FIFTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION OEA/Ser.P

November 10 to 12, 2021 AG/CG/doc.2/21 (LI-O/21) rev.2

Guatemala City, Guatemala 12 November 2021

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DRAFT DECLARATION

RENEWED COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT   
IN THE AMERICAS POST COVID-19

(Agreed upon by the General Committee at its meeting held on November 12, 2021

and referred to the plenary )

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

REAFFIRMING its commitment to the Principles expressed in Article 3 of the Charter of the Organization of American States, to strengthening the actions of the Organization and its Member States for achieving the goals contained in Chapter VII of the Charter of the Organization, especially according to Article 30, and to the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, and the American Convention, and recalling its Protocol on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Protocol of San Salvador);

RECALLING Article 15 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter which states that “the exercise of democracy promotes the preservation and good stewardship of the environment” and reiterates the necessity “to protect the environment, to achieve sustainable development for the benefit of future generations”, the commitments of Member States to climate action through the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and related accords, and the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development (PIDS), and the right to development proclaimed in the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted in 1986 by the United Nations General Assembly, and reaffirmed by the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights**[[1]](#footnote-1)/**;

RECOGNIZING that to achieve sustainable development and to attain the 2030 Agenda’s goals, Member States need to continue addressing the causes of poverty, hunger, systemic racism, discrimination, intolerance, and inequality that particularly affect people in situations of vulnerability, in particular, women who have been negatively affected by the COVID -19 pandemic given the exacerbated increase in violence, particularly domestic violence, unpaid care work, and lack of access to the formal labor market, which represents a major setback to the full and equal exercise of the economic rights of all women, and to achieving the sustainable development goals;

RECOGNIZING ALSO the central role to be played by a robust, inclusive and predictable means of implementation, such as financing, capacity-building and the voluntary transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, in the achievement of sustainable development, especially by developing countries;

RECOGNIZING the fundamental role played by women in response efforts to COVID-19, and the need for member states to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of all women, respecting and valuing the full diversity of women’s situations and conditions, in decision-making and equal access to leadership and representation in all spheres of society as a basis for an effective response;

WITH RENEWED COMMITMENT in this first year of the Decade of Action for the SDGs, to the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Americas,

DECLARES:

1. The need to advance towards a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach involving all Member States and all entities, bodies, specialized organizations, and the secretariats of the Organization of American States, in pursuit of the goals established in the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.
2. Its commitment to continue promoting national and regional measures, to respond to the multiple crises that have been unleashed, addressing the structural causes, particularly to counteract the effects of climate change and the loss of biodiversity, as well as discrimination, hunger and food and nutrition insecurity, displacement, poverty and violence.
3. The relevance of taking into account policies that offer the highest levels of protection for women's human rights, respecting and valuing the full diversity of women’s situations and conditions, in the context of the pandemic COVID-19 and its specific consequences for women, particularly those in vulnerable situations.
4. The importance of strengthening the role of the OAS, based on its four pillars, to collaborate with member states and other strategic partners to establish trends, challenges, opportunities, and vulnerabilities, and provide technical assistance to Member states in their efforts to enhance national capacity to achieve sustainable development.

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1. . Colombia reiterates its position regarding the reference to the "right to development," which it understands as a progressive obligation that calls for proactive measures to be put in place to guarantee the well-being of citizens, but does not recognize it as a human right that includes the possibility of individual or collective claim. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)