 OEA/Ser.G

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THE SITUATION IN NICARAGUA

(Adopted by the Permanent Council at its virtual regular meeting held on October 20, 2021)

THE PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES,

RECALLING the exhortations of Member States to the Government of Nicaragua contained in all previous statements, resolutions and mandates adopted in support of free and fair elections and respect for human rights in Nicaragua;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that the recommendations of the Permanent Council in resolution CP/RES. 1175 (2324/21) “The Situation in Nicaragua” of June 15, 2021, have been disregarded by the Government of Nicaragua;

ALARMED at the findings of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights as set out in the Oral Report on the Human Rights Situation in Nicaragua presented on September 13, 2021, which details “arbitrary detention of people, including political leaders, human rights defenders, business people, journalists, and peasant and student leaders” and the “cancellation of two other political parties last May”, eliminating “all possible options for the candidacies of the main opposition groups”;

AWARE that resolving the crisis in Nicaragua requires a commitment to democracy and democratic processes, including transparent elections that conform to internationally recognized standards; and the protection of human rights;

MINDFUL that the Inter American Democratic Charter commits Member States to organize, conduct and ensure free and fair electoral processes, and

CONCERNED that the measures instituted by the Government of Nicaragua do not meet the minimum criteria for free and fair elections as established by the Inter American Democratic Charter and, therefore, undermine the credibility of the Presidential and Parliamentary elections to be held on November 7, 2021,

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate its call for the immediate release of presidential candidates and political prisoners.
2. To express grave concern that the attempts of the Permanent Council to engage the Government of Nicaragua on the holding of free and fair elections have been ignored.
3. To record alarm at the ongoing deterioration of the political and human rights situation in Nicaragua and at the Government of Nicaragua’s efforts to subvert the electoral process.
4. To strongly urge the Government of Nicaragua to implement without delay the principles of the Inter American Democratic Charter and all internationally recognized electoral standards, including agreed-upon electoral reforms, with a view to holding free, fair, and transparent elections as soon as possible, under OAS and other credible international observation.
5. To undertake, as necessary, further action in accordance with the Charter of the Organization of American States and the Inter American Democratic Charter, including an assessment of the November 7 elections in Nicaragua at the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly.

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