

HUMAN RIGHTS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, AND GENDER IDENTITY

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 4, 2009)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND resolution AG/RES. 2435 (XXXVIII-O/08), entitled “Human Rights, Sexual Orientation, and Gender Identity”;

REAFFIRMING:

That the Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirms that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in that Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, or other status; and

That the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man establishes that every human being has the right to life, liberty, and the security of the person;

CONSIDERING that the Charter of the Organization of American States proclaims that the historic mission of America is to offer to man a land of liberty and a favorable environment for the development of his personality and the realization of his just aspirations;

REAFFIRMING the principles of universality, indivisibility, and interdependence of human rights;

TAKING NOTE of the Declaration on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, presented to the United Nations General Assembly on December 18, 2008; and

NOTING WITH CONCERN acts of violence and related human rights violations committed against individuals because of their sexual orientation and gender identity,

RESOLVES:

1. To condemn acts of violence and related human rights violations committed against individuals because of their sexual orientation and gender identity.

2. To urge states to ensure that acts of violence and human rights violations committed against individuals because of their sexual orientation and gender identity are investigated and that their perpetrators are brought to justice.

3. To urge states to ensure adequate protection for human rights defenders who work on the issue of acts of violence and human rights violations committed against individuals because of their sexual orientation and gender identity.

4. To request the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the other organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system to continue to pay sufficient attention to this issue.

5. To reiterate its request to the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs to include on its agenda, before the fortieth regular session of the General Assembly, the topic of “Human rights, sexual orientation, and gender identity.”

6. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its fortieth regular session on the implementation of this resolution, the execution of which shall be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.