



8th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 PARLIAMENTARY CONFEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS
 SEPTEMBER 10 – 13, 2008
 FEDERAL DISTRICT, MEXICO CITY – STATE OF MEXICO
 THE AMERICAS IN THE FACE OF CURRENT CHALLENGES:
 FOOD CRISIS, CLIMATE CHANGE AND MIGRATION

Tuesday Sept. 9 th 2008	
All day	<p>Arrival of parliamentarians in Mexico</p> <p>Main accommodations: <u>SHERATON HISTORICAL CENTER</u> (category: Boutique Hotel, 5 star)</p> <p>Address: Av. Juárez No. 70 CENTRO Mexico D.F. Phone: (52 55) 5130 5300</p> <p>Alternate accommodations: <u>NH HOTEL (*)</u> (category: Luxury Hotel (4 star)</p> <p>Address: Palma No. 42, Col. Centro, México DF, C.P. 06010 Phone: (52 55) 5130.1850 Fax : (52 55) 5130 1876 Mail: nhcentrohistorico@nh-hotels.com</p> <p>(*) THE PRICES QUOTED INCLUDE A BUFFET BREAKFAST</p>
Wednesday Sept. 10 th 2008	
10 a.m. – 6 p.m.	<p>Registration of the participants (COPA and Network of Women Parliamentarians) Donceles 14, Senate of the Republic, ground floor Reforma 10, Caballito Tower, 5th floor</p>
noon – 2.00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NETWORK OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS OF THE AMERICAS</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>Location : Ramos Arizpe Lounge Address : Donceles 14, Senate of the Republic</p>
2.30 p.m.	<p>LUNCH OFFERED TO THE NETWORK OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS BY THE PRESIDENT OF COPA, SENATOR CARLOS JIMÉNEZ MACÍAS Location : Senators' Restaurant Address : Donceles 14, Senate</p>
4.00 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.	<p>CONTINUATION OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NETWORK OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS Location : Ramos Arizpe Lounge Address : Donceles 14, Senate</p>

Wednesday Sept. 10th 2008

8.30 a.m. – 10. 30 a.m.

10.30 – noon

Noon – 1. 30 p.m.

Meeting of Working Committees of COPA

Location: Reforma 10, Caballito Tower, 5th floor

Committee on Democracy and Peace



Chair: Robert Deschamps, MNA
National Assembly of Québec

Theme 1 : Political Party Financing

Speaker: Mr. Octavio Soares, assistant and director of political party financing to the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec

Theme 2: Report of the Electoral Observation Mission in Paraguay

Speaker: Senator Edda Acuña (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Committee on Health and Social Protection



Chair: Elsa Rojas, Deputy (Arellys Santana Belle, Deputy, in absence of the Chair) National Assembly of the People's Power of Cuba

Theme : Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS

Speakers: Ms. Carmen Gloria Cisterna, Chilean Ministry of Health

M. Jorge Saavedra, CENSIDA Mexico

Committee on Education, Culture, Science, and Technology






Chair: Claudia Corichi García, Senator Senate of the United Mexican States

Theme 1: The phenomenon of school drop-outs and policies for the universalization of public education in the Americas

Speaker: Dr. Rosaura Ruiz Gutiérrez, President of the Mexican Academy of Sciences

Theme 2: Report on the application in the Americas of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

Speaker: MNA Jacques Côté (Québec)

1.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.	Committee on Economy, Trade, Labour, and Trading Blocs 	Chair: Eduardo Ortiz, Deputy Chamber of Deputies of the United Mexican States Theme : Economic Implications of the World Food Crisis on the Americas Speaker: Dr. Bruno Ferrari Garcia de Alba, Director of Pro Mexico, Mexican Ministry of the Economy
4.00 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.	Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development 	Chair: Dudley Lucia, Senator Parliament of Netherlands Antilles Theme : Climate change Speaker: Dr. Eduard Müller, Vice-President of the World Commission on Protected Areas –UICN, Central America (Costa Rica)
5.30 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.	Committee on Human Rights, Aboriginal Peoples, and Citizen Security 	Chair: Paulo Tadeu Vale da Silva, Deputy Chamber of Deputies of Brazil Theme : Migration in the Americas and a return program Speaker: Dr. Cecillia Imaz, Director of the Permanent Seminary on Migration of UNAM, Mexico
Wednesday Sept. 10th 2008		
5.00 p.m.	Meeting the three secretariat (Brazil, Québec and Mexico) Reforma10, Caballito Tower, 5 th floor, Room 4	
8.00 p.m.	Cultural Program, Presentation of the Folkloric Ballet of Amalia Hernandez Location: Palacio de Bellas Artes Av. Juárez, corner of Lázaro Cardenas. Historical Center Please note that if you wish to attend this cultural program, you must confirm your presence before September 9th at the following e-mail: copa@congreso.gob.mx	

Thursday, Sept. 11th 2008

<p>9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>17th COPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING</u> <u>Theme: COPA Today</u> <u>Location : Caballito Tower (Senate) 5th floor</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading and passing of agenda Caritina Sáenz Vargas, Deputy, Executive Secretary • Activity Report of the regional Secretariats of COPA 1.- Secretariat of Brazil / Francisco Paes Landim, Deputy 2.- Secretariat of Quebec/ Jacques Chagnon, MNA • Activity Report of the President of the Network of Women Parliamentarians of the Americas, Deputy Aparecida Gama • Presentation of financial statements Deputy Martha Hilda González Calderón • Report regarding an eventual integration of COPA and FIPA a) Meeting reports b) Joint Committee report • Presentation of Resolution projects from COPA's thematic committees in order to present them at the General Assembly • Presentation of the members of the following Executive Committee Senator Carlos Jiménez Macías • General Topics a) Welcoming of proposals for the date and location of the 18th Executive Committee Meeting • Close of the 17th Executive Committee Meeting
<p>12.45 p.m.</p>	<p>Transfer to the opening ceremony</p>
<p>1.30 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 8th GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF COPA</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Location : Central inner patio of the Senate (Xicotencatl House) Xicotencatl at the corner of Doceles, Historical Center</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>(THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE SAME FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AS WELL AS ALL OTHER RELATED MEETINGS)</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Draft Agenda</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 8th GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF COPA</p> <p>1. Presentation of the Presidium – by the master of ceremony</p>

	<p>2. Presentation of the capsule « 8th General Assembly of COPA »</p> <p>3. Speech by the President of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas</p> <p>4. Opening Declaration by the President of the Senate of the Republic, Gustavo Enrique Madero Muñoz</p>
2.30 p.m. – 2.40 p.m.	<p>Official Photo</p> <p>Location: Central staircase in the hall of the Xicotencatl House, Senate of the Republic</p>
3.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.	<p>LUNCH OFFERED BY THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES</p> <p>Location: Protocol room of Building C, Camber of Deputies of the Congress of the United Mexican States</p> <p>Speech by the Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the Congress of the United Mexican States</p> <p>The Secretary of the Brazil Secretariat of COPA – gives a word of thanks for the meal and offers a gift to the Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies</p>
5.00 p.m. – 7.30 p.m.	<p><u>FIRST PLENARY SESSION OF COPA'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY</u></p> <p><u>Location: Legislators of the Republic's Lounge (Green Lounge)</u> <u>Camber of deputies of the Congress of the United Mexican States</u></p> <p>1. Word of welcome by Dep. Martín Malagón, representative of the Congress of the United Mexican States at COPA</p> <p>2. Activity Report of the President of COPA, Senator Carlos Jiménez Macías</p> <p>3. Voting of the proposal to modify COPA's Statutes</p> <p>4. Voting of the working Committees and Executive Committees' resolutions</p> <p>5. PANEL: THE AMERICAS IN THE FACE OF CURRENT CHALLENGES</p> <p>Moderator: Dep. Eduardo Ortiz, Chair of the Committee on Economy, Trade, Labour, and Trading Blocs</p> <p>1) The Americas in the face of current challenges Ambassador Sergio González Gálvez</p> <p>2) The challenges of the rise in food prices and climate change in the light of the recommendations of the the High Level Conference on World Food Security (Rome, Italia, June 2008). Dr. Eduard Müller, Vice-President of the World Commission on Protected Areas –UICN, Central America</p> <p>3) The Americas in the face of the food crisis Dr. Gerardo Ruiz Mateo, Mexican Minister of the Economy (to be confirmed)</p>

7.30 p.m.	Transfer to the Restaurant
8.00 p.m. – 10.00 p.m.	DINNER OFFERED BY THE SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC Location: Majestic Restaurant, Madero N° 73, Mexico City's Zocalo, Historic Center Speech by the President of the Senate of the Republic

Friday Sept. 12th 2008

8.00 a.m.	Transfer to Toluca Meeting point: Sheraton Historical Center
9.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.	SECOND PLENARY SESSION OF THE WORKING COMMITTEES OF COPA Location : Bénito Juárez Lounge of the Congress of the State of Mexico <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Audiovisual presentation of COPA: History and Importance of COPA ❖ Word of welcome by Dep. Miguel Angel Ordoñez Rayon, Speaker of the 56th Legislature of the Sate of Mexico ❖ Address from Senator Carlos Jiménez Macías, President of COPA ❖ Message by Mr. Humberto Benitez Treviño, Secretary General of the government of the State of Mexico <p>5 minute break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Paraguay Electoral Observation Mission Report by Senator Edda Acuña (Buenos Aires, Argentina) ❖ Activity Report and message by the Executive Secretary, Dep. Caritina Saénz Vargas ❖ General Debate: Reading of position statements, accords and experiences of the members of COPA regarding the themes on the agenda
12.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">THIRD SESSION OF THE GENERAL : CLOSING CEREMONY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Location : Benito Juarez Lounge of the Congress of the State of Mexico</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>(THE CLOSING CEREMONY WILL BE THE SAME FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AS WELL AS ALL OTHER RELATED MEETINGS)</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Words of gratitude towards COPA's former Presidents 2. Speech by Mr. Erubiel Ávila Villegas, Chair of the Political Coordination Committee of the Congress of the State of México 3. Swearing in of COPA's new President, by Senator Carlos Jiménez Macias, President of COPA, and by the representative of COPA's first host Assembly (National Assembly of Québec) 4. Speech by the President of COPA 5. Speech and official closing by Mr. Enrique Peña Nieto, Constitutional Governor of the State of Mexico

2.30 p.m.	<p>LUNCH OFFERED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF MEXICO AND THE CONGRESS OF THE STATE OF MEXICO</p> <p>Location : El Parian Restaurant, Toluca, State of Mexico</p> <p>Artistic and cultural program offered by the 56th Legislature of the State of Mexico</p> <p>Speech by the Speaker of the 56th Legislature of the State of Mexico</p> <p>Word of thanks address to the 56th Legislature of the State of Mexico by the new president of COPA</p>
6 .30 p.m.	RETURN TO MEXICO CITY

Saturday Sept. 13th 2008

All day	<p>Social and cultural activities (VALLE DE BRAVO, TEOTIHUACAN PYRAMIDS, ETC.) offered by the 56th Legislature of the State of Mexico</p> <p>(Those who wish to participate in these activities must confirm their presence before September 9th at the following e-mail address: copa@congreso.gob.mx. The departure will be from the Sheraton Hotel.)</p>
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Sunday Sept. 14th 2008

	<p>Departure of participants</p> <p>We would like to remind you that Mexico will be celebrating its National Holidays with a variety of artistic, civic, political and cultural events which will take place between the 13th and 16th of September. If you would like to prolong your stay, we would kindly suggest that you verify the prices of the hotel of your choosing and consider planning ahead regarding your departure dates</p>
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