



**RECOMMENDATION IN SUPPORT OF THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT
OF THE RULE OF LAW IN VENEZUELA**

**THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NETWORK OF WOMEN
PARLIAMENTARIANS OF THE AMERICAS**

Mexico, May 1st 2002

WHEREAS

The objectives of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas of developing solidarity between parliaments; of strengthening these institutions, which are a vital component of the sovereignty of peoples; and of consolidating the democratic, pluralistic and participatory systems of member countries;

WHEREAS

The Inter-American Democratic Charter, signed by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Americas during the special session of the Organization of American States (OAS) in Lima, Peru, on September 11, 2001, recognizes that the exercise of representative democracy forms the basis of the rule of law of the member countries of the OAS. Representative democracy is strengthened and deepened by a permanent, ethical and responsible representation of the citizenry within a legal framework in conformity with the constitutional order.

Subsequent to the events that occurred in Venezuela from April 11 to 13, 2002:

AGREES TO

- 1- Deplore the acts of violence that caused the loss of human life and the responsibility for which should be established by the competent national and international authorities;
- 2- Condemn the breakdown, albeit temporary, of the constitutional order, which caused insecurity, instability as well as the suspension of the rule of law, and which led to the dissolution of the National Assembly as well as the dissolution of the delegations of parliamentarians from Venezuela to the Andean Parliament and the Latin American Parliament, who are legitimately and directly elected by the Venezuelan people, to the same extent as with national parliamentarians;
- 3- Express its great pleasure over the process that has led to the reinstatement of the constitutional democratic order of this country and the re-establishment of all powers of the State, particularly the legislative power—a situation that serves to strengthen democracy throughout the Americas;

- 4- Exhort the government and the people of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to strengthen the mechanisms of dialogue and nationwide joint action in order to achieve the unity and success that this nation deserves;
- 5- Petition the member States of the Organization of American States to honor the commitments contained in the Inter-American Democratic Charter;
- 6- Forward this resolution to the members of national congresses, legislative assemblies and supranational parliaments of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA) and the OAS; the Heads of State and Government who belong to COPA; and to the President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.