CD RES. 07 (95-R21)

**TOWARDS THE ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS.**

(Submitted by the Delegation of Ecuador)

THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

**RECALLING:**

Declaration AG/DEC. 76 (XLIVO/14), of the OAS General Assembly on "Violence and Exploitation against Children", as well as the other resolutions issued by the General Assembly referring to violence against children and adolescents in general or in specific areas or topics;

The Unified Resolutions of the XXI and XXII Pan American Child Congress; and, the recommendations and Declaration of Cartagena of the II and III 3rd Pan-American Child Forum, respectively;

The Resolutions of the Directing Council of the IIN, CD/RES. 11 (91-R/16), CD/RES. 08 (92-R/17) and CD/RES. 14 (93-R/18), referring to violence against children and adolescents; and, the Inter-American Program of Cooperation for: The Prevention and Eradication of Sexual Exploitation, Smuggling and Trafficking of Children and Adolescents; as well as the Resolution of the Directing Council of the IIN, CD/RES. 11 (91-R/16), on sexual exploitation, smuggling and trafficking of children;

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, especially goal 16 and its target 16.2 "End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children";

**BEARING IN MIND:**

That the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) included in its plan of action an Inter-American Program on the subject, within the framework of which it has been implementing actions of technical assistance, analysis and dissemination of significant practices, research and dissemination of knowledge, human resources training, accompaniment in the management of public programs, communication and public advocacy processes, formation of specialized public networks, relationship with civil society, adolescent participation, among others more specific focused on strengthening

the capacities of States, seeking the denaturalization of violent practices, from an integral perspective.

**HAVING SEEN:**

The Regional Study developed by the IIN based on the request of the OAS General Assembly in its resolution AG/RES. 2961 (L-O/20) PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS;

The Consultation on Violence against Children in the Americas: A PANDEMIC WITHOUT VACCINES, developed within the framework of the aforementioned study;

**CONSIDERING:**

That said study reports the existence of a concern at the regional level about the way in which violence permeates the living spaces of children, as well as advances at the normative and programmatic level of those aimed at prevention, identification, punishment, but especially for the attention and restitution of the exercise of rights free from violence; committed to and motivated by the various human rights instruments; as well as by Goal 16. 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals - Agenda 2030: "End child abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children";

That despite the efforts made by the States, which have become regional advances in this area, the problem has not significantly receded and, on the contrary, the naturalization of violence against children persists in a broad and multidimensional way, worsening in different areas and forms due to the current pandemic;

That within the framework of the above, there is greater progress in the eradication of violence in some areas, while, at the same time, there is growing concern about the identification and recognition of new forms of violence in virtual environments, which adds to and enhances the traditional forms, and in which the identification of victims, the processes of care and restitution of rights require greater national but also regional intervention;

As previously stated by the IIN's Directing Council, "structural and economic factors can contribute to social exclusion and discrimination and favor an increase in the level of violence and harm to the development of children who are in special conditions of vulnerability";

That the study highlights that the Inter-American Human Rights System (IAHRS) offers opportunities for the approach and instrumentalization of mechanisms that contribute to the eradication of violence against children, prioritizing the promotion of protective factors to prevent its occurrence; the creation of follow-up mechanisms, technical assistance and support for protection, taking into account the mission of the IAHRS bodies such as the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the IIN itself, and the technical cooperation responses between party countries,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To reaffirm its commitment to the eradication of all forms of violence against children and in all environments of development and socialization of children.
2. To highlight that in order to achieve comprehensive protection of children’s rights, there is a need for States to continue to work on the normative and programmatic spheres in all forms of violence, placing special emphasis on those emerging forms in recent years in the virtual sphere that add to and strengthen traditional forms, incorporating the participation of civil society and particularly that of children and themselves.
3. To acknowledge that the States of the Inter-American System agree at the regional level on basic aspects of the treatment of this issue, bearing in mind that the aspects could allow the generation of mechanisms that complement and enhance the capacities as a region, while respecting the internal regulatory frameworks and the domestic context of each Member State, for the protection of the exercise of the rights of children and in a violence-free way.

4. To request the Director General to continue strengthening the technical assistance actions it provides within the framework of the inter-American program contemplated in its plan of action and in the search for regional coordination and cooperation in addressing this problem, particularly in areas where cooperation across borders is essential.