presentations. In addition to the resolutions and declarations of this session, the General Assembly adopted the Declaration of San Salvador, which is presented as an Annex to this document (Annex B-1). This declaration is linked with the resolution adopted by 50th Directing Council entitled “Health, Human Security, and Well-being” CD50.R16 [2010].

16. The majority of the recommendations and resolutions had been discussed and agreed upon earlier by the Permanent Council. The items on which a consensus had not been reached or new items proposed by the Member States were discussed in the General Committee of the Assembly or in special working groups that met in parallel with the plenary meeting.

17. The resolutions of interest to the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization and related to its work as the specialized health agency of the Inter-American System have been selected (table attached).

Action by the Directing Council

18. The Directing Council is invited to take note of this report.

Annexes

Table 1: Resolutions adopted by the Forty-first Regular² Session the OAS General Assembly that are related to PAHO activities

Resolutions of the Assembly	Relation to PAHO activities
AG/RES. 2695 (XLI-O/11) [TN: Change number in Spanish version] SOCIAL CHARTER OF THE AMERICAS: RENEWAL OF THE HEMISPHERIC COMMITMENT TO FIGHT POVERTY IN THE REGION	Linkage with the Health Agenda for the Americas.
AG/RES. 2692 (XLI-O/11) [TN: Change number in Spanish version] MECHANISM TO FOLLOW UP ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION, PUNISHMENT, AND ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, “CONVENTION OF BELÉM DO PARÁ	Linkage with previous resolutions of the 44th and 48th Directing Council of PAHO on preventing violence in the Americas: • Impact of Violence on the Health of the Populations in the Americas (Resolution CD44.R13 [2003]) • Preventing Violence and Injuries and Promoting Safety: a Call for Action in the Region (Resolution CD48.R11 [2008])
AG/RES. 2689 (XLI-O/11) [TN: Change number in Spanish version] PROMOTION OF WOMEN’S HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUITY AND EQUALITY	Linkage with the Plan of Action for Implementing the Gender Equality Policy (Resolution CD49.R12 [2009])
AG/RES. 2664 XLI-O/11) [TN: Change number in Spanish version] PROGRAM OF ACTION FOR THE DECADE OF THE AMERICAS FOR THE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (2006-2016) AND SUPPORT FOR ITS TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT (SEDISCAP)	Linkage with the Program on Gender, Diversity, and Human Rights. “Health and Human Rights” (Resolution CD50.R8 [2010])

² Taken from document AG/doc.5232/11, 7 June 2011
http://www.oas.org/consejo/sp/AG/Documentos/AG05445E04.doc#_Toc295241182.

Resolutions of the Assembly	Relation to PAHO activities
AG/RES. 2673 (XLI-O/11) HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION IN FORMAL EDUCATION IN THE AMERICAS	Linkage with “Health and Human Rights” (Resolution CD50.R8 [2010])
AG/RES. 2621 (XLI-O/11) HEMISPHERIC PLAN OF ACTION ON DRUGS 2011 – 2015	Linkage with the Strategy on Substance Use and Public Health. (Resolution CD50.R2 [2010])
AG/RES. 2633 (XLI-O/11) SUPPORT FOR AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE SUMMITS OF THE AMERICAS PROCESS	Linkage with PAHO activities as part of the Joint Summit Working Group. Monitoring of health mandates and technical contribution to support the OAS Summits of the Americas Secretariat and the Host Government of the VI Summit of the Americas 2012 (Colombia)
AG/RES. 2647 (XLI-O/11) EXISTING MECHANISMS FOR DISASTER PREVENTION AND RESPONSE AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AMONG THE MEMBER STATES	Linkage with the Plan of Action on Safe Hospitals (Resolution) CD50.R15 [2010] PAHO, through the Program on Disaster Reduction and Humanitarian Assistance collaborates and is part of this mechanism.
AG/RES. 2649 (XLI-O/11) CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE HEMISPHERE	Linkage with the Strategy and Plan of Action on Climate Change, document CD51/6 (2011) of the 51st Directing Council and Resolution CE148.R2 (2011)
AG/RES. 2653 (XLI-O/11) HUMAN RIGHTS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, AND GENDER IDENTITY	Linkage with the Program on Gender, Human Rights, and Diversity. “Health and Human Rights” (Resolution CD50.R8 [2010])

Resolutions of the Assembly	Relation to PAHO activities
AG/RES. 2654 (XLI-O/11) PROTECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS	Linkage with the Program on Health of Older Persons and with human rights. “Health and Human Rights” (Resolution CD50.R8 [2010])
AG/RES. 2674 (XLI-O/11) DRAFT AMERICAN DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES	Linkage with the Program on Gender, Human Rights, and Diversity. “Health and Human Rights” (Resolution CD50.R8 [2010])
AG/RES. 2677 (XLI-O/11) DRAFT INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST RACISM AND ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AND INTOLERANCE	Linkage with the Program on Gender, Human Rights, and Diversity. PAHO participates in the meetings on the convention.
AG/RES. 2682 (XLI-O/11) CONSUMER PROTECTION: CONSOLIDATION OF THE NETWORK FOR CONSUMER SAFETY AND HEALTH AND CREATION OF AN INTER- AMERICAN RAPID PRODUCT SAFETY WARNING SYSTEM	Linkage with the International Health Regulations (2005) (Resolution CSP27.R13 [2007]) and food safety and epidemic alert and response programs. PAHO participates in the Inter-American Network for Consumer Safety and Health.
AG/RES. 2693 (XLI-O/11) RECOGNITION AND PROMOTION OF THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT IN THE AMERICAS	Linkage with the Program on Gender, Human Rights, and Diversity “Health and Human Rights” (Resolution CD50.R8 [2010])

ANNEX B-1

AG/DEC. 66 (XLI-O/11)

**DECLARATION OF SAN SALVADOR
ON CITIZEN SECURITY IN THE AMERICAS**

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 7, 2011)

THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HEADS OF DELEGATION OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS), gathered in San Salvador, El Salvador, at the forty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly;

RECOGNIZING that peace, security, democracy, human rights, development, and cooperation are the pillars of the inter-American system and that they are interlinked and mutually reinforcing;

CONVINCED that all multilateral efforts and cooperation in the area of security must respect in full the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence of states, and of non-interference in the internal affairs of states, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Charter of the Organization of American States, and international law, as well as take into account different perspectives with regard to threats to states' security and their priorities;

RECOGNIZING that the Declaration on Security in the Americas reiterates that the concept of security in the Hemisphere is multidimensional in scope, includes traditional and new threats, concerns, and other challenges to the security of the states of the Hemisphere, incorporates the priorities of each state, contributes to the consolidation of peace, integral development, and social justice, and is based on democratic values, respect for and promotion and defense of human rights, solidarity, cooperation, and respect for national sovereignty;

RECOGNIZING that with the adoption of the Commitment to Public Security in the Americas at the First Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Public Security in the Americas (MISPA I), held in Mexico from October 7 to 8, 2008, the member states expressed their political

will for and the priority of confronting crime, violence, and insecurity in a joint, mutually supportive, preventive, comprehensive, coherent, effective, and continuous manner;

RECOGNIZING ALSO the Consensus of Santo Domingo on Public Security in the Americas adopted at the Second Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Public Security in the Americas (MISPA II), held in the Dominican Republic from November 3 to 5, 2009;

REAFFIRMING that the Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA) and other meetings of criminal justice authorities are important and effective forums for promoting and strengthening mutual understanding, confidence, dialogue, and cooperation in developing criminal justice policies and responses to address threats to security;

RECALLING the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, in the American Convention on Human Rights, and in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

TAKING NOTE of the Report on Citizen Security and Human Rights prepared by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and presented by it in December 2009;

RECOGNIZING that public security is the duty and exclusive obligation of the state, strengthens the rule of law, and has as its purpose to safeguard the integrity and safety of persons and to protect the enjoyment of all their rights;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that citizen and community participation is essential in the promotion and sustainability of public security policies;

RECOGNIZING that public security conditions are improved through full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as by means of the promotion of education, culture, health, and economic and social development;

RECOGNIZING furthermore the need to promote and strengthen long-term and comprehensive state policies for public security that guarantee the protection and promotion of human rights, with an emphasis on addressing the causes of crime and violence;

UNDERLINING the need to continue coordinating international measures in the area of natural disaster prevention, mitigation, and assistance, while encouraging community participation and strengthening domestic capabilities as well as those of competent risk management agencies;

REITERATING the commitment to promote, within the framework of the rule of law, a culture of peace and non-violence, which is understood as a set of values, attitudes, and modes of behavior based on respect for life, human beings, and their dignity, and which gives priority to human rights, ending of violence, and adherence to the principles of freedom, justice, democracy, solidarity, tolerance, and respect for diversity;

RECOGNIZING that crime and violence impair the social, economic, and political development of their societies;

CONSIDERING ALSO that, in the OAS Charter, the member states agreed that equality of opportunity, the elimination of extreme poverty, equitable distribution of wealth and income, and the full participation of their peoples in decisions relating to their own development are, among others, basic objectives of integral development;

RECOGNIZING the need to take action to bring about conditions for social, economic, political, and cultural development so as to promote social inclusion, reduce inequity and create opportunities for their people thereby contributing to the prevention of crime, violence, and insecurity;

REITERATING the commitment to address the challenges related to pandemics and natural and man-made disasters;

REAFFIRMING that states have a duty and responsibility to provide the humanitarian assistance necessary to protect the life, integrity, and dignity of their inhabitants in natural or man-made disasters;

CONSIDERING the importance of adopting policies, programs, and actions to prevent and confront crime, violence, and insecurity, including measures for the protection of vulnerable groups;

CONVINCED that elimination of violence against women in all its dimensions is an indispensable condition for their individual and social advancement and for their full and equal participation in society; as well as of the importance of including a gender perspective in security policies;

RECOGNIZING the importance of providing youth, particularly at-risk youth, with opportunities for and access to education, training, employment, culture, sports, and recreation, in order to prevent violence;

REAFFIRMING that prevention, punishment, and eradication of migrant smuggling, trafficking in persons and exploitation in all its forms, including sexual exploitation of women and minors, are obligations of the member states that should be addressed in accordance with the national and international legal instruments on such matters, and when appropriate, in partnership with civil society;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that transnational organized criminal activities can be used to finance and facilitate terrorism;

RECOGNIZING the importance of continuing to strengthen law enforcement and criminal justice capabilities;

RECOGNIZING ALSO the importance of mutual assistance in criminal matters and extradition in response to the preparation, planning, commission, execution, or financing of acts

of terrorism, as well as corruption and organized crime, in accordance with domestic law and international agreements;

CONSIDERING the importance of international cooperation for improving economic and social conditions and thereby strengthening public security;

REAFIRMING the importance of maintaining and strengthening bilateral, subregional, regional, and international cooperation on security-related matters,

DECLARE:

1. That it is their priority to continue directing their political will, efforts and actions to strengthen citizen security, as a component of public security, in their countries.
2. The obligation of states to develop and implement public policies in the area of public security within the framework of a democratic order, the rule of law, and observance of human rights, geared towards providing security and strengthening peaceful coexistence in their communities.
3. That public security policies must encourage measures for dealing with the causes of crime, violence, and insecurity.
4. That the individual is at the center of citizen security, understood as a component of public security, and should therefore be a key factor in the definition and implementation of ways to build more secure and sustainable communities and societies that conform to their aspirations for democracy and for socioeconomic and cultural development.
5. That public security policies require the participation and cooperation of multiple actors, such as individuals, government at all levels, civil society, communities, the mass media, the private sector, and academia in order to reinforce promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence and respond effectively and in a participatory manner to the needs of society as a whole.

6. The importance of strengthening the capacity of the state to develop comprehensive, long-term public security policies with a gender-based perspective, bearing in mind the needs of vulnerable groups, including the promotion and protection of human rights, and adapting, as necessary, the appropriate legal frameworks, structures, programs, operating procedures, and management mechanisms.

7. The need to continue implementing policies and measures in the area of prevention, law enforcement, rehabilitation, and reintegration into society, in order to ensure a comprehensive approach in combating crime, violence, and insecurity, for the purpose of enhancing public security.

8. The determination to design public policies and educational programs with a view to achieving a cultural transformation aimed at eradicating domestic violence.

9. The importance of continuing to foster measures to ensure that their populations have access to justice and to the protection afforded by an effective, transparent, and reliable criminal justice system.

10. The need to continue promoting prison systems based on respect for human dignity and human rights, including policies and practices geared towards rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

11. Their commitment to strengthen the links between development and security and, in this regard, foster increasing interaction between the areas of integral development and multidimensional security of the OAS.

12. The importance of maintaining and strengthening bilateral, subregional, regional, and international cooperation on security-related matters.

13. The commitment to reinforce inter-American partnership for integral development and to strengthen cooperation mechanisms and actions to urgently address extreme poverty, inequity, and social exclusion.

14. The need to continue coordinating international measures in the area of disaster prevention, mitigation, and assistance, while encouraging community participation and strengthening domestic capabilities as well as those of competent risk management agencies.

15. The need to continue strengthening bilateral, subregional, regional, and international cooperation mechanisms, in keeping with the principles established in the OAS Charter, to address, prevent, and combat, in a comprehensive and effective manner, transnational organized crime, illicit arms trafficking, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, the global drug problem, money laundering, corruption, terrorism, kidnapping, criminal gangs, and technology-related crime, including cybercrime, as they may affect, in certain cases, social, economic, and political development and the legal and institutional order.

16. To instruct the Permanent Council to prepare, in consultation and coordination with the national authorities of the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Public Security in the Americas (MISPA) and of the Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Other Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA), with the assistance of the General Secretariat, a draft hemispheric plan of action, to follow up on this Declaration of San Salvador, to be considered by the forty-second regular session of the General Assembly;

17. That they request the General Secretariat to seek adequate funding for the preparation of the draft hemispheric plan of action and to report to the General Assembly at its next regular session on steps taken to this end