***BUDGETARY STATEMENT***

***Delegation of Panama***

***Secretariat for Administration and Finance***

***20th Regular Session, 2016***

BUDGETARY STATEMENT PAGE ONE

REPUBLIC OF PANAMA

General Statement:

The Republic of Panamá is a proud member of the Organization of the American States (OAS) and is honored to participate in this year’s annual summit. This delegation is pleased to present six resolutions that will be beneficial to the entirety of the western hemisphere by furthering the fight to lower violence against women, ensure that young people are studying and working, improve the efficiency of energy, raise the standards of gun control, and fight racial discrimination. These resolutions will promote the agenda of the OAS charter, which is to “achieve an order of peace and justice, to promote their solidarity, to strengthen their collaboration, and to defend their sovereignty, their territorial integrity, and their independence.”[[1]](#footnote-1)

The Republic of Panama wishes to commend all fellow member states for taking the time to write resolutions with these goals in mind. By doing so, member states have shown their faith in the values of the OAS and their desire to improve conditions in the western hemisphere. The actions taken by delegations at this annual summit will directly impact the lives of people throughout the western hemisphere and will affect the future of each respective nation. By discussing and analyzing each resolution with care, these member states will give integrity to the OAS and its stance on the global scale. These resolutions will also spark discussion within each of the permanent observer states.

General Committee, Topic One:

Due to the high cost of beginning a program, and the limited budget for such programs, the delegation of Panamá wishes to create a program that will receive the majority of its funding through donations and NGO’s. This proposal will prevent over spending on the part of the OAS, as funds will be used initially for the startup of the program and later evolve to sue the funds from each member state.

The rest of the funding for the proposed rape crisis and domestic violence program will come from the OAS and from the government of respective member states. This will allow the surety of paying employees, while not draining the system any more than strictly necessary. This would also help the nations that are in need of assistance to begin such wonderful program and also help them economically by increasing the amount of men and woman working in order to achieve the goals set fourth not only by the OAS but also by this resolution.

General Committee, Topic Two:

Believing that efficient, accessible medical care will be beneficial to all member states, and the entire western hemisphere, the Delegation of Panama intends to begin a program that will slow the traffic in overburdened hospitals in urban areas of member states, while providing more medical care in rural areas without going against the culture of the indigenous people found in these rural areas.

To do this, the delegation of Panamá will draw from pertinent NGOs such as the World Bank and the World Health Organization. Additionally, in order to provide scholarships to young people attending medical schools, the delegation will request funding from the Wellcome Trust, which is an institution that seeks to improve world health through education. This would not only help solves issue of the lack of medical personal that can be found.

Executive Secretariat for Integral Development, Topic One:

Seeing how the western hemisphere could greatly benefit from increasing the amount of education that the younger generation receives to not only increase the amount of young people in the work force but also to increase the amount of resources a country has in order to develop. The delegation of Panamá strongly urges all member state to take into consideration the standard in which the education program needs to be held at and this resolution aims to help achieve this standard. There are multiple benefits to this resolution that need to be taken into account. Not only does this increase the amount of children in schools but also increase the amount of people a country can have in the workforce which in turn leads to an increase in the economy of that nation and an increase in the amount of development in the industry sector and business sector.

The cost of such a program will turn out to cost the OAS a total of 3.4 % of the annual budget. This amount accounts for specific variables and complications that can rise as a result of passage of this resolution. The complication being the amount of support each nation will have as a result form their own country and how or who would see the implementation of said program in each member state. The 3.4% of the cost would only be for the first year the program was initialized throughout the member states. The following yeas the resolution would be funded using NGO’s that specialize in instituting and maintain kids in school to better their education. This will also get funding from the member states that accepts it. The amount going into it is 5.6% of that specific member states GDP to ensure funding for said programs and resolution maintains the goals and focuses of the member state and the OAS.

Executive Secretariat for Integral Development, Topic Two:

The Delegation of Panamá sees to increase the amount of trade relation internationally by selling oil and other sources of energy. This is achieved by passing and funding this resolution. This resolution aims to change the methods in which energy is produced and consumed. The delegation of Panamá believes that this resolution aims to achieve the pillars of security and development. By making a change to the hemisphere’s energy sectors the delegation Panamá. By transitioning to a fossil fuel based system later transferring to an alternative method of energy and furthering the energy sector by researching and obtain nuclear power plants for long term sustainable energy for all of the member states.

The initial cost for this program comes out to be 32.8% of the annual budget. This is to ensure that all current member states are currently using fossil fuel based energy system. Once the funds have been used and each member state is running on a fossil fuel system. Funds will come from other alternatives like NGO’s and other organizations that perform research into renewable energy resources. With the initial cost being a sizable amount from the OAS budget this will ensure the cooperation of all member states to transition slowly from a fossil fuel based system into a renewable energy sector. The cost for the following years to support the funding for this resolution will come from pertinent NGO’s and from each counties economy to measure the sustainability of that nation’s economy.

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security, Topic One:

The delegation of Panamá believes in strengthening the security and the human rights of every citizen in the western hemisphere. The resolution presented before the committee achieves this goal by arming citizens with weapons depending on the permit they receive from their respective country. The resolution tends to arm citizens in order to protect the security of the nation also to decrease in the amount of illegal arms and drug trafficking throughout the entire western hemisphere. This resolution also informs young adults the different types of arms that are available and what purpose they serve. This resolution aims to protect individuals and there rights, this also helps with countries that don’t have a military and need a way to protect themselves from threats both foreign and domestic.

The funding of this resolution calls for 4.6% of the OAS annual budget. This amount of funds would ensure that each member state implements this resolution in order to maintain an accurate system and also report back the OAS at their annual meeting. This program would need constant funding from NGO’s that would support funding for arming citizens all through the western hemisphere. 4.6% is to ensure that all member states cooperate and each state will add to the regulations to ensure the countries maintain a certain amount of integrity when it comes to an increase in the amount of fire arms being sold and distributed. This resolution will also increase the amount of economic activity to ensure international cooperation and trade.

Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy, Topic One:

The purpose of this resolution is to increase the awareness of the extreme problem the western hemisphere faces in the way of racial discrimination. Moreover, this problem does not end with racial discrimination; it branches into multiple different additional problems, two of which are hate and violence. Racial discrimination breeds hate, and hate breeds violence. It is the responsibility of this body to make every effort to end racial discrimination, no matter the cost. This resolution proposes two ways to accomplish this goal. One way is through education. Children will receive education from a young age that involves courses that explain the negative effects of racial discrimination, thus breaking children from the cycle of generational discrimination.

The second proposal this resolution makes is to end racial discrimination when it occurs. When people are found guilty of racial discrimination, or racially motivated violent acts, then the member state in which the act was committed is to act accordingly by punishing the offender. Each member state must decide their own standards of punishment for these criminals.

The Delegation of Panamá recommends that 3.69% of the OAS annual budget be allocated to achieving the goals set forth in this resolution. The Delegation of Panamá the importance that ending racial discrimination and its resulting violence holds among fellow member states and by using 3.69% of the annual budget, member states will be able to fully make use of the proposed programs and make great strides towards ending racial discrimination.

1. "OAS - Organization of American States: Democracy for Peace, Security, and Development." *OAS*. N.p., n.d. Web. 25 Oct. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)